

Minutes of General Meeting held on Thursday 9th December 2021

Present: Cllrs

Allan Morgans – Chair
John Almond
Paul Sheldon
Ivy Watts
Isla Watts
Amanda Curtis
Martyn Holland
Margaret Narburgh - Clerk

Not Responded:

Graham Davidson
Jac Armstrong
Michael Cordiner

Members of the Public:

Hugo Watts

The meeting was held by GoTo Meetings video conference.

331. Apologies

Cllrs Armstrong, Cordiner and Davidson did not respond.

332. Meeting Open to the Public

Mr Watts stated that the ditch at Maes Ysgawen was full of water following the recent storms and he had removed a build up of debris to prevent it overflowing. He asked that if anyone see it is overflowing to let him know and he will clear the debris again.

333. Declaration of Interest Statement

Circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

334. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Ivy and Isla Watts both declared an interest in item 14a on the agenda. Action: Clerk to email declaration of interest form to both for signing.

335. Approval of the Minutes of Meeting on 11th November 2021

Cllr Shelton proposed the minutes be accepted, Cllr Almond seconded and all Councillors present accepted the Minutes as a true and accurate record.

336. Matters Arising from the Meeting on 11th November 2021

167/4 Still awaiting a response from DCC regarding the dropped kerb at the entrance to Maes Ysgawen park. Action Cllr Holland to speak to DCC and Council to review again at January meeting

220/b Bench at Tafarn y Gelyn – on agenda

240/b Millennium water fountain – on agenda

259/1 New cork on noticeboard at Pant Du still needs replacing. Action: Chair to arrange

283/a Operation London Bridge – on agenda

296/e Completed 14/11/21

317 Multi location meetings - on agenda

319 Completed 21/11/21

322 Completed 12/11/21

324 Completed

325/b Completed

325/c Llanferres noticeboard - on agenda

325/d Completed 14/11/21

325/e Completed 14/11/21

327 Completed 12/11/21

- 328 LPFRA lease agreement - on agenda
329 Completed 22/11/21
330/4 On agenda for April 2022

337. Correspondence List

The Clerk had circulated correspondence to Councillors as appropriate during the course of the month.

1. Rebecca Evans AS/MS has responded to letter sent on 30th August, defending the boundary changes and after the changes were implemented. Action: Chair to raise with Darren Miller during January meeting.
2. Precept form has been received from Denbighshire and needs to be returned first week in January.
3. Section 137 notification for 2022-23 has been received stating an increase of 4.8%.
4. The Play Inspection Company has quoted £95 plus VAT to inspect equipment in Maeshafn playing field in April 2022. Clerk has accepted the quote as it was £200 cheaper than the original supplier.
5. Denbighshire CC has circulated the update on the arrangement for Gypsy travellers site and concluded that no new transit site is needed.
6. Denbighshire CC has introduced new bird keeping regulations to prevent the spread of bird flu.

338. LPFRA Lease Agreement

Cllr Armstrong has agreed to register the new lease agreement with the Land Registry and the Clerk has provided him with information needed for payment. Action: Cllr Armstrong to notify Clerk when complete and provide receipt for payment.

339. 2022-23 Precept

The Clerk had updated and circulated the draft precept discussed at length during the November meeting. The Chair went through the details and it was agreed to include the cost of providing a new entrance gate to Maes Ysgawen park suitable for disabled users.

The Chair had been unable to meet with the publishers of News and Views to discuss their progress on increasing advertising revenue and the Council's financial contribution for 2021-22. Cllr Almond stated the magazine was still being distributed late and asked that they address this as a condition of any payment. After due discussion Cllr Sheldon proposed the 2022-23 precept should be £18,500, Cllr Curtis seconded and all Councillors voted in favour. Action: Clerk to complete form and return to Denbighshire before the January deadline.

340. Planning Applications

21/2021/0389 revised – Gwyndy, Eryrys. After due discussion Councillors had no objections to the revised application. Action: Clerk to notify Planning

21/2021/1194 – Burley Hill Quarry extension of planning application. Cllrs Curtis and Holland reported on the outcome of the public meeting held on 8th December when it was clear members of the public most affected by the proposal had done their own research. They mainly felt there was a conflict of interest within Denbighshire CC. Councillors discussed the application for around 40 minutes and concluded more time was needed to read and consider the volume of documents accompanying the application. It was agreed the Council would submit a formal objection to the application within the 21 day time limit and a full response would be sent in January. Action: Chair to draft response for Clerk to submit initial objection.

341. County Councillors Report November 2021

Rectory Lane Pot Holes

DCC have filled in the pot holes in Rectory Lane and Paul Mulraney and myself will be meeting with an officer in January to look at the County's Highways records to try and establish if the lane is adopted.

Grants for Small Rural Car Parks

I am investigating another WG grant stream called Brilliant Basics which may be away of funding small rural car parks. Darren Millar is kindly looking into when the scheme will be open again for applications.

Forestry Road Parking Restrictions

The Forestry Road / Moel Famau parking restrictions consultation is closed with over fifty separate comments were received. Officers have yet to review these and I have asked to be included in that review. I will update residents and councillors as soon as the review has taken place which I believe will now be in the New Year.

Loss of Trees During Storm

We lost a number of trees across the ward during the latest storm but I have not received any reports of serious damage or injuries. Felled trees reported to the County were cleared within the hour in most cases with teams working all night.

Burley Hill Quarry Planning Application

Tarmac have submitted their planning application to extend the life of the Burley Hill Quarry and the DCC planning reference number is 21/2021/1194. A small public meeting was held last night in the Llanferres village hall and a further meeting is planned for mid-January. Residents should submit individual comments on line as soon as possible and the application should go before a full planning committee meeting in either February or March next year.

Community News Letter

I will be issuing a Community News Letter next week where I will cover such things as the various public consultations and planning applications in the ward.

Rectory Lane

Welsh Water are planning to close the road for 2 days but no information was available as to why.

Bird Flu

DEFRA have reported outbreaks of Bird Flu on major chicken farms and stated all fowl should be kept indoors to protect the wild bird population.

New Housing in Llanarmon

There is a public consultation out pre-planning for the building of 33 new houses on the outskirts of the village. This is in addition to the 12 already planned on another plot.

Best Wishes for Christmas

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

342. Projects Update

- a. Multi Location meetings - broadband has still not been connected in Llanferres village hall. Action: Leave updating Standing Orders until the Council is able to access the facility.
- b. Tafarn y Gelyn bench - Quote received for £150 to install plinth to site bench on. Cllr Sheldon proposed accepting it, Cllr Almond seconded and all Councillors voted in favour. Action: Cllr Morgans to plan installation with Contractor and obtain price for bench itself.
- c. Operation London Bridge – Aubergine have provided the Clerk with information to update the website and provided a template for the home page to be used when the time comes. They have included a facility to change the colours on the website to black and white during the period of mourning and return to colour afterwards. It will also be possible to provide links to books of condolence. After due discussion it was agreed to keep things simple. Actions: Clerk to prepare the home page template as far as is possible. Cllr Holland to speak to Gary Williams at Denbighshire CC regarding their plans. Cllr Morgans to speak to the Vicar as he has not had any information from the Diocese yet.

- d. The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – Cllrs agreed to mark the occasion with a tree and plaque in Maes Ysgawen park. Actions: Cllr Curtis to check what the Queens favourite tree is. Cllr Morgans to obtain quote for tree and plaque.

343. Maintenance in the Community

- a. Maes Ysgawen stream – repairs to secure the lose stonework at the culvert has been completed but the contractor has been unable to finish the top due to bad weather. Action: White Oak Properties to complete as soon as practicable.
- b. Millennium water fountain – Cllr Morgans has found a cast iron replacement and plumber has confirmed he can install it as soon as it arrives. Action: Cllr Morgans to send Councillor photograph for approval.
- c. Llanferres noticeboard – Cllr Morgans has removed the 2 doors to make safe. He has prepared and sent drawing to the Sign Workshop for quote. Action: Cllrs Morgans to report back at next meeting.

344. Banking

The Clerk had sent Cllr Ivy Watts the November Bank Statements and accounts for checking against the Internet banking transactions. Cllr Watts confirmed all were correct.

345. Payment of Bills and Invoices

The following bills were presented for authorisation to pay

1. AVOW – payroll invoice for November 2021	£315.90
2. SLCC – annual membership fee	£55.00
3. Corporate Christmas Tree Lights – replacement sections for Maeshafn Tree	£115.99
4. Cartridge People – Black and colour ink cartridges for stock	£45.99
5. GoTo Meetings – Video conference fee for December meeting	£13.20
Total	£546.08

Cllr Almond proposed all bills be paid, Cllr Sheldon seconded, and all Councillors voted in favour.
Action: Clerk to pay all bills on schedule

346. Other Matters Brought to the Councils Attention

1. Cllr Almond reported 2 dangerous trees overhanging the road along Forestry Road. Cllr Morgans stated that he and Cllr Cordiner had already inspected them and taken appropriate action.
2. Cllr Almond stated Morris Homes had still not trimmed the overhanging trees and overgrown hedges on their land at the entrance to Cae Derwyn. Cllr Almond stated he would trim it himself but would have difficulty removing the debris. Hugo Watts offered to help if needed. Action: Cllr Holland to chase Morris Homes to complete the work.
3. The Chair has received information regarding the creation of 3 new forests in the area and responded to Denbighshire stating they should focus on the maintenance of the existing forests as a priority. Action: Chair to discuss with Darren Miller during his attendance at the January 22 meeting.
4. The new grit bin has been installed on Forestry Road.
5. Fallen trees had damaged some fencing in Big Covert. Tarmac had been quick to both remove the tree and repair the fencing to prevent people wandering into the quarry.
6. The dates for the April and July 2022 meeting had been changed to the second Thursday in the month in line with the rest of the dates. Action: Clerk to publish dates on website.

The Chair proposed closing the meeting, Cllr Almond seconded, and the meeting was closed at 21.08 pm.

**The next General Meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 13th January 2022
starting at 7.30 pm by GoTo Meetings Video Conference**