CWMDU AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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**Minutes of a Council meeting 1st June 2023**

**Present**

**Chairman:** John Williams (JW)

**Councillors:** Les Doggett (LD), Hank Jackson (RDHJ), Paul Silk (EPS), David Meyer (DM), Selena Clay (SC).

**In Attendance**: County Councillor Sian Cox (CSC) Sue Dale (Clerk) and one member of the public.

# Apologies:

 Kate Logan (KL), John Jones (JJ), Martin Pearce (MP) and William Forster (WF)

Cllr S-J Beecham (S-JB) and Cllr M Beecham (MB)

# Declarations of Interest: None

# Public participation

The member of the public made contributions to the discussions.

# Minutes of the meetings 4/5/2023

Prop: SC. Sec: HJ. JW thanked LD for chairing. Clerk is to check the date of the minutes on the website.

# Matters Arising (information only)

Speedwatch – it was reported that the authorities feel that Cwmdu and Tretower do not have a problem with traffic! This is not supported by residents’ evidence but there is a lack of verifiable information on vehicle speeds through the communities and so the problem needs to documented. To be discussed on June 15th Agenda.

# Clerk’s Report

Funding Opportunities via MB and CSC – circulated
Letter objecting to the 20mph exemption at Bwlch by CSC – circulated
The clerk wishes to retire by the end of February 2024, she gives notice of that intention and advises Council to recruit another clerk, to be put on the agenda for June 15th 2023.
Health and Safety policies to be put on the agenda for June 15th 2023.
The 2022-23 Annual Return to be put on the agenda for June 15th 2023.
The reason for absence of a councillor for nearly 6 months to be considered on June 15th.

# Powys County Council matters.

CSC is hosting a Community Transport Meeting and suggest that a common approach across the communities would be beneficial. One Councillor suggested that levels of pollution caused by traffic can be recorded and sent off for analysis.

Councillor Anita Cartwright of Talybont has been granted a leave of absence until September, her role will be split with James Gibson-Watt leading on Gilestone Farm.
Business rates may be discounted by Powys County Council, further information is available (from where).

Powys County Council are creating more apprenticeships and are promoting endometriosis friendly employment policies. There is a link on their website to enable feedback.
Gas cylinders can now only be recycled by the manufacturer, except for the small camping ones which can still be recycled at Powys recycling facilities.

# Planning Applications

23/21962/LBC Buckland Hall – replacement slimline reproduction timber windows.
No objections provided the formalities are observed.

# Correspondence – Councillors are notified of incoming email from external bodies, some are listed here:

Correspondence is embedded in agenda items or covered in the Clerk’s Report.

# Financials

 Cheques for approval:

 - Sue Dale, Clerks salary May 23 £465.20

 - Tretower Village Hall donation for celebration £150.00

 - Bwlch Village Hall donation for celebration £150.00
 - Cwmdu Village Hall for celebration £150.00
 - Powys County Council (UPRN) £200.00 approval only

N.B. All three donations will be supported by receipts of expenses incurred. Clerk to find out about the Cwmdu celebration.

Bank reconciliation was presented.

Finances were approved. Prop: LD and Sec: PS.

# Response to A479 letter.

No response has been forthcoming from Welsh Government.

# Fedw Wood Documents – next steps.

A trustees meeting is to be held in order that the current position where some trustees are no longer community councillors while some community councillors are not trustees can be regularised.

# The meeting with other councils held on 17th May 2023 at Tretower Village Hall.

Councillors from Llangynidr, Llangors, Crickhowell and Cwmdu and District met to discuss the lack of formal information on the planned developments at Gilestone Farm, Talybont. Concerns about traffic and the environment were raised. Parallels were drawn between the Circuit of Wales and Gilestone Farm. It was decided to invite Councillors of Talybont to the next meeting possibly before the summer break. James Evans MS is holding an open public meeting in Henderson Hall on 8/6/23 at 7pm to determine feeling about the lack of communication over the planned development.
CSC offered to circulate a County Councillor’s notes on the subject.
A forensic approach was proposed. JW said that he would attend the meeting and express the wish of the Council for more information, in the absence of which it could not come to any conclusion. SD to arrange meeting.

# A faulty drain cover at Tretower was not attended to and is reported to have been involved in a most unfortunate accident with a resident.

It was felt that the drain may have been covered by a slab which subsequently broke, possibly causing a trip hazard. The area has now been secured. Councillors would like to know if the issue was indeed raised to Powys County Council at the time of the original complaint. SD

# Asset Register approval.

Approved subject to the following corrections:

* The 3 recently added benches are in Tretower not Cwmdu.
* The Mayoral chains will be revalued.

#  Risk Management Document.

There need to be additional risks concerned with the engagement of the residents to achieve goals. The Powys County Council Environmental Conference Wednesday 14th June in Llandrindod Wells. LD, PS and DM hope to attend and return with information.

# Report of the internal auditor approval.

The Internal Auditor’s report is in draft only, some additions are required before the report can be finalised and approved by Council. Clerk to send a copy to RDHJ and PS.

# Approval and signing of the Annual Return including the bank reconciliation.

The Annual Return cannot be signed without a signed Internal Audit report. Another meeting will be necessary before the deadline 30/6/2023. 7pm on Thursday 15th June at Tretower Village Hall was chosen.

# Election of a councillor to the Powys County Council Standards Community Sub-committee.

Community Councillor Paul Silk left the meeting. The vote was cast unanimously for PS and will be returned to Powys County Council. PS returned after the vote.

# Glan Pant Fields update.

No new information at this time.

# Freedom of information request from a County Councillor concerning communication from BBNPA.

The request involved finding the dates of any communication from the BBNPA concerning their management plan, the change of the name of the organisation and the change of the logo. No communications have been received on these matters since July 2022.

# **Approval to buy Zoom as teams does not have all the facilities required.**

Approved.

# Any other business:

Cwmdu residents’ access to schools for public examinations during the proposed period of road closures”.

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

The date of the next meeting is 15th of June 2023 at Tretower Village Hall.