

**Llangollen Rural Community Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held via Teleconferencing**  
**On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

14/20

**Present**

Cllr. Elfed Morris  
Cllr. Darrell Wright  
Cllr. Steve Jones  
Cllr. Rod Playford

Cllr. Mrs Sue Kempster  
Cllr. Mrs D J Evans  
Cllr. Keith Sinclair  
Cllr. Phil Jones

Chairman: Cllr. Elfed Morris

Clerk: Andrea Evans

**1. Apologies for absence**

There were apologies for absence from Cllr. A Roberts (work) and Cllr. Mrs S Williams (compassionate leave).

**2. Minutes of the last council meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been distributed and were accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. Report on police matters**

The Clerk informed Councillors that the latest information available on the Police UK website was for September 2020, and this had been presented at the November meeting. It was decided that the Clerk would contact the local police sergeant to ask if information could be updated more promptly.

The posters received, which listed the PCSOs covering Ruabon, Cefn Mawr, Plas Madoc and Llangollen Rural were useful, but it was not clear which ones covered Llangollen Rural. The Clerk would ask if it could be made clear when providing contact information which PCSOs should be contacted by residents.

**5. Community Agent's report**

The Community Agent was continuing to help residents with shopping, the collection and delivering of prescriptions, and phone calls. The report had been received by the Clerk at 4.28pm that day and then forwarded to Councillors. It was requested that in future the Community Agent sends the report earlier than this so that Councillors have time to read it before the Council meeting.

**6. Update from the Clerk on the work log**

The Clerk provided an update on the work log and this was discussed.

*Parking Fron Basin/Trevor Basin* – Discussions with CRT and WCBC were on-going.

*Dog fouling on the old railway line* – No further information to report.

*Cars parked on the A539 Llangollen Road near the old post office* – No further information to report.

*New notice boards for Garth* – Cllr. Morris had contacted the supplier again to request that the boards are received before Christmas. The Clerk had emailed the school to complain about the removal of notices.

*Installation of a lockable gate at the George Avenue playground* – The quote was discussed and it was decided to accept the option for a gate at the entrance to the path, with fencing at the side. The Clerk was awaiting a reply from the Economic Development Department at WCBC, regarding the reinstatement of the bottom fence, and removal of the kissing gate. It was decided that before any work was carried out, the Council would speak to the neighbours to discuss the proposed work and find out their views.

*Possible use of the Froncysyllte school field* - Discussions were on-going, but on hold due to Covid 19.

*Footpath between Alma Road and School Lane* – Cllr. Sinclair was collecting the necessary information to apply for the Modification Order.

*Steps on the footpath near the Pump field* – No further information had been received from WCBC.

*Japanese Knotweed on the Offa's Dyke footpath* – Cllr Roberts had not received a reply from WCBC.

*Risk assessments of seats, street furniture and Noddfa* – Noddfa Cemetery to be done.

*War Memorial Garth* – A contractor was being sourced.

*Tree obstruction on entering the Bont Bridge* – A reply had not been received from the Highways Department.

*New planters at the entrance to the Rhos-Y-Coed estate* – Quotes were being obtained for the work.

## **7. Planning applications**

To consider planning applications:

**P/2020/0723** – Extension to roof and alterations to rear – **1 Tyr Teulu, Woodlands Road, Froncysyllte.**

**P/2020/0726** – Operation of 1 private hire vehicle – **Vron Hyfryd, Yr Ochr, Froncysyllte.**

There were no objections to the 2 applications.

For information (Approved by WCBC):

**P/2020/0207** – Erection of detached dwelling – **Land at The Cottage, Garth Road, Garth, Wrexham**

**P/2020/0260** – Variation of conditions 2 (approved drawings), 3 (access closure), 5 (vehicular parking) and 14 (boundaries) of planning permission P/2018/0481 – **Sugn Y Pwll Service Reservoir, Tower Hill, Garth**

**P/2020/0262** – Installation of motor control centre / dosing kiosk (in retrospect) – **Sugn Y Pwll Service Reservoir, Tower Hill, Garth, Wrexham**

## **8. Correspondence update from the Clerk**

All correspondence was listed in the Clerk's report and had been forwarded to Councillors. The Clerk highlighted the following emails:

**Welsh Government** - Discretionary Expenditure Limit 2021-22

**Wrexham County Borough Council** - Community Council Precept 2021/2022

## **9. To consider the J C Edwards Wall Feasibility Study and decide how to proceed**

The draft feasibility study had been received on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and it had been sent to councillors. Cadwyn Clwyd had asked for additional information to be added to the report, as required in the original brief for the feasibility study, namely, 'a three-year forward cash flow projection for the proposal, showing how it will be implemented and funded'. The additional information would be forwarded to councillors when it was received.

As the report was detailed and comprised 101 pages, it was proposed that a working group was set up to include councillors and the consultant architect, in order to discuss the report in detail and present proposals to the February Council meeting. The members of the Working Group would be Cllr. Playford, Cllr. Roberts, Cllr. Mrs Kempster, Cllr. Wright, Cllr. P Jones and G. Edwards. The Council expressed its thanks to Cllr. Roberts and Cllr. Playford for their contribution to the production of the feasibility study.

## **10. Update from the Boer War Memorial Working Group**

The Working Group met on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and a copy of the report had been circulated. Possible grant funding sources were discussed and also if there was a fall-back position, if the War Memorial Trust would not provide grant funding. Cllr. Mrs S Kempster asked if the Wales Heritage Lottery Fund bid for JC Edwards Wall could be combined with a bid for the war memorial, to provide a broader area of benefit to the community. The working group would look into this.

**11. Update on the playgrounds****16/20**

The Clerk informed Councillors that about 75% of the work in the playgrounds had been completed. Also, HAGS were due to inspect the 2 cable runways and the basket swing at Woodland Grove. It was decided that once the work was completed, a Councillor would meet with the contractor to inspect what had been done.

**12. Christmas lights 2021**

The provision of Christmas lights/decorations in the community for Christmas 2021 was discussed. There was currently no Christmas light provision in the community. Cllr. Wright had made preliminary enquiries with a neighbouring community council and obtained the name of two suppliers. He had obtained a brochure from one firm in order to establish what was available and the costs. It was proposed that a working group was set up to consider the provision of lights. It was decided that Cllr Wright would obtain more information including costings and report back to the council before a working group was set up.

**13. Noddfa Cemetery entrance - stone pillars**

Cllr Morris reported that the stone pillars either side of the gate to Noddfa Cemetery were in need of cleaning. It was decided that the Clerk would obtain a quote from a local firm for sandblasting the stonework, including lettering and securing the cap on the right hand pillar.

**14. Finance**

Financial statements had been circulated as at the end November 2020: receipts for 2020/21; bank reconciliation; and budget monitoring against precept and receipts.

**Authorised payments:**

P Ankers	102357	£200.00
WCBC	102358	£93.17
D Jarvis	102359	£10.00
J Evans	102360	£187.89
D Jarvis	102361	NJC
J Evans	102362	NJC
P Green	102363	£555.00
NEST	DD	£32.24
<b>Total</b>		<b>£2,446.55</b>

It was agreed to transfer £2,000 from the General Reserve into the Playground Reserve.

**15. Approval of the proposed budget and the precept amount for 2021/22**

The proposed precept budget for 2021/22 had been distributed. This had been discussed at the Finance meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020, where it was decided to present it for approval to the full Council. The Finance Committee also recommended that the Clerk's salary increased by one incremental point within the agreed salary scale from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, in line with current guidelines. This was agreed.

Following discussion it was agreed that the proposed budget was approved at £56,990 for 2021/2022, compared to £57,990 in 2020/2021. This would equate to a Community Council charge at Band D of £66.04 compared to £67.51 in 2020/2021. The Special Lighting charge is added to the Band D charge.

This would be communicated to WCBC.

**16. Items for the next agenda**

Poppies on streetlights  
Investment Strategy  
Broken stiles on footpaths

**Date, Time and Venue of the Next Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 at 7.00pm via Teleconferencing**