

Llangollen Rural Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held via Teleconferencing
On Tuesday 6th October 2020

6/20

Present

Cllr. Elfed Morris
Cllr. Darrell Wright
Cllr. Anthony Roberts
Cllr. Rod Playford
Cllr. Mrs Sian Williams

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

Chairman: Cllr. Elfed Morris

Clerk: Andrea Evans

1. Apologies

There were apologies for absence from Cllr. S. Jones.

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.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 6th October 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 of the incidents recorded on the Police UK website for August 2020. The Clerk would set up a meeting with the recently appointed Police Sergeant for the area, the PCSO and Councillors, to discuss local issues once it was acceptable to do so.

It was noted that on the Police UK website page for Llangollen Rural, under 'Your local policing team', and 'Contact' the following was shown: '**Contact details - Contact details for this team aren't available.**' It was decided that the Clerk would contact the local Police Sergeant and ask that the details are shown on the page.

5. Community Agent's report

The Community Agent would return to work on 12th October 2020.

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 – No further information to report. The public consultation was in progress and 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 to the old post office - The public consultation was in progress.

J C Edwards wall and pillars site – a decision on the layout and size could be made once the feasibility study report was received. The Clerk had obtained legal advice regarding the agreement by Eastman Chemical Company to grant an easement or a gift of the land to the Council. It was firstly necessary to establish with the company if this was an easement or a gift of land. Legal input would be needed from the company as evidence of title, and either a draft deed of easement or a draft transfer document would have to be provided. Legal searches (including environmental) would need to be carried out. It was estimated the cost to the council to be approximately £800 plus VAT.

Cllr. Playford informed Councillors that the feasibility study was carried out on the basis of the land being gifted to the Council. It was noted that the Council would need to own the land before applying for grant funding. It was decided to move forward with the solicitor, once it had been established whether the company was proposing an easement or a gift of land.

New notice boards for Garth – a second quotation had been received and both quotations were considered. It was decided to accept the quote from Wynnstay Joinery for the provision of two hardwood notice boards, and to ask that they are each installed with two posts. Cllr. Morris would place the order.

Installation of a lockable gate at the George Avenue playground – waiting for quotes for gate installation. It was decided that the Clerk would contact WCBC to ask that the fence at the bottom of the playground was reinstated and the kissing gate was removed. A site meeting of the Playground Committee was being held on Friday 9th October.

Purchase of 2 speed signs and 2 extra lockable mounting posts – two additional batteries had been purchased. The Clerk would download data from the speed signs and send the data to Councillors.

Possible use of the Froncysyllte school field - discussions were on-going.

Footpath between Alma Road and School Lane – the footpath was not on the Definitive list of paths held by WCBC. It was decided that the Council would make a Definitive Map Modification Order to have the path placed on the list. Cllr. Sinclair offered to collect the necessary information to apply for the Modification Order.

Steps on the footpath near to the Pump field – S Roberts from WCBC's Rights of Way Department was to meet with a contractor to inspect the steps. The barriers on Garth Road, and the stile by Briar on Trevor Road were due to be installed, but had been delayed as the contractor was dealing with a backlog of public rights of way maintenance work.

Wildlife garden on the old railway line path – no more shrubs or bulbs have been received.

Kerbs in Trevor were full of weeds – the Clerk had emailed the Head of Housing to complain.

Request for an Astro turf pitch in Trevor – money was held at WCBC to provide a MUGA in the area, and Cllr. Roberts was pursuing this with WCBC.

Japanese Knotweed on the Offa's Dyke footpath – the Clerk had been told by WCBC that the land was private land, but Councillors said that the land belonged to the Economic Development Department of WCBC. Cllr Roberts offered to follow this up.

Fron Cemetery grounds maintenance – progress had been made and this was continuing.

Risk assessments of seats, street furniture and Noddfa – Street furniture and the seats in Garth and Fron had been done. Trevor seats and Noddfa Cemetery to be done.

War Memorial Garth – Cllr Morris was arranging a contractor to fix the leaks where the dome meets the brickwork.

7. Planning applications

Nothing to report.

8. Correspondence update from the Clerk

One Voice Wales

Remote Training Dates

Support for the Heritage Sector in Wales

Parking Scam Emails

Fly tipping Action Wales

WLGA Coronavirus Update - 09.09.20, 15.09.20, 21.09.20, 24.09.20, and 01.10.20.

Welsh Government

Coronavirus Covid-19 News – 09.09.20, 11.09.20, 18.09.20, 25.09.20, and 02.10.20
Ministers Written Statement: Phase 2 of the Diversity in Democracy Programme
Update – Remembrance 2020

Wrexham County Borough Council

Welsh Government WHQS Survey
Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum 8th October 2020
Extra Restrictions will help fight a second wave in North Wales

Mott MacDonald

A483 Wrexham By-pass Junction 3 to 6 Public Consultation Events

Ken Skates

Newsletter 11.09.20, 18.09.20, and 25.09.20

Simon Baynes

Press Release: Reopening of Trevor Basin Visitor Centre

Play Wales

A play friendly school: Guidance for a whole school approach
Publications: Making it possible to do play sufficiency
E-bulletin October 2020

PKC Group

PKC Group and the Circular Economy
Air Products site – Jessops tramway and continuing saga

It was decided that the Clerk would request that the Community Council was removed from the PKC Group mailing list.

All emails have been forwarded to Councillors.

9. Maintenance of the Boer War Memorial in Froncysyllte

G. Roberts, Architect & Historic Buildings Consultant, had met at the memorial with the contractor who had carried out the previous repairs. They had discussed the repair work needed, and considered suggestions and costings in order to protect the memorial once the repair was done. They were concerned that water was coming through the wall at the back of the memorial and causing damage.

The Community Council was not responsible for the memorial, and so it needed to decide firstly if it was going to take on the responsibility to ensure the rare memorial was looked after. It was decided to wait for the repair options and costings, resulting from the meeting between G Roberts and the contractor, before any further decisions were made.

10. Remembrance Day Wreaths

Due to the current Covid situation Remembrance Day would need to be observed whilst abiding by the current restrictions. It was decided that Cllr. Sinclair would lay a wreath in Froncysyllte, and Cllr. Morris would lay a wreath in Garth. A minutes silence would be observed but there would be no gathering at the Memorials, in order to adhere to social distancing and the current lockdown rules.

11. Tree Obstruction on entering Bont bridge

Four or five trees were obstructing visibility on entering the Bont Bridge. The land owner had agreed that they could be removed but was not prepared to pay for this to be done. As this was the responsibility of the landowner it was decided that the Clerk would contact the Highways Department of WCBC to report the problem with visibility, and ask them to deal with this.

12. Overhanging tree in Garth Playground

The owner of the land had cleared the branch that had fallen into the playground.

13. Bringing unoccupied properties back into use

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The Clerk had requested and received information from WCBC regarding the number of unoccupied council properties currently in the area. There were currently 8 empty properties in the area and all were allocated.

Cllr Sinclair asked if empty private properties could be identified by WCBC via the Council Tax system, but this was not possible. It was decided that the Clerk would ask WCBC if they had a policy or strategy for dealing with unoccupied private houses. Also the Clerk would ask WCBC if they could help the community to bring these properties back into use, if the Community Council could identify them to WCBC.

14. Donations to Garth & Trevor Community Centre, Froncysyllte Community Centre, Garth CP School and Froncysyllte CP School

The following donations were authorised: £3000 each to Garth & Trevor Community Centre and Froncysyllte Community Centre; and £500 each to Garth CP School and Froncysyllte CP School.

15. Finance

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

Authorised payments:

P Ankers	102337	£330.00
P Green	102338	£588.00
J Evans	102339	£197.67
K Claybrook	102340	£50.00
D Jarvis	102341	NJC
J Evans	102342	NJC
Garth & Trevor Community Centre	102343	£3,000.00
Froncysyllte Community Centre	102344	£3,000.00
Garth CP School	102345	£500.00
Froncysyllte CP School	102346	£500.00
Total		£9,876.89

15. Items for the next agenda.

J C Edwards wall
Clinker path - update.

Date, Time and Venue of the Next Meeting – 3rd November 2020 at 7.00pm via Teleconferencing