

CYNGOR CYMUNED CILYCWYM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Cilycwm Community Council held on Tuesday 7th November, 2023 at 7.30 p.m. at Capel y Groes.

Present:

Chairman: County Councillor A. Davies

Councillors: A. Edwards, M. Davies, H. Jones, E. Lewis, L. Holdaway

Member of the public:

Mr. Arwel Evans

Mr. Arwel Evans had requested to attend the meeting regarding the access to the footbridge over the river which flows down from Mynydd Mallaen. A detailed explanation had been received from Mr Jason Lawday, copies had been given to everyone and the reply read out in the meeting. The legality of this has now been called into question, and NRW will be checking their documents to see if they have powers to grant permissive access to the public along the forest track and bridge. They do not own the land in question, but they have their own private access rights which may or may not allow them to grant permission access. The Community Council could make a formal application but before Jason Lawday can take this forward, he needs to follow up with Arwel and Mark and NRW regarding their private rights. There may be the potential to resolve the issues through negotiation and this would be a lot easier than going through the Modification Order process.

**1. Ymddiheuriadau a datganiadau o fudd/apologies and declaration of interest
Datganiad o fudd/Declarations of Interest**

Menter Cilycwm/Footpath near Home Farm – Councillor A. Edwards

Bute Energy – County Councillor A. Davies

Footpath 8/10 – Councillor L. Holdaway

2. Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd 5ed Medi, 2023/Minutes of the meeting held 5th September, 2023 and the extraordinary meeting to discuss PL/06483 – Land at Llysnewdd

Minutes were accepted as correct. Proposed by Councillor A. Edwards and seconded by Councillor M. Davies. It was noted that Minute 1 Cilycwm Notice Board – there is not a Village Hall in Porthyrhyd.

3. Materion yn codi o'r cofnodion/Matters arising from the minutes:

1. Cilycwm Notice Boards

The Clerk had sent information regarding the Notice Board required for the Church.

Unfortunately, Mr John Morgan is very busy at the moment but would be in contact as soon as he became available.

(v) Defibrillator Training

This event was a success and a note of thanks had been sent to Wayne Edwards. Another course would be arranged at the start of the summer months.

(vi) Litter Bins – Towy Bridge

The Clerk had written to Carmarthenshire County Council offering to purchase the Litter Bins. A reply had been received: "I appreciate the offer, unfortunately we still have to assess the annual resource costs to emptying the bin, if you factor the yearly costs of labour, fuel, vehicle hire and waste disposal the accumulative costs is surprisingly high. All these elements are being analysed in depth within the service review we are undertaking. Your bin requested has been logged."

Following a discussion, it was agreed to remove this from the Agenda for the present time.

9 (d) Salt/Grit boxes

The Clerk had written to Carmarthenshire County Council offering to purchase new boxes, a reply had been received as follows: "The broken boxes will be replaced when resources become available ideally before any adverse weather starts. Thank you for your councils offer but to pay for the grit boxes, but this is not required at this time".

Following a discussion, it was agreed to remove this from the Agenda for the present time.

9 (l) River erosion – Wirddol layby

Work to be carried out in 2024.

9 (j) Telephone kiosk (720312)

It was discussed and agreed that we would not purchase the Kiosk, but it should remain as it is as a public telephone kiosk.

9 (k)

(a) Bute Energy

No further updates received.

(b) Nant yr Arst and Ty Llwyd

No further updates received.

(b) Wind Turbines at Bryn Cadwgan

Galileo Energy had distributed leaflets/information regarding the proposed Wind Turbines at Bryn Cadwgan. A number of objection had been received from local people, these were noted. A consultation had been organised by Galileo Energy and the closing date was 30th November, 2023. A public meeting was also being organised in Pumpsaint. The Community Council would also send in a formal objection.

4. Gohebiaeth/Correspondence:

- (a) Mid and West Wales fire service – presentation at meeting
- (b) CCC latest news
- (c) Hywel Dda engagement strategy
- (d) Keep Wales Tidy grant
- (e) Vets' poster
- (f) Road Closure C2164
- (g) *Democratic Heath in Community Councils sector
- (h) *CCC - Polling Station review
- (i) Hywel Dda – Bevan Commission on line event
- (j) Carmarthen Area Committee 26.10.2023
- (k) Capture Old People's GP services
- (l) Temporary Road Closure – C2157 Rhandirmwyn
- (m) Temporary Road Closure – C2270 Cynghordy
- (n) OVW – D Day 80 – 6th June, 2024
- (o) Hywel Dda – Bevan Commission events

- (p) CCC update
- (q) Audit Wales newsletter
- (r) OVW news bulletin
- (s) Emergency Road closure – Llandovery U4174

- (t) OVW – scrutiny of the Welsh Government Budget
- (u) CCC – Hwb updates
- (v) CCC Public Convenience Strategy

Also to be forwarded:

Carmarthenshire County Council – Power of Competence

OVW – November/December training dates

4c – Members were encouraged to complete this consultation

4 (h) A member of the Electorate Office was visiting Cilycwm imminently.

5. Materion Ariannol/Financial Matters

(i) Adroddiad Ariannol/Financial Report

A financial report and budget report had been sent to every member with the minutes. Copies of the Bank Statements had been sent to Councillor M. Davies

Budget/Precept

This was discussed at length and it was agreed unanimously that the precept would remain as 2023.

Audit 2022/2023 report

Audit General's report and audit opinion

Audit opinion: Qualified

Except for the matters reported below in my Basis for Qualification, on the basis of my audit, in my opinion no matters have come to my opinion to give cause for concern that, in any material respect, the information reported in the Annual Return.

- (a) has not been prepared in accordance with proper practices
- (b) that relevant legislative and regulatory requirements have not been met
- (c) is not consistent with the Council's governance arrangements: and
- (d) that the Council does not have proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

Basis of Qualification

Accounting Statement

In my opinion the Accounting Statement does not properly/fairly present the Council's receipts and payments/income and expenditure and financial position;

The Council's reported payments exclude two unrepresented cheques issued during 2022/2023. Although the cheques were not presented to the bank by 31 March they must be accounted for in 2022-2023. Total payments are therefore understated by £211 and the Council's closing balance are overstated by £211.

Annual Governance Statement

I am unable to conclude whether or not the Annual Governance Statement is consistent with the Council's internal controls and governance arrangements for the year:

- (a) The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations require the Council: to maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit. The internal auditor report did not identify that the accounts had not been properly prepared as noted above. In my opinion, the internal audit was not adequate and effective.

There are no further matters that I wish to draw to the Council's attention.

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IRP

Information had been received from the IRP that Community Councillors can claim expenses for use of their home as an office. A full copy of the email will be sent to everyone. They had also drafted a letter to be written to each Community Councillor, this will be included with the Agenda of the next meeting.

(ii) Cais am Arian/Request for financial support

A number of requests had been received since the start of the financial year, the Clerk to prepare a list and a copy sent to every member.

(iii) Cadarnhau Taliadau/Confirmation of payments

The Clerks Wages/Expenses would be due before the next meeting, information to be sent to every member.

(iv) Derbyniadau/Receipts

Whilst Cilycwm Community Association acknowledged receipt of our recent donation, they would like to discuss the Website at some point. Councillor A. Edwards stated that he spoken briefly with Mr Dafydd Thomas.

(v) Biliau I'w talu/Bills for payment

None.

6. Materion Cymunedol/Community Matters

As already discussed at the previous meeting, the plans, etc. drawn up by the Architect had been agreed and would be presented during the New Year. There were plenty of various 'pots' of money available, although some of the funding was required to be spent in the year of the financial claim.

7. Materion Cynllunio/Planning Matters

Carmarthenshire County Council PL/06483 Outline planning application – land at Llysnewydd, Cilycwm. An extra meeting had been held to discuss the response of the Community Council and this had been sent to Carmarthenshire County Council.
Carmarthenshire County Council – PL/06734 – 4kw array of solar panels behind a listed barn – The Coach House, Henllys, Llandovery, SA20 0EW
There were no comments/issues from the Community Council

8. Llwybrau Cyhoeddus & Priffyrdd/Public Footpaths and Highway Issues

(a) Footpath near Home Farm

It was reported that a "variance of route" was being discussed with would be accessible to everyone.

(b) Access to the footbridge over the river which flows down from Mynydd Mallaen

Please see note at beginning of meeting.

(c) Footpath 8/10

This was discussed at length, and it was hoped that a "variance of route" could be possible.

9. Other Matters

Definitive Footpath Map of Footpaths/Cilycwm

Councillor M. Davies suggested that a Map owned by the Community Council should be framed and placed on the wall.

10. Date and venue of next meeting

To be at Capel y Groes – 9th January, 2024. Councillor A. Edwards to forward "link".

