

LLANASA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting of the Llanasa Community Council held on Tuesday, 18th April 2023, at Ysgol Bryn Garth, Penyffordd

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs E Harvey (Chairman)
Councillors: Ms Braun
Mrs J Roberts
Mrs K J Hughes
Mrs G Fisher
Mrs G Maddison
J Larner
M Williams
D Brown
G Banks
Ms E Charlton-Fleming

Together with the Clerk.

1.) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Apologies were received prior to the meeting from Councillor Mrs Banks, Councillor Luke and Councillor J Williams.

2.) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Councillor Mrs Harvey and Councillor G Banks declared an interest in the appointment of the new Clerk, as family members of each had expressed an interest in the position. Councillor Mrs Harvey also advised that as a result of this interest, she would step down from the staffing committee formed to appoint the new Clerk. Councillor Mrs Roberts agreed to take the place of the Chairman on the Staffing Committee.

The Chairman advised Councillors that she had received notice of resignation from Councillor J Williams of Gronant to take effect from the 30th April. The Clerk advised that a casual vacancy would be declared from the start of May. Councillor G Banks suggested we should send a letter of thanks for the long service of Councillor Williams. **Agreed Unanimously.**

3.) **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THE 21st MARCH 2023 AND THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON THE 28th MARCH 2023.**

Copies of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 21st March 2023 and the Special Meeting held on the 28th March 2023 had been circulated with the meeting papers.

Councillor Mrs Roberts proposed, seconded by Councillor Brown, that the minutes be approved, and signed by the Chairman. **Approved Unanimously.**

4.) **MATTERS ARISING**

The resignation of the Clerk was discussed following the advertisement for a replacement. The Clerk advised there had been four expressions of interest, but only two had followed up with a letter and supporting documents.

At this stage, Councillor Mrs Harvey and Councillor G Banks left the room due to Declarations of Interest.

Two applications for the Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer had been received and copies of the letters and CV's were circulated to Members for consideration. It was agreed that both applicants appeared to meet the requirements, and would both be invited for interview. Members of the Staffing Committee agreed that the interviews would be held on Thursday, 27th April at Ysgol Bryn Garth. The first interview would be at 7.00pm, and the second at 7.45pm. The Clerk would contact the Headteacher to ensure the school was available. The Clerk would contact both applicants to make arrangements for their interviews.

The members of the staffing committee would meet prior to the interviews to determine questions for the applicants, and asked if the Clerk could obtain some suggested questions from other Town & Community Councils.

Councillors discussed the requirements needed for the new Clerk, which included Skills, Relevant Experience, Personal Attributes, Working With The County Council, People Skills, Flexibility, Cemetery Protocols, Budgeting & Finances, Prioritising of Work and Approachability. Any questions should include reference to as many of the above as possible.

The Clerk advised that in the event of the Staffing Committee being tied on a vote on who to appoint, the current Vice-Chairman, Councillor Ms Braun, would have the deciding vote.

Councillor Mrs Harvey and Councillor G Banks then re-joined the meeting.

5.) **TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED BY FLINTSHIRE CC.**

000277/23 Replacement of two windows that are suffering wet rot at Yr Hen
Dafarn, Trelogan

No Objections.

000258/23 Demolition of dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling and associated works at Arden Grove, Tyn y Morfa, Gwespyr

No Objections.

000246/23 Retention and use of existing structures, plant and ancillary development (including access roadway and landscaping) forming the Point of Ayr gas terminal for the transport of CO2 and the demolition/removal of redundant structures at the terminal; construction and use of new infrastructure required for CO2 service at the Point of Ayr gas terminal; retention and use of the existing 20 diameter gas pipeline, condensate pipes and associated cables from the Point of Ayr gas terminal to the Mean Low Water Spring mark for the transport of CO2 and associated activities; removal of the Shut Down Valve compound associated with the existing 20 diameter gas pipeline from the Point of Ayr gas terminal to the Mean Low Water Spring mark and appropriate restoration/remediation; construction and use of two 33kV electricity and fibre optic connections from Point of Ayr gas terminal to the Mean Low Water Spring mark; and construction and use of two kiosks and associated fenced compounds located on the line of the proposed 33kV electricity and fibre optic connections.

This application had not been included on the agenda as details were received after the agenda had been issued. Councillors discussed the application and agreed that the project would go ahead and no objections were raised. Councillor G Banks advised Members that discussions were ongoing with the company involved for the creation of a Community Benefit fund and a possible annual benefit contribution.

000434 Change of use of an existing property to a holiday accommodation for a period of 185 days per calendar year and to allow residential use for the remainder of the year at Arosfa, Axton.

Councillor G Banks advised that the site visit had been by the Planning Officer assigned to the case. The Planning Committee had discussed the application at its latest meeting and had approved the application by one vote. The applicant had applied for a 2-year licence however the Planning Committee only approved a 1-year licence together with strict conditions. The applicant must re-apply in 12 months to keep the licence.

6.) ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED

That the accounts, as submitted, be approved for payment.

The Clerk advised Members that the payment recorded on the agenda to Stephen C Harms had been adjusted after the agenda had been issued. The correct amount payable was £1400.62.

7.) **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

As per finance list - £6806.69. The finance list included amounts payable to Salix Finance and the Information Commissioners Office by direct debit, although no invoices had yet been received.

The Clerk referred Councillors to the bank reconciliation included with the meeting papers. This showed the total balances held by Council as at the year end, 31st March 2023. Although the total amount held had reduced over the year by approximately £11000, the overall level of reserves was still excessive, and attempts should be made to reduce it further.

The Clerk had also circulated a copy of the VAT Refund details that had been submitted to H M Revenue & Customs. This amounted to £7488.40, which was usually refunded within 7-10 days of submission.

9.) **TO CONSIDER THE LEVEL OF FUNDING TO BE PUT ASIDE FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS.**

Councillors discussed the level of funds that could be put aside for Community Projects, and **agreed unanimously** that a figure of £25000 should be set aside.

10.) **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Clerk advised that the fees and charges for Picton Cemetery had not been increased for at least two years, and it was time to review with a suggested increase of 10%. The Clerk had produced a schedule with the increased fees and charges including the suggested increase, and advised Members that this item would be included on the agenda for consideration at the May meeting. The Clerk advised Councillors that grave-digging costs had increased over the years, and indicated that the comparable costs at another cemetery in Flintshire for a new grave for two were in excess of 50% higher than those at Picton.

The Clerk advised Councillors that the revised quotation for the street-light numbering exercise from MEGA Electrical had been received, and the new cost would be £4180, plus VAT. This figure would include a visual inspection of each column / wooden pole, the production of specialist vinyl stickers and a compilation of a database with the information collated. Councillors felt this price was very high and Councillor G Banks advised Members he would source a suitable sign to use.

Councillor G Banks asked whether any consideration had been given to who would be Vice-Chairman of the Council at the forthcoming AGM. As was the usual practice, the position of Vice-Chairman was circulated around the wards of the Community Council, and it was now the turn of Axton ward. Both Councillor Mrs Fisher and Councillor Brown had been in office in recent years, and proposed Councillor M Williams. This proposal would be put to members at the Annual General Meeting in May.

Councillor G Banks provided a report on the latest news in connection with the 20mph speed reductions being brought into force in September. A list of possible exclusions had been submitted to Flintshire County Council, and a site meeting had been suggested to the officer dealing with the exclusions, in particular for Trelogan where several issues had been raised. The officer however had initially refused to agree to the site meeting, until Katie Wilby had instructed the site meeting should

be scheduled. Councillor G Banks advised Members that it was easier to show the problems at a site meeting rather than on maps of the area.

Councillor G Banks had also made contact with the 20sPlenty organisation to discuss the issues within our area.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.

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Chairman