

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE MARKET HALL, ERWOOD ON THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:   CLLR STEPHEN DAVIES  
                           CLLR GEOFFREY LEWIS  
                           CLLR ALAN PRYCE  
                           CLLR CAROLINE BALDWIN  
                           CLLR LISA PAYNE

IN ATTENDANCE:       2 RESIDENTS FROM ERWOOD VILLAGE  
                           Ms RACHEL CARTER, LOCAL PLACES FOR NATURE OFFICER, ONE VOICE WALES (ATTENDING REMOTELY) & MRS LAURA SHEWRING, LEAD OF THE ERWOOD CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION GROUP

The Chairman, Cllr Stephen Davies welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Ms Rachel Carter who joined the meeting remotely, Mrs Laura Shewring , Lead of Erwood Climate Change Action Group and the two residents from Erwood Village.

APOLOGIES were received from Cllr Tracey Jones, who had farming commitments and County Councillor Tom Colbert who was unable to attend. These apologies were accepted.

There were no declarations of interest.

Standing Orders were suspended from 7 p.m. to 8.25 p.m. for Agenda Item 3 on Climate Change.

Minute 22-2023

Erwood               Cllr Stephen Davies set up the projector to enable Ms Rachel Carter to join  
 Climate              remotely.  
 Change               The following notes were taken by Cllr Caroline Baldwin as member of Erwood  
 Action Plan         Climate Change Action Group:  
                           Rachel Carter, Local Places for Nature Officer, gave an overview of the programme’s  
                           approach – “To restore and enhance nature where people live, work, and access  
                           public services”. She reviewed a number of case studies of completed projects, and  
                           outlined the targets for 2023, including increasing wildflower planting, reducing  
                           mowing and use of pesticides, increasing tree planting and promoting biodiversity.

Rachel outlined the various grants that are available and noted that she can come on a site visit to Erwood community, and make a report of recommendations.

Following the meeting, we agreed that this site visit will be at **10am, Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March.**

Rachel Carter also noted that PCC are planning a Climate and Nature Emergency Conference in Llandrindod Wells on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June**, for town and community councils.

She was thanked by Cllr Stephen Davies on behalf of all present, The Clerk and members of the Community Council thanked Cllr Stephen Davies for enabling Rachel to carry out a trouble-free presentation.

Erwood's Climate Change Action Plan was then discussed with Laura Shewring and Cllr Caroline Baldwin as members of the Action Group.

#### Climate Action group goals – discussion

Laura Shewring and Cllr Caroline Baldwin shared the progress made to date by the team, as it pertains to Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. This includes being one of 4 communities in Powys selected for a community carbon audit (now completed); active Commons management resulting in increased biodiversity in Common Land; and the creation of a draft Climate Emergency Action Plan.

#### Common Land

- Cllr Stephen Davies to get a list of who is on the Commoners Association and to investigate what their rights are, and what are the rights of the Lord of the Manor, as it relates to Common Land, with the objective of understanding what is possible to be done to increase further biodiversity.
- We discussed suggestions included Flower Planters to be installed to stop people from driving across the Common, and printing posters to display in the Commons to highlight the actions being taken to increase biodiversity.

#### Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan

- Laura noted that our plan is very focused on reducing Carbon outputs, so will need to create one that is more focused on increasing biodiversity, using the OVW template.
- This 35 point plan acts as a living, breathing document; actions can be added / amended / removed as it progresses, noting that things are more likely to take place if they are documented.
- We discussed sharing this document at forums of other existing groups in the community to get their inputs, in particular on contentious issues, so decision-making is felt to be owned by the whole community.
- The community councillors gave their support to this approach. Laura Shewring & Caroline Baldwin were thanked for their involvement in these discussions. The agenda items then followed.

MINUTES of the last meeting of Erwood Community Council on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were discussed and it was agreed that the Chairman sign them as a true record.

## MATTERS ARISING

Minute 23-2023

Free Trees Reference 1-2023. Cllr Lisa Payne & Cllr Caroline Baldwin have collected the trees from Cllr Alan Pryce and intend to plant them in Crickadarn area soon.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Minute 24-2023

Applications for Clerk's post The Clerk has received three applications for the Clerk/RFO position for Erwood Community Council which have been forwarded to all Councillors. It was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting for interviewing these candidates on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 commencing at 6.30 p.m. with up to 30 mins apart. The Clerk was asked to send a copy of the questions prepared for the candidates to all Councillors and to let the Clerk know if they wished for other questions to be asked.

Minute 25-2023

Change of use of Buildings for J. Jones Powys Planning Dept REFUSED Application Ref 20/1811/FUL on 28.1.23 for change of use (retrospective) of existing building from workshop to storage building, erection of a welfare building (Retrospective) creation of new access and track, closing of existing access & all assoc. works at land near Cwrt Gwenddwr for Mr J. Jones, Llandeilo Graban as insufficient evidence had been submitted and is therefore contrary to the required policies of the LDP, Planning Policy Wales & Environment (Wales) Act 2016. This was noted.

Minute 26-2023

Bus Shelter Mr John Forsey emphasised in his reply that this request had been looked at on numerous occasions but to let him have some dates and he will do his best to attend. Councillors suggested Friday 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> March and the Clerk to reply accordingly.

Minute 27-2023

Barclays Bank statements had been received for 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023:  
 Bank Barclays Current Acct - £4,584.17 (Money out £522.53 – 4 cheques)  
 Barclays Premium Acct - £3,020.58 (stayed the same)  
 An invoice had been received for the renewal of One Voice Wales subscription - £88.00 (up £6.00 from last year). This increase was accepted by all Councillors.

Minute 28-2023Highways

Traffic on A470 (a) Mr Brock had written to report that he has had a reply from the Police Commissioner and a visit from Mark Kean in the speed check van who said he hoped to find a suitable location to carry out checks and will keep Mr Brock informed.

Lack of (b) A resident from The Holmes had sent an e-mail regarding his concerns due to

footpath on A470. lack of a footpath between Erwood Village and Erwood Station for walkers to keep safe on the A470 trunk road as this stretch of the road is very dangerous. This had been discussed back in 2007 and no solution was found. Cllr Stephen Davies agreed to find out who owns the small field next to the houses on the right hand side of the A470 opposite The Holmes. It was also suggested that Rachel Carter be asked to look at the problem when she meets up with Erwood Climate Action Group at end of March and the Rights of Way Officer, PCC may be able to help as well.

Pot Holes etc. on Crickadarn Roads (c) It has been reported that deep pot holes on the road out of Crickadarn up to Springfield need filling. The road to Ty Hir is in a very bad state of repair and the surface has broken up in many places. Cllr Stephen Davies stated that pot holes on the road up to Penyworlod Farm are 4-6 inches deep and this road is used regularly by over 8 vehicles every day. All these to be reported to Highways Depot, Boughrood.

#### Minute 29-2023

Visit by PCSO Dyfed-Powys Police PCSO Trudy Davies, Neighbouring Policing Team, Brecon has offered to join our next meeting if Councillors are in agreement. This was agreed by all Councillors.

#### Minute 30-2023

Defib. Case Cllr Stephen Davies hopes to contact Mr Ted Edwards to swap defibrillator cases in the next week.

#### Minute 31-2023

New E-mail Addresses for Councillors The new e-mail addresses for all Councillors were agreed and the same format will be used e.g. Cllr.(Name).(Surname)@erwoodcc.org.uk. Cllr Stephen Davies will change the addresses as soon as possible.

#### Minute 32-2023

Notice Boards Cllr Stephen Davies agreed to take the doors off the notice boards in Crickadarn and Llaneglwys Villages to be repaired to David Newell next week. Doors to be marked where they get stuck. Cllr Alan Pryce had tied the doors with some wire at Crickadarn to stop them flying open and Cllr Geoffrey Lewis agreed to do the same at Llaneglwys. No further invoice has been received from Mr Newell.

#### Minute 33-2023

Coronation of King Charles 111 Councillors were in favour of presenting small plates this year to the children of the area, 18 years & under instead of mugs. The only plates the Clerk had found were £9.00 each. The Clerk said she would keep on searching the web site but it is mostly mugs on offer in our price range. It was also suggested that the Council should apply for a grant again this year from Awards for Wales to cover the cost of the plates, if suitable ones were found. The Clerk to follow this up.

Minute 34-2023

Items for Agenda at next Meeting      Decisions on Donation requests, payment to two Halls & Clerk's annual salary & expenses.

Minute 35-2023

Date of Next Meeting      If Hall and candidates are available, the Clerk to book Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 at 6.30 p.m. for interviews and our next Community Council meeting will be on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7 p.m.

Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OF THESE MINUTES WILL BE MADE AT THE NEXT MEETING OF ERWOOD  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL