

MINUTES OF THE LLANDEGLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY
7TH SEPTEMBER 2023 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, LLANDEGLA AT 7.00 P.M.

1. PRESENT:-

Councillors Gwyneth Dillon (Chair), Sandra Rogers, Neena Barlow, Gaynor Wonderley, Steve Swygart, Elizabeth Parker-Clark together with the Clerk to the Council.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Councillors Janet Strivens, Hillary Berry together with Denbighshire County Councillor Terry Mendies.

3. 'MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO DECLARE PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. IT IS A REQUIREMENT THAT DECLARATIONS FROM A MEMBER INCLUDE THE NATURE OF THE INTEREST AND WHETHER IT IS PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL'. (STANDING ORDERS NO 57).

None received.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION.

"THIS PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT AND COMMENT ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA - TIME FOR THIS SESSION IS LIMITED TO 10 MINUTES."

None received.

5. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING.

Members confirmed the 6th July 2023 minutes as a true record and signed by the Chairman

6. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA.

Already covered elsewhere within the minutes.

7. REPORT FROM DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR TERRY MENDIES.

Councillor Terry Mendies provided the following monthly report:-

HEDGE CUTTING BY BUS STOP. I received a response from Jack Tweedie at DCC. Apparently, his predecessor gave the resident permission to cut down the bushes. The Resident has been given a Land Registry plan showing that the foot path is DCC property and instructed to refrain from cutting the hedge in future.

.FOOTPATH QUOTES FOR TOP FIELD. Can the committee please decide which quote they wish to accept. I will then seek the funding. I will try and link this in with the road safety issue on the lane.

HORSE WARNING SIGNS.

They have been requested for the Llandegla-Llanarmon road but have not been given a timeframe. I have forwarded an e-mail from Heather Kirby who has organised a "Pass Wide and Slow" Rally for Saturday 23rd September. Anyone that is interested, please contact Heather directly.

PICNIC AREA. Planning have finally got back to me on who owns the picnic area by the bridge. The answer was a resounding "Don't know". The CC can claim it, DCC will not object, and I suggest you engage a conveyancing Lawyer to handle this.

CONCERNS FOR THE PCSO. I am meeting with David Jones the PCSO for the area to discuss several matters. If there are any concerns you wish me to raise with him can you let me know asap.

8. CRIME AND CCTV/ANPR UPDATED REPORT.

No report received.

9. PICNIC AREA ENTRANCE/COMMON LAND UPDATE.

Councillor Steve Swygart agreed to make enquiries with the “Land Registry” regarding the ownership of the Llandegla “Picnic Area” land site.

10. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER UPDATE.

No report received.

11. FORMER TELEPHONE KIOSK UPDATE.

No report received.

12. LLANDEGLA CAR PARK NOTICE BOARD REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT UPDATE.

No report received.

13. ONE VOICE WALES TRAINING COURSES.

The Clerk circulated Members with the September 2023 Training Courses provided by One Voice Wales. Councillors Gaynor Wonderley and Steve Swygart will attend the Code of Conduct training course on 27th September 2023.

14. COUNCIL’S FACEBOOK PAGE UPDATE.

Members discussed the events over the recent “Bank Holiday” which appeared on the Llandegla “Facebook Page”.

15. FINANCE ISSUES:-

A. The Clerk circulated Members with the bank transactions spread sheets for the five months ending 30th August 2023.

B. Receipts:-

1. Denbighshire County Council for grant aid towards the recent Cae Mair costs £1,558.32.
2. Denbighshire County Council Second 2023/24 Precept receipt £3328.00

C. Authorised Payments:-

1. Two monthly HSBC fees £10.00.
2. White Oak Property Services for the Cae Mair grass cutting £210.65.
3. HG Web Design for the annual Website Fees £250.00.
4. Llandegla Memorial Hall for the Llandegla Fete prizes costs £50.00.

C. Clerk’s Salary update. Following the recent Council sub-committee, members resolved for the sub-committee to meet up with the Clerk at 6.00 pm on Thursday 5th October 2023 in the Llandegla Memorial Hall.

16. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

A: Planning Application: 17/2023/0184 - Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of fodder and equipment at Rhos Isaf, Llandegla – Granted planning permission by Denbighshire County Council.

B: Planning Application: 17/2023/0494 - Change of use of land to form extended domestic curtilage, including regrading of land, installation of retaining walls and landscaping (partly retrospective) (resubmission) on land adjacent to Bryn Eithin, Llandegla – No objections.

C. Planning Application: 17/2023/0498 - Installation of a new Distribution Service Reservoir (covered) and associated infrastructure and landscaping at Distribution Service Reservoir site, Coed Llandegla, Llandegla – No objections.

17. LLANDEGLA ANNUAL FETE/SHOW

Members reported that the Llandegla Fete & Produce Show was well attended on 2nd September 2023 and resolved to grant aid the show committee £50.00 to cover the costs of the show prizes.

18. DOG FOULING ISSUES.

The Community Council received the following information from a local resident about dog fouling, particularly near the top bus stop. A related incident of an aggressive dog loose on the road – and an aggressive response from the owner when challenged – has been reported to the police rural crimes unit.

