

DRAFT

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT ERWOOD MARKET HALL ON THURSDAY 8th DECEMBER 2022 AT 7 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Stephen Davies
Cllr Alan Pryce
Cllr Caroline Baldwin
Cllr Lisa Payne

The Chairman, Cllr Stephen Davies, welcomed everyone to the meeting especially as it was a very cold night.

APOLOGIES were given by Cllr Geoffrey Lewis who was unwell and County Cllr Tom Colbert was unable to attend.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST was made by Cllr Stephen Davies to Agenda Item 6 (a) – Planning Application at Tregare Barns, Gwenddwr as he has been involved in this application.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING was discussed and it was agreed by all Councillors that it was a true record and was signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute 195-2022

Trees from Reference 184-2022. The Lord of the Manor for the Common at Erwood, Mrs Woodland Trust Lesley Vaughan and son William, did not want trees to be planted on the top Common as it is not allowed by Law. It was decided that the trees allocated to Erwood and Crickadarn be offered to Councillors to be planted at different locations in their wards and all agreed. The trees for Gwenddwr, Alltmawr and Llaneglwys areas had already been given out.

Minute 196-2022

Support from Reference 190-2022. It was decided to ask Builth Wells Health Care if they could Builth Friends support our Council by providing a smaller case for the Defibrillator which is intended to be located in Crickadarn Kiosk. There is limited space in the kiosk as it is intended to be used as an exchange for books and gardening items.

Minute 197-2022

Cleaning of Reference 191-2022. Cllr Stephen Davies informed the meeting that the roads from Roads Erwood to Crickadarn had been cleaned but Cllr Alan Pryce reported that they had not cleaned the road across Upper Terrace. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Boughrood Depot to let them know.

Minute 198-2022

Erwood Pit Stop Reference 192(a)-2022. Cllr Alan Pryce reported that the Pit Stop Trust had received a second quotation for the upgrading of the toilets. The Committee were hoping to get a grant from the Screwfix Fund announced by PAVO and Cllr Pryce would give the Council an update at our January meeting

Minute 199-2022

Notice Boards Reference 192(b)-2022. Mr David Newell had been informed that the doors of the Notice Boards at Llaneglwys and Crickadarn had both stuck as the wood had warped. He agreed to call and fix the problems when the weather dries up and his charge would be £10 for travelling. This was agreed but to date repairs had not been made.

Minute 200-2022

Llaneglwys Hall Reference 192(d)-2022. The Secretary of Llaneglwys Hall had sent in the details of the Hall to Mr Clifford Shapland, Powys County Council to be added to his list of Halls and Meeting Places in Powys.

Minute 201-2022

Haydn Powell's Presentation Mr Haydn Powell was unable to attend the meeting as he was in Ireland. As it was the second time he was unable to attend, it was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk posts the card and voucher to him in case he would want to use it during the Christmas period.

CORRESPONDENCE

Minute 202-2022

Planning at Tregare, Gwenddwr A planning application had been received for conversion and change of use of barns to residential C3 dwelling to include part rebuilding and extension installation of PTSP and associated works at Tregare, Gwenddwr for S & C Jefferies. Ref: 22/1892/FUL. Councillors studied the details and all agreed to support this application.

Minute 203-2022

Cllrs Allowances & Office Consumables From 1st April 2023, the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has agreed to give each Councillor the sum of £156 (£3 a week) expenses for the year which is now mandatory. Also up to £52 per annum to be allowed for the cost of office consumables or alternatively Councillors can be reimbursed for the cost paid by them on providing receipts. Each Councillor agreed to take the sum of £52 to cover these expenses at the beginning of the year. If any Councillor leaves the Council during the year, it was agreed that they would have to pay back these allowances on a pro rata bases. Other payments to remain as present.

Minute 204-2022

Clerk's Post and Salary The Clerk advised the Council that she intends to retire at end of March 2023 but is willing to carry out the annual accounts for the External Audit which has to be completed by end of June 2023. Discussions took place regarding her salary for these months and Councillors agreed that the Clerk keep a record of the hours worked on the audit and paid accordingly for the three months. It was also agreed that the Clerk is paid for the six months already worked from April to September the sum of £2210.40 and the other six months at end of March 2023. This would help to stagger the figures on the proposed budget for next year prior to deciding on the precept for 2023-2024. The Clerk thanked the Council for agreeing to this.

Standing Orders were suspended from 7.55 p.m. to 8.15 p.m.

Minute 205-2022

Draft Budget for 2023-24 Councillor had all been sent the draft budget form the Clerk had prepared and all figures were discussed. The Councillor's new allowances for this year would collectively be an extra £1,456. The present Clerk's salary could be an extra £500 for carrying out the Audit which was in addition to the salary of a new Clerk if appointed in April. If a decision is made to give the children in the area mugs each for the King's Coronation similar to the ones for the Queen's Platium Jubilee, or another souvenir, this could be an additional £600. It was proposed by Cllr Caroline Baldwin and agreed by all Councillors that a figure of £2,000 extra may have to be applied for the precept, rising from £6,000 to £8,000. This to be agreed and decided at next meeting as the precept has to be sent into PCC by the end of January 2023.

Minute 206-2022

Bus Shelter- Erwood The Clerk had not had a reply from the Welsh Government even though they had been chased so no progress has been made on this. Cllr Stephen Davies agreed to speak to Mr John Forsey, PCC regarding this and would report any updates at the next meeting.

Minute 207-2022

Risk Assessment A Risk Assessment form had been completed by the Clerk for 2023-24 which includes the added insurance for the notice boards and defibrillators in the area under property damage which was agreed by all Councillors.

Minute 208-2022

Environmental Report 2022 Councils were asked to revise the Environmental Report which had last been completed in 2019. The Clerk was helped by Mrs Laura Shewring and Cllr Caroline Baldwin who are involved in the Erwood Climate Action Group and the Environmental Report for 2022 was sent to each Councillor together with

the Carbon Audit and the Climate Emergency Action Plan for Erwood. It was agreed that this be discussed at our next Community Council meeting in January and to ask Laura to attend.

Minute 209-2022

Councillor's e-mail addresses A 100 page document on Finance & Governance Toolkit November 2022 was sent out to all Councils. It advises each Councillor to have their own Council e-mail address and access to Council IT systems and should not use personal e-mail addresses for council communications, or save council documents to personal computers, for reasons of information security. It was noted that this advice had been given before but all Councillors present agreed at the meeting to be provided with a Council e-mail address. Cllr Caroline Baldwin has a Council address already but informed Cllr Stephen Davies that it works on her computer but not on her phone. Cllr Davies agreed to sort this problem out and to provide all other Councillors with Council addresses as advised.

Minute 210-2022

Barclays Bank Bank balances on 30th November 2022:
 Barclays Community Acct – £5,317.10 (Money out – 4 cheques - £201.21)
 (Money in - £45 reimbursement for cancelled training)
 Barclays Business Acct - £3018.90 (stayed the same)
 All Councillors noted these figures
 The SLCC renewal for 1.1.23 to 31.12.23 of £80 was agreed.

Minute 211-2022

Electoral Administrations The Welsh Government had forwarded a 25 page consultation document on Modernising Electoral Administration with comments by 10th January 2023. The Clerk to send to all Councillors for them to read and any comments will send on to Welsh Government before the closing date.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Minute 212-2022

PCC – New Corporate Plan Powys County Council has sent out their New Corporate Development Plan and asking Councillors to participate in the survey. Links available on the letter and closing date for submissions is 23rd December 2022. Surveys can be forwarded to the Clerk who will send them on to PCC.

Minute 213-2022

PCC – Vision for the Future Powys County Council are asking for views on the new Vision for the Future document which is to be sent to each Councillor. Closing date is 23rd December 2022. Any replies to be sent to the Clerk who will send on to PCC.

Minute 214-2022

- Items for Next (1) Finalise the budget for 2023-24 and decision on the precept.
Agenda (2) Discuss the Climate Emergency Action Plan for Erwood
(3) Discussion on advertising Clerk's job.
(4) Update on the proposed Bus Shelter for Erwood

Minute 215-2022

- Date of Next Meeting Date to be decided by Chairman & Clerk for Mid January.
Meeting Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OF THESE MINUTES TO BE DECIDED AT THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING