

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2020 AT THE CHAPEL VESTRY, CRICKADARN AT 7 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:    CLLR ALAN PRYCE  
                               CLLR STEPHEN DAVIES  
                               CLLR ELIZABETH WILLIAMS  
                               CLLR GEOFFREY LEWIS  
                               CLLR KAREN LAURIE-PARRY (ARRIVED AT 7.45 p.m.)  
                               CLLR HAYDN POWELL (ARRIVED AT 8.10 p.m.)

This meeting was arranged during the present Covid-19 pandemic, and all Councillors agreed that they were comfortable to attend the Community Council meeting held at the Chapel Vestry at Crickadarn, with permission given by members of the Chapel, observing the following regulations - masks (optional), social distancing at all times, using their own hand sanitizers, own paperwork, and own water if needed.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr Anne Nicholls has now moved near her son at Chepstow following her illness. Cllr Stephen Davies agreed to get in contact and ask her to send a letter of resignation to the Community Council so that the Council could proceed with co-opting a replacement.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 was discussed and it was agreed that the Chairman sign them as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute 50-2020

Bus Shelter –                       Reference 31-2020. The sale of Erwood Hall had now fallen through so the Community Council will not be able to progress with the proposed bus shelter at this time.

Minute 51-2020

Defibrillator –                       Reference 34-2020. Cllr Elizabeth Williams informed the meeting that the Friends of Builth & District Healthcare has the contract for the maintenance of the defibrillators with Cariad for 10 years up to November 2025, which had commenced on 16/11/2015.

CONFIRMATION OF ACTION TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING BY COUNCILLORS E-MAILING THEIR RESPONSES:

Minute 52 -2020

Chairman until                       Due to the Covid-19 virus, Community Councils did not need to hold an AGM in 2020, so all Councillors were in agreement that Cllr Alan Pryce continue as Chairman until the AGM in 2021. Discussions were made  
 AGM 2021

on the appointment of a Vice-Chairman, and it was agreed that one of the Councillors would be voted in to chair a meeting if and when needed if the Chairman is unavailable until the next AGM.

Minute 53 -2020

Accounts for  
2019-20

The Clerk handed out the completed details of the Payments & Receipts of the Council's Accounts for 2019-20 and these were agreed as correct. They were signed by the Chairman.

Minute 54 -2020

Internal Audit  
2019-20

The Internal Audit had been carried out on 15th May 2020 and Mrs Banks had a few queries which the Clerk had replied to. The Clerk read out the I.A.'s notes and the Clerk's reply and these were agreed as acceptable.

Minute 55 -2020

Responsible Finance  
Officer on AGAR

The Clerk as Responsible Finance Officer had checked and signed the Annual Return as correct on 22nd May 2020.

Minute 56-2020

Annual Governance  
Statement

Parts 1 & 2 of the Annual Return were completed with 'YES' to each box and was signed by the Chairman. He also signed all the documents required to be sent to the External Auditors with the Annual Return. The Community Council was unable to meet the first deadline due to the restrictions during lockdown, but this date had now been extended to 31st August 2020.

CONFIRMATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING ON 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020 ON THE FOLLOWING FIVE ITEMS.

Minute 57-2020

Conversion of  
Tregare Barns to  
Holiday let

Majority agreement given by e-mail by Councillors to support the application for conversion of Barns at Tregare, Erwood to Holiday let for Mrs C. Jefferies, Ynyswye. Ref: 20/2311/FUL & 20/2312/LBC

Minute 58 -2020

Pwll-y-faedda,  
Erwood – Storage  
Shed

Support was given by all Councillors by e-mail to the application of a storage shed at Pwll-y-faedda, Erwood for Mr Chris Conwell. Ref: 20/0670/HH. Planning permission had now been given on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

Minute 59- 2020

Donation –  
Erwood YFC

It was agreed by e-mail that Erwood Young Farmers Club be given £100 in appreciation of the help given by the Club Members to residents of this area during Covid-19 pandemic.

Minute 60 -2020

BHIB Ltd. -  
Insurance

This was the last of a three year agreement with BHIB for the Council's Insurance Cover in the sum of £164.92 for 1st June 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021, the same amount as last year. This was supported by Councillors by e-mails.

The Clerk had been informed at a recent Clerk's meeting that all telephone kiosks adopted by Community Councils need to be added to the Insurance Policy. The Clerk had written to BHIB and was quoted £133.73 under property damage to the end of our policy at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 but the kiosk would still be covered under public liability. Councillors thought this quote was too expensive considering that the present cost of the whole policy was £164.92 so all agreed that we would discuss this further when the 2021-22 contract was due for renewal.

Cllr Stephen Davies reported that the lights are still on in the evenings in the kiosks. BT had warned in the contract that the previous paints used had contained lead. Cllr Elizabeth Williams agreed to read the details in the contract which had been signed by each party on adoption.

#### Minute 61-2020

Telephone  
Kiosks

It was noted that the condition of the Telephone Kiosk in Erwood and Crickadarn which were still under the ownership of BT were in urgent need of repainting as previously decided. Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry agreed to get in touch with BT to ask that this work be carried out by them as soon as possible and report back to the next meeting of the Council.

#### Minute 62 -2020

Keep Wales  
Tidy Garden

As discussed at the last meeting, agreement was made to make an application to Keep Wales Tidy for their offer of seeds towards creating a garden in this area. Permission had been given on behalf of Erwood Market Hall Committee by the Chairman to create a Butterfly garden on land rear of the Market Hall (as first choice) Other choices were Wildlife Garden and a Fruit Garden. The application and letter was sent on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020. This work had been carried out on 12<sup>th</sup> August by Rachel Palmer, Project Officer, Keep Wales Tidy Cymru with the help of Mr James Shewring, Cilbedwog and Cllr Alan Pryce. The photos of the two plots look very good and further work will be completed in due course.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Minute 63 -2020

Donation  
Requests

The following donation requests have been received - RNIB; Builth Wells Community Support; Tenovus Cancer Care; Hope House, Oswestry; Bowel Cancer, Wales & Marie Curie. It was agreed to donate £10 to RNIB; £20 to Tenovus; Bowel Cancer & Hope House and leave Builth Community

Support and Marie Curie for now as the Council had given a donation to both these two charities the previous year.

#### Minute 64 -2020

##### Cheques

Cheques paid between meetings with the agreement of the Chairman:  
 XMA – Purchase of Ink Cartridges - £53.81  
 Erwood YFC – Donation - £100 for work carried out during lockdown  
 Mr S. Davies – Councillor’s allowance of £150 for year 2020-21  
 BHIB Ltd. – Insurance Cover - £164.92 up to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021  
 XMA Ltd. – Purchase of 3 ink cartridges - £35.06  
 Cheques paid at close of meeting –  
 £10 donation to Royal National Institute of Blind People  
 £20 donation to Tenovus Cancer Care  
 £20 donation to Bowel Cancer  
 £20 donation to Hope House, Oswestry  
 £10 paid to Crickadarn Chapel. As cash was requested, it will be claimed back under Clerk’s Expenses

#### Minute 65-2020

##### Acknowledgement Of Donations

The following three donations sent in March 2020 have been acknowledged:  
 £20.00 - Brecon Advice Centre  
 £20.00 – Bobath Children’s Therapy Centre, Wales  
 £20.00 – Wales Air Ambulance Charity

#### Minute 66-2020

##### Barclays Bank

Bank Statements dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020:  
 Current Account - £3,682.15  
 Premium Saving Account – £3,016.84 -  
 (Interest on this account was reduced from 0.10% to 0.01% on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020)

#### Minute 67 -2020

##### Highway

##### Proposed Bench The Holmes, Erwood

(a) It was reported that the present bench outside The Holmes was provided by Erwood W.I. many years ago. Cllr Elizabeth Williams produced a photograph of W.I. members taken by the bench at the time. It is now unsafe & is in need of repair or replacement. It was discussed whether Erwood should be the only village that we provide a bench for as it was not originally purchased by the Community Council. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the President of Erwood W.I. drawing attention to the state of the bench at present and wait for her reply. Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry agreed to source out funding to help with any purchases.

##### Corn Barn, Crickadarn

(b) The owner of the adjoining premises to the Corn Barn, Crickadarn had written to the Community Council and to Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry as our local County Councillor to ask for help and support as the land surrounding

the Corn Barn next to their house was very overgrown and unacceptable as it was devaluing her own property. It was known that there were planning issues too but the work done had been signed off by Powys County Council. The Community Council would not have any powers to help in this matter but Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry agreed to forward Mrs Barnes's letter to the Planning Department as County Councillor. The Clerk to inform Mrs Barnes of the action taken.

Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry informed the meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> August that Mrs Barnes had now agreed to deal directly with the Planning Department herself.

Trees obstructing  
Tregare Road.

(c) Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry informed the meeting that the trees were overhanging the road and obstructing the views of vehicles using this road up passed Tregare. The Council had cut back some of the branches and also a local farmer but there were still problems on this road and more branches needed to be cut off and taken away. Cllr Parry had sent photos to Boughrood Depot to prove her case but Mr Lyn Parry had written back stating that this work had now been completed to their satisfaction. Cllr Elizabeth Williams stated that on the approach to her farm there is a ditch which needs to be filled in as vehicles could get stuck there if travelling too near the edge. She also stated that there is confusion of where the boundary is between Boughrood Depot and that of Builth Highways. Cllr Karen Laurie-Parry to pursue these issues.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

##### Minute 68-2020

Meeting at  
Vestry, Crickadarn  
Chapel

The Community Council usually pay £10 to the Halls for holding our meetings and it was agreed by all that we pay Crickadarn Chapel the same. The Clerk had written a letter of thanks to them. They had requested cash and the Clerk would claim the £10 back on her expenses.

##### Minute 69 -2020

Erwood Pit  
Stop

Erwood Pit Stop Trust (Toilets) are looking into providing a disabled toilet and baby changing facilities which would include using part of the Bus Shelter for this. The Trust has been in touch with the Planning Dept. who has advised them to seek views from users of the toilets and the bus shelter in the first instance. The Trust has put posters up at the toilets and bus shelter asking users to post their comments on these proposals in the box provided outside the toilets. An update will be provided at a later date.

##### Minute 70 -2020

Date of  
Next Meeting

The Clerk informed Councillors that the next meeting would have to be held virtually by Zoom. Date yet to be arranged.  
Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

THESE MINUTES TO BE CONFIRMED AT THE NEXT MEETING OF ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL