CWMDU AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMDU A’R CYLCH

[http://cwmducouncil.org](http://cwmducouncil.org/)

cwmducouncil@hotmail.com

Boat House, Coed-yr-Ynys Road, Llangynidr, Powys. NP8 1NA

**Minutes of a Council meeting 6th July 2023**

**Present**

**Chairman:** John Williams (JW)

**Councillors:** Les Doggett (LD), Hank Jackson (RDHJ), Paul Silk (EPS), David Meyer (DM), Selena Clay (SC), Martin Pearce (MP), John Jones (JJ) and William Forster (WF)

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

# Apologies:

Cllr S-J Beecham (S-JB) and Cllr M Beecham (MB) (written submission circulated)

# Declarations of Interest:

PS declared an interest as Trustee of Cwmdu Water Undertaking in relation to item 14.

# Public participation

The website designer, Mr Stefhan Caddick, attended to describe an electronic newsletter based on Mailchimp and face book which could be used by the Community Council to improve communication with residents. It would require a sign up form to allow it’s distribution. Mr Caddick offered to find out how many hits the website gets.

An active notice board on the website may allow some 2 way communication, making the council more relevant. To be discussed in the 7th September meeting.

# Minutes of the meetings

# - 1/6/2023 Proposed: DM, seconded: LD.- 15/6/2023 Proposed: SC, seconded: WF.

# Matters Arising (information only)

# - 1/6/2023 none- 15/6/2023 none

# Powys County Council matters.MB sent in a document to be circulated before the meeting.CSC spoke about the Powys Nature Project. LD mentioned that the WI runs the Bwlch with Altitude for plants for the communal garden. Climate Nature conference is sending out pack to attendees. Older persons’ forum is for people to have a say in services – it is a regional partnership.

CSC noted that Rachel Carter (One Voice Wales) will be visiting the ward on Tuesday 18th July.

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

Correspondence is embedded in agenda items

* 5/6 Blood donation request.
* 6/6 Community Ownership Fund.
* 11/6 Amended Standing Orders, already completed.
* 14/6 Veggie Packs and Wild Flower pack from Keep Wales Tidy.
* 15/6 Infrastructure Wales Bill.
* 20/6 Procurement Bill, secondary legislation – could impact Community Council financial practices.
* 22/6 Kids Cancer Charity appeal. Because the charity did not have a local focus, the request for funding was not approved.

# Financials

- Sue Dale, Clerks salary June 23 £326.20

- Sue Dale, Clerks salary July 23 £465.20

- Councillors Allowance 23-24 £150.00

- HMRC £139.00

- Advert in the B&R £358.80

- Audit Wales – 2020-21 £291.00

- Zoom £143.88

Approved, HMRC cheque was queried - it is for the Clerk’s tax. Clerk was also instructed to open a second bank account for the War Memorial fund, also advised by the internal auditor.

# Replacing the Clerk – an advert has been placed and other avenues explored.

Kay Bailey, the Clerk at Llangattock has availablity and has agreed to take the RFO and website duties on. Approved - Clerks to make the arrangements.

Review at the October meeting.

# Response to A479 letter from the Deputy Minister and Council’s reply.

A drafted letter and attachment were approved for sending.

# Meeting of the Hinterland Group.

20/9/2023. Venue to be confirmed. The group and Talybont Community Council to be invited by the Clerk.

# Fedw Wood – a clarification.

The Clerk informed Council that she was unable to register new councillors, complete the annual return and act as point of contact because all three involve asserting the authority of the trustees, which has not been recorded.

MP reported that he had looked through the paperwork and it appeared that the trustees of the Fedw Wood Charity are the councillors from time to time. With due notice the current councillors can there fore transact any business and authirsie the Clerk to file returns, update the register, and act as point of contact. It was decided to hold a brief meeting of the trustees on 7/9/23 at 7pm to approve and record the above. Councillors not wishing to act as a trustee should inform the clerk in advance.

# 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. Powys County has been asked to supply some details about the reporting.

SC asked to be copied in to the minutes concerning the incident.

The officer was unable to report any further details as he was not in post at the time. A resident has asked for copies of all communications with Powys County Council about this matter.

# Nant Helyg – 23/21721/FUL A letter to be approved and sent to Bannau Brycheiniog National Park (BBNPA).

Approved.

#  Glan Pant Field Update.

BBNPA appear to be proceeding as if there had been no objections to the development. Clerk (with MP, CSC and JJ) to write a list of the problems which have not otherwise been addressed by other complaints. Retrospective planning permission has not yet been made. Concerns were raised that the BBNPA processes cannot encompass the ecological needs of such a sensitive area.

# Official accident statistics may not paint a true picture of Cwmdu’s record. To be discussed and action agreed.

There have been 2 fatalities at Cwmdu, these are not reflected in the accident statistics although this may be because of the time frame concerned. Also accidents have occurred that have not been reported to the police therefore Cwmdu, Bwlch and Tretower will report resident’s recollections.

# An email Newsletter based on Mailchimp has been suggested by the web designer.

See public participation.

# A biodiversity report is statutory to all community councils. A draft is presented.

Himalayan Balsom is present on the Rhiangoll, although not on land owned by the Community Council.

Some Councillors pointed out that other Community Councils have a more detailed biodiversity report.

Approved.

# An annual report is statutory for Community Councils. A draft is presented.

# Approved.

# Speed watch, training to be arranged when needed. The RADAR measuring equipment to be bought.

Two volunteers have come forward, three are needed for a speed watch session. A resident was reported to have offered to buy the equipment for the community.

# **Consultation on local housing market need in Powys.**

Unofficial homelessness is a problem, and people not being able to buy a smaller home. The consultation is 52 pages long, councillors will respond individually to it.

# Health and Safety Policy work to be adjourned until September 7th 2023.

Before September if possible.

# Any other business:

The monitoring of trees at the playing fields is being looked into by a Councillor.

Bwlch Church is no-longer being used, this may be an opportunity for the community.

Village Halls need to consider terrorism prevention.

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 9.04pm.

The date of the next meeting is 20th July 2023 at Bwlch Village Hall.