Members resolved to monitor the issues raised and report back to the next Council meeting.

19. TO REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED THAT REQUIRES ATTENTION.

Councillor Sandra Rogers reported:-

I have been approached by Sian Griffith who is the chair of the school PTA. She has asked me to raise the matter of child safety for children walking down the village road to school. She asked if it would be possible to have a white line painted on the road where there is no path, much like a cycle lane so that the children know that that area is a safe place to walk. She said presently they walk all over the road then have to jump in to the side of the road when a vehicle approaches. I said that it was probably a highways issue but that i would raise the matter for her at our next meeting.

Picnic area

I have asked the people who said that they were willing to help with village projects about the tidying up of the picnic area. Unfortunately with it being summer and people being away and the fact that there is nowhere to dispose of the branches too, this has not been possible. Perhaps we could have another volunteers day and possibly hire a skip for the disposal of the branches. I have heard a few people mention that they would be willing to help out at another volunteers day.

I recalled at our last meeting that it was mentioned about felling some trees down in the picnic area. A friend of mine who lives in the village had a friend who is a tree surgeon visiting her so i took the opportunity of asking him for some free advice. He stated that there was one tree near the river which needed felling but that the others were all in the later stages of life so only a little pruning would be required as they are likely to create their own canopy. I don't know if this is useful or not.

20. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE LEISURE & ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS COMMITTEE.

Councillor Steve Swygart reported:

I have met with and received three quotes from DCC Approved Contractors for constructing the new entrance into Cae Mair coming from the Trem y Grug side.

These range from £5k-£9K (see attached) and Terry Mendies will be asking us to select one so that he can approach someone within DCC for the necessary funding. This will need to be an agenda item for the September meeting and Terry will then act on that decision.

I can report that the sum of £1558.32 was received into our bank account via the Clerk on 31st July, in respect of the grant we received for the Landscape Enhancement Initiative work that we did in collaboration with the AONB for Cae Mair and the other local assets we have worked on.

Despite there being no interest from the school to use the bird hide just off the footpath from Llandegla to Moel Garegog or alternatively, accessed from the A525 (the old “environmental area” site previously used by the school for educational purposes; this was part of our LEI

plan), the AONB are going to press ahead to renew the hide and benches, and thin the tree canopy as one of their own projects. One can use the new stiles we installed along the route to it from the crossroads on the A5014 by the chapel to gain access.

We held a scything day on the wildflower meadow in Cae Mair in conjunction with the AONB on 16th August. This was marginally more successful than last year, insofar as 4 local volunteers (including myself) turned up. A very interesting day it was too, but less than 20% of the area was cut and so we will again have to engage a contractor through the AONB in order to cut it in the coming months. The AONB had widely advertised this themselves locally and it was hoped that some members of special interest groups would attend to get the task completed, but sadly this was not the case. Plenty of local species were noted to have taken, including the yellow rattle that was sewn last winter. There was quite a bit of coral fungus too, which is indicative of excellent soil health, meaning that no pesticides have been used on the land for a good many years. Thanks are due to those who turned out to either learn new skills or practice old ones!

Despite being informed at the last meeting that there were a number of local people who were looking to get involved in local projects, the pile of branches remains uncollected in the Picnic Area by the river. I had put a post on the Council Facebook page about this, but I have had no response so far. We will have to engage someone to take it away for us shortly unless Fraser comes up with his plan for this area, as he has said that he would get this sorted. Members resolved to accept the following quotation sent to Councillor Swygart from White Oak Property Services:-

1. Cae Mair Wild Flower Area. The area of the 'top field' which has been set aside for wildflowers needs cutting. The proposal is to use a powered scythe to replicate as close as possible the action of a traditional scythe. The grass will be cut 'long' (i.e. at its base) rather than cut up as it would be by a rotary mower. The cut grass will be collected and laid along the northern hedge line. Cost £ 210.00
2. Removal of Two Dead Trees - Picnic area There are two dead trees in the pic-nic area which need removing. One is a badly diseased rowan next to the road on the Old Rectory Side of the river. The other is a dead ash tree which is on the church side of the river facing the gate. If required we could cut the larger parts of the ash into logs for disposal within the village (perhaps donations to the school or village cause?) Cost £ 240.00
3. Remove and dispose of the pile of wood/ branches at the Picnic Area There is a sizeable heap of dead branches and woody material from the clearing activity held at the time of the coronation. This needs to be carried up the bank from the riverside, removed and disposed of. We will remove it by trailer to our premises and transfer it to a skip for disposal. We can also take the old bedstead if it is still there. Cost £ 260.00

21 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON THE FOLLOWING "OUTSIDE BODIES":-

- A. MEMORIAL HALL MANAGEMENT. No report received.
- B. COMMUNITY SHOP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. No report received.
- C. AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY. No report received.
- D. ONE VOICE WALES. No report received.
- E. PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL. No report received.
- F. LLANDEGLA RECTORY ASSOCIATION. No report received.

22. URGENT BUSINESS UNDER SECTION 100B(4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972.

There were no urgent business for discussion.

23. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2023 IN THE LLANDEGLA MEMORIAL HALL AT 7.00 PM.