

## Minutes of General Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### Present: Cllrs

Allan Morgans – Chair

Amanda Curtis

Paul Sheldon

Lyn Gibson

Margaret Narburgh – Clerk

### Apologies:

Jac Armstrong – Vice Chair

### Not Responded

HO Williams

### Members of the Public:

4 members of the public were present

This was a face-to-face meeting with no requests to join by video link.

### 813. Apologies

Cllrs Armstrong sent his apologies due to ill health.

### 814. Resignation

Cllr Grice resigned from the Council on 27<sup>th</sup> May with immediate effect.

### 815. Meeting Open to the Public

1. A resident asked the Council if it could write to Denbighshire CC expressing concern that since the new household waste collection system was introduced 2 weeks ago the bins in Cae Derwen and surrounding streets had still not been emptied despite a number of households having complained.
2. Other members of the public also expressed concern over the new waste collection system. Action: Clerk to write to Adrian Walls.
3. A member of the public stated that a car load of books had been fly tipped near woodland close to their home and they had reported it to DCC.

### 816. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Gibson declared a personal interest in correspondence from Llanferres Gardening Club as she was the secretary. Action: Clerk to send Declaration of Interest form for completion.

### 817. Approval of Minutes of AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Cllr Sheldon proposed they be accepted as a true record of the meeting, Cllr Curtis seconded and Cllrs Morgans and Gibson voted in favour. There were no votes against or abstentions and the motion was carried.

### 818. Matters Arising from AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

794 Completed 10.5.24

797 Completed 10.5.24

### 819. Approval of Minutes of General Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Cllr Sheldon proposed they be accepted as a true record of the meeting, Cllr Gibson seconded and Cllrs Morgans and Curtis voted in favour. There were no votes against or abstentions and the motion was carried.

### 820. Matters Arising from General Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

800 Completed 10.5.24

773/1 Completed 28.5.24

804 Completed 11.5.24

806 Completed 11.5.24

807 On agenda

808 Completed 10.5.24

809/2 Completed 11.5.24

809/6 Completed 11.5.24

811 Completed 11.5.24  
812/1 On agenda

## **821. External Audit**

The Clerk stated that she had completed the paperwork required for the 2023-24 external audit and posted it to Cardiff and that the Council has still not received the invoices for the last 3 years audit fees.

## **822. 2024-25 Assets Risk Assessment**

Cllrs Morgans and Sheldon agreed to undertake this years risk assessment. Action: Cllr Morgans to make arrangements with Cllr Sheldon for it to be completed before the next meeting.

## **823. Review of 20 mph Speed Limit in Denbighshire**

Residents have been invited to express their opinions on which roads they think should revert back to 30 mph in preparation for DCC's review following Welsh Government's new guidance but no one had come forward. The Chair proposed suggesting 20 mph be imposed along the main road through Maeshafn and the speed limit through Llanferres be reduced from 40 to 30 mph. Action: Clerk to respond to DCC.

## **824. Draft Social Media Policy**

The Clerk reported that she is meeting Cllr Martin Shutt from Bodfari CC on 22<sup>nd</sup> June when he will explain how they set up the controls for their Facebook group. The administration of Facebook set out in Section 7 of the draft Social Media Policy covered the details of the controls required by LCC. Cllr Sheldon proposed adopting the policy, Cllr Curtis seconded and Cllrs Morgans and Gibson voted in favour. There were no abstentions or votes against. Action: Clerk to set controls on Facebook group after the meeting with Bodfari CC and publish the Social Media Policy on the website.

## **825. Tree Pruning in Maes Ysgawen Park**

Three quotes had been received to prune back the pine trees along the rear boundary in Maes Ysgawen park and remove the rubbish at £2,850, £2,450 and £1,080. The Chair met all 3 contractors on site and was satisfied that the one with the lowest price was more than capable of undertaking the work. Cllr Morgans proposed accepting the lowest price, Cllr Curtis seconded and Cllrs Sheldon and Gibson voted in favour. There were no abstentions or votes against. Action: Clerk to arrange for work to be done.

## **826. Maes Ysgawen Park Improvements**

Cllr Morgans and the Clerk had met the National Lottery funding officer earlier in the day. It was agreed that grant money already allocated for the tendering process and drainage strategy could be reassigned to cover the cost of employing a Quantity Surveyor to cost the capital works, applying for planning permission and preparing documents to accompany the planning application.

Harrisons Landscape Architects have provided quotes for all the documents that Planning might ask for. In summary £7,843 is available for reallocation to cover the worst case estimated cost of £6,721 for the planning application.

The funding officer confirmed that the QS costings can be used to apply for a People and Places grant to cover the tendering process fees and cost of capital works. Action: Clerk to write to the funding officer confirming the reasons for the requested changes and send her quotes for planning and QS fees.

## **827. Correspondence List**

1. A resident in Maeshafn and another one from Llanferres have notified the Council that one of the land owners in Big Covert has blocked a track across their land. Cllr Morgans has explained to both that as it is a track and not a public footpath the only option is to get at least 20 people who have walked the track for at least 20 years to apply for the track to be upgraded to a footpath. The relevant information and paperwork has been sent to one of them who says they will progress this matter.

2. The same two residents have also complained that a large shed has been built on the land in question without planning permission. The Chair stated that about 4 years ago several owners had built sheds in Big Covert and were forced to remove them after being refused planning permission and losing an appeal to Welsh Government. After due discussion Cllr Morgans proposed the Council notify the enforcement officer, Cllr Sheldon seconded and Cllrs Curtis and Gibson voted in favour. There were no abstentions or votes against. Action: Chair to provide relevant information to the Clerk for her to write to DCC.
3. A resident has requested a bus shelter be installed in Maeshafn to protect children during wet weather. The Clerk has written to DCC for advice and is waiting for a response. Having surveyed the area around where the bus stops, there is insufficient space on the footpath and installing one on the triangle of grass at the junction into the village would obstruct the view of oncoming traffic along the road. Action: Clerk to notify the resident of the outcome when DCC respond.
4. Llanferres Gardening Club have asked if the Council will make a donation towards a coach trip for local residents to Powys Castle. After due consideration Cllr Curtis proposed a grant of £150, Cllr Sheldon seconded and Cllr Morgans voted in favour. Cllr Gibson abstained due to her personal interest and there were no votes against. Action: Clerk to arrange payment.
5. 20's Plenty, the organisation promoting the 20-mph speed limit have provided an update on the effect to date of the reduced speed limit.
6. Denbighshire CC had notified the Council of the newly elected Chair and Vice Chair of the County Council.
7. One Voice Wales has issued new guidance notes for the recruitment and retention of Clerks.
8. St Berres Church has thanked the Council for the grant towards maintenance costs for the graveyard.
9. Welsh Government had invited members of the public to suggest which roads should revert back to 30 mph speed limit. See minute 823 above.
10. Tim Towers from DCC has notified the Council that money had been made available to repair Rectory Lane. When complete the lane will automatically be 'adopted' and maintained by highways in future. The Chair formally thanked Paul Mulraney and Martyn Holland for their sustained commitment and efforts over many years to bring this about.

**828. Banking and Accounts**

The Clerk reported that at the end of May there was £295.86 in the current account and £23,053.30 in the saving account. The 2<sup>nd</sup> grant payment of £3,242.82 had been received from the National Lottery on 8<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Sheldon stated that he had checked the bank statements against the internet banking and accounts for May 2024 and the transactions were all correct.

**829. Payment of Bills and Invoices**

The following bills were presented for authorisation to pay.

Date	From	For	Amount
6.6.24	AVOW - Wrexham	Payroll for June 2024 (£542.30 less credit note of £39.70 from Jan 2017)	£502.60
19.6.24	HSBC	Bank charges May 2024	£5.00
22.5.24	Lawn Order	Early summer treatment Maeshafn village green	£40.00
28.5.24	Net World Sports	Goal post nets and clips Maeshafn park	£48.73
28.5.24	Amazon	Display book to keep minutes of meetings	£21.98
28.5.24	Post Office	Postage to track external audit papers to Cardiff	£4.20
<b>Total Bills to Pay</b>			<b>£622.51</b>

Cllr Curtis proposed all bills be paid, Cllr Sheldon seconded and Cllrs Morgans and Gibson voted in favour. There were no abstentions or votes against and the motion was carried. Action: Clerk to pay all bills.

**830. Other Matters brought to the Council's Attention**

1. The Post Office had notified the nominated resident that the mobile post office van would not be visiting Llanferres this week. He had tried to circulate the information via the village email system without success. The Clerk stated that in future she could notify residents if this happened again.
2. The Chair had again contacted NRW regarding flooding from the river Alun at Pont Y Mwynwr bridge and not received a reply so asked Darren Millar to intervene. The response he got was to say they would not be taking any action because the surrounding land was a flood plain and that residents should take their own appropriate steps to protect their property. DCC's bridge officer has confirmed that there is no funding available from County to do anything. Action: Cllr Morgans to send a copy of NRW's response to the residents affected for information so they can challenge the decision if they wish.
3. The big pot holes on the Maeshafn road have been repaired but don't look very robust.

Cllr Morgans thanked members of the public for their attendance and asked them to leave before moving onto Part II. He proposed closing the meeting, Cllr Curtis seconded and Cllrs Gibson and Sheldon voted in favour. The meeting was closed at 20.25 pm.

**831. Part II**

1. Councillors agreed there was no longer a need to recruit a new member of staff.
2. Councillors considered how to attract residents to become Councillors following the resignation of Cllr Grice.

Cllr Morgans proposed closing the meeting, Cllr Curtis seconded and Cllrs Gibson and Sheldon voted in favour. The meeting was closed at 20.35 pm.

**The next General Meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7.30 pm in Llanferres Village Hall and by TEAMS video conferencing**

