



Yscir Community Council

Clerk: position vacant

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Minutes of Yscir Community Council Meeting held on 23rd November 2022 at Cradoc Golf Club at 7.30pm.

Present

Cllr Jane Price [Chair]

Cllr Bob Wood

Cllr Kate Dunning

Cllr Geoff Watkins

Cllr Valerie Davies

County Cllr Iain McIntosh*

22/11/1

Apologies for absence:

Apologies have been received from Cllr Rebecca Watkins

22/11/2

Declarations of interest: none received.

22/11/3

Policing update from PCSO 8083 Ryan Kenny

The Chair introduced our new PCSO who has replaced Alex Daniels. PCSO Kenny informed us that there were no current problems in our area that are of a particular concern at present. However as 'scamming', by phone, text or email, is now becoming more prevalent at this time of year, he brought some leaflets with information on how to stay safe. The leaflet is available on line and we will flag this up on our website and Facebook page.

Cllr Valerie Davies expressed her concern that there appeared to be no-one on the Front Desk at the Police Station in Brecon. This has caused problems when trying to hand in any documentation that may have been requested, or the notifying of lost pets and property etc. PCSO Kenny promised to take our concerns back to management at the station.

22/11/4

Clerk and Council matters:

22/11/4.1

Clerk Jane Joseph has now resigned due to ill health. Advertising for a replacement will begin as soon as possible.

22/11/4.2

Chair, Jane Price, thanked Cllr Valerie Davies for her assistance in dealing with all matters relating to the Audit and the precept and for preparing the cash book, the budget monitoring sheets and the Agenda. Cllr Davies has agreed to continue dealing with financial matters until such time as a new Clerk is appointed.

22/11/4.3

In the absence of a clerk Cllr Kate Dunning will take continue to take the minutes until such time as we are able to appoint a new clerk.

22/11/5

Minutes of Council Meeting held on 5th Oct'22:

The minutes were read and adopted as a true and accurate record.

NOTE: Cllr Geoff Watkins arrived at 19:59.

22/11/6

Information from the minutes and Clerk's report.

It has not yet been possible to plant one of the Platinum Jubilee trees but this will take place asap.

22/11/7

Co-option of a new councillor

There were two names put forward as a new councillor to replace Cllr Dilys Davies. An anonymous election was held, therefore, and Kevin Gore was the successful candidate. The Chair will write to both candidates to inform them of the result and Cllr Valerie Davies will contact Kevin Gore to secure a photo for the website and get his signature on the relevant forms.

- 22/11/8 **To determine whether councillors should be able to receive the £156 allowance in 2023-24.**
 One Voice Wales has proposed that Councillors' £156 per year allowance towards extra household expenses, including heating, lighting, power and broadband, and the extra £52 per year towards office consumables required to carry out their role, should now become obligatory and no longer voluntary, i.e. we can't opt out. The £52 per year for office consumables may, alternatively, be paid on an actual basis'. The Independent Remuneration Panel of Wales will decide on this proposal in February '23. We are a very small authority and this would put a huge demand on our budget. Cllr Davies pointed out that this is taxable. No-one on the council wishes to claim any expenses for fulfilling their role and, as the panel have asked for feedback, it was decided that Cllr Davies should complete the email feedback questionnaire, and to express our joint feeling that any such claim should continue to be on an individual and voluntary basis.
- 22/11/9 **Financial Matters:**
- 22/11/9.1 Cllr Davies' expenses for October and November £73.29 were approved.
- 22/11/9.2 The following payments were approved:
- HMRC PAYE July £143.20
 - HMRC PAYE Oct £33.60
 - Jane Joseph Final Salary July £134.74 + expenses £20.40 - Total £155.14
 - Annual payment to UBE (Upper Bridge Enterprises) for website maintenance £202.56
- 22/11/9.3 The financial position of the council, as contained in the cashbook and budget monitoring, was noted and approved. The cost of the uncontested election was £359.09 which will be paid to PCC in due course.
- 22/11/9.4 In the light of our improved balance it was decided to set the next precept level at 19p.
- 22/11/9.5 Cllr Dilys Davies has been removed as a cheque signatory and replaced with Cllr Valerie, Davies alongside Cllr, Jane Price, Cllr Bob Wood and Cllr Kate Dunning. However, Cllr Valerie Davies will not perform this role whilst covering the financial duties of the Clerk.
- 22/11/9.6 It was noted that the 2021/22 audit has been successfully completed with an unqualified opinion.
- 22/11/10 **Update on Cradoc Primary School:**
 The school action committee is still waiting to hear whether the PCC will accept the requested judicial review and then, if they do, a hearing date. Cllr McIntosh is on the temporary governing body which has been set up to oversee the transition but nothing much has been decided upon yet. The first phase of the transition, ie the 3 schools being merged under one head and governing body, but on 3 sites, was originally set for September '22. This was delayed to September '24 but even if everything was decided and settled as of today's date, the action committee believe there will still not be enough time to complete all necessary procedures and protocols to continue with this date. Cllr McIntosh is continuing to exert pressure for a decision as all this delay is having a deleterious effect on staff and parents of the all the schools. The Chair of Governors at Cradoc School has sent an email to the Cabinet and the Education officers informing them of the situation and the feelings of the Governing Body. He is also trying to establish whether Cradoc is being treated as a rural or urban school, as the rules for treatment are different. Costs are also escalating and there is now confusion as to where the money is to come from.
- 22/11/11 **Issues reported to Powys CC - footpath by Glanllyn:**
- 22/11/11.1 County Cllr Iain McIntosh has had a quote from PCC regarding the repair of the footpath by Glanllyn which he considered excessive in the light of the fact that all the residents, bar one, are now private. He will now get quotes from private companies before he approaches any resident with details of the situation and costs.

- 22/11/11.2 Cllr Valerie Davies reported that the work that has been undertaken at the junction of the road through Aberyscir with the road down from Y Gaer (the Roman fort), appears to have been successful in alleviating the continual flooding problems there.
- 22/11/12 **Defibrillators**
Cllr Davies has done the online reports that are required for our two defibrillators.
- 22/11/13 **Draft Training Policy for Community Councillors and Clerk.**
Cllr Davies has produced a simplified Training Policy and a form to show any information she has on training that has already been done. She asked everyone to let her know of any courses they have done, with dates, as soon as possible. As far as can be determined there is no requirement for every councillor to attend at least one training session each year. We have decided that it should be that courses be covered by one member and who will feedback given to the full council. Most courses are now online.
- Note:** Cllr Bob Wood left at 20:48
- 22/11/14 **Update on Cradoc phone box**
Unfortunately it is now BT policy to replace glass with perspex, due to vandalism.
- 22/11/15 **Issues to be reported to Powys Council**
The frequently requested road narrows sign has still not been installed in Cradoc Road.
The replacement grit box at the Cradoc crossroads which was requested last winter has still not been replaced.
There were no additional issues to be reported at this time.
- 22/11/16 There were no planning applications to be considered.
- 22/11/17 **Meeting dates for 2023**
22 March, 24 May, 26 July, 27 September, 22 November
- 22/11/18 **Information for discussion at the next meeting**
No suggestions were made at present.
- 22/11/19 **Confirmation of date and time of the next meeting of the Council:**
Wednesday 18th January 2023 at 6pm at Cradoc Golf Club.

The meeting closed at 21:20

Signed as a true record _____

Position _____

Date _____