

CYNGOR TREF LLANFAIRFECHAN TOWN COUNCIL

NEUADD Y DREF,
LLANFAIRFECHAN
LL33 0AB



TOWN HALL
LLANFAIRFECHAN
LL33 0AB

Minutes of Town Council ONLINE Meeting Wednesday 20th May

Clerk introduced the meeting process:

Please remember to set your ZOOM to mute when you are not scheduled to talk. If you wish to talk, please raise your hand and await your turn.

There will be a formal voting procedure in place. A proposal will be tabled on the agenda and a vote will be taken in turn by alphabetical order. The Clerk will then record the result in minutes produced.

Members of the Public can attend the meeting and are able to contribute at Item 4 with 5 minutes to present their query.

308. **In attendance: Chair: Mayor Delohne Merrell; Deputy Mayor Penny Andow; Cllr Carol Gell: Cllr Andrew Hinchliff; Cllr Claire Hughes; Cllr Christopher Jones; Cllr Gareth Wyn Jones; Cllr Iolo Kars Jones; Cllr Nia Jones; Cllr Christine Roberts**
Four members of the public were also in attendance online

309. **WELCOME BY CHAIR OF THE MEETING Mayor Delohne Merrell**

These are unprecedented times and as a Town Council we are doing our best to continue our work to protect and support our community. The nature of the Covid -19 pandemic means that we cannot operate to the same level and Welsh Government have issued guidelines for online meetings:

- 1. We are allowed to run remote meeting through an online platform. There are rules attached to this and everyone present tonight has received those guidelines.**
- 2. A Crisis Management Team has been set up to make devolved decisions about everyday matters. The team report to the full town Council on a weekly basis by report and email.**
- 3. As a result, only urgent matters are discussed at Full Town Council. These include:**
 - i. Finance and payments**
 - ii. Planning matters**
 - iii. Other urgent matters that require full Town Council agreement**

I need to remind all present that queries over individual Councillors can only be dealt with through the Ombudsman and cannot be discussed here.

The matters we are discussing this evening are procedural and need to remain within that sphere. Any other queries can be emailed to the Town Clerk on the contact email at the top of the agenda

310. **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

There were no apologies for absence

311. TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF COUNCILLOR'S INTEREST – CODE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONDUCT
Cllr Andrew declared an interest as a member of the Planning Committee in CCBC

312. TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.
Each member of the public asked in turn, but no queries were raised

313. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES 4TH MARCH & 18TH MARCH (belated due to Covid-19 crisis)
Minutes from 4th March – Proposed Cllr C Roberts Seconded Cllr N Jones All agreed
Minutes from 18th March - Proposed Cllr P Andow Seconded Cllr N Jones All agreed

314. NOTICE OF COUNCILLOR RESIGNATIONS AND APPROVAL FOR NOTICE OF ELECTION– Cllr Alan Jones; Cllr Gareth Roberts: Cllr Glenn Robinson

Clerk introduced the matter as follows: We are saddened to lose three valued Councillors, and this has been a very difficult time. The Covid-19 pandemic adds a pressure to all our lives and Councillors are not immune to the challenge it presents.

This matter is on the agenda to discuss next steps in the process:

- i. We do need to issue a Notice of election – when should we do this?**
- ii. Election to be held after 1st February 2021 as per guidance from Welsh government**
- iii. Details for anyone who wishes to stand are available from the Town Clerk**

The process for Notice of Election was discussed at length. The problem with the current situation is that potential candidates are unable to gather ten signatures safely and would be unable to canvass support during lockdown. Advice had been sought from CCBC Member Services who agreed we should delay the Notice of Election until after lockdown. It was proposed that we review the matter in six months' time but that any Councillor can bring this back to Town Council before that time if things change.

Proposed Cllr C Hughes Seconded Cllr G Wyn Jones All agreed

315. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT TEAM April – May
All Councillors had received these reports and no queries were raised

316. TO RECEIVE WELSH GOVERNMENT Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020

<https://gov.wales/written-statement-local-authorities-coronavirus-meetings-wales-regulations-2020>

A check that everyone had received and read the guidance. It was noted that the positive progress at this meeting is testament to the fact that Councillors are following guidelines laid down and that they are helping us to conduct effective online meetings.

317. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE PROPOSAL FOR S137 Grants 2020 – To meet Covid -19 demand

It is recognised that some Town Councils have developed Covid-19 emergency funding for the community. It should be noted that many of the usual s137 grants will not be used this year as groups are not operating due to the crisis. Should we look at moving some of this s137 pot to a Covid fund?

This was discussed with several matters raised: s137 grant structure allows for any constituted group to apply for funding and this would cover any groups providing services in the Covid -19 pandemic. It was suggested that there is not really a need to specify. However, it was felt that some people may miss out on the funding as they would not realise that they could apply. Concerns were raised that, although the usual clubs and societies are currently closed, they may need help in any case to maintain facilities etc.

It was suggested we should also look at other money from the precept that may not be spent such as community skips as they have been cancelled. It was noted this is a marketing issue and a proposal was

made that the Crisis Management Team look at the s137 application criteria and put together documents to advertise for applications from organisations including those who have Covid -19 projects.

Proposed Cllr D Merrell Seconded Cllr P Andow All agreed

318. TO APPROVE PAYMENTS

1. Staff Payments May – wages and employer & employee pension contributions £3172.68 – **agreed**
2. CCBC bus shelter maintenance 2020/21 £500 2 x shelters
3. CCBC bus shelter maintenance 2020/2021 £500 2 x shelters

Clerk to query with CCBC as we have not had adequate service over the last few years. Is there no money in our account considering the work has not been completed? Clerk to feedback at next meeting

4. Sional Ltd NHS Flag for Community Hall £57.60 – **agreed**

It was clarified this was for the NHS flag on the pole at the Town Hall that had been ordered by the Town Council in recognition of the work of the NHS. It has nothing to do with the NHS banner that is now situated at the Village Inn which was not a Town Council matter.

5. Mel Owen replacement light at Hall 87.50 – **agreed**

There are problems with payments for Community Hall at the moment and there is a meeting of the committee on Friday to address this. In the meantime, Clerk will continue to ensure that any payments are listed and reimbursed to town Council when needed.

6. Retrospective payment Mayor's Allowance (2019/20) £230.00 Ty Gobaith - **agreed**

Mayor Delohne had decided to donate the balance of her allowance to Ty Gobaith for their work with local children.

7. Technical footprint callout for help with passwords £48.00 Covid -19 home office – **agreed**

This was work undertaken to help set up systems at home for the Clerk to continue working during Covid-19. Call out was for few hours of online work but only one hour has been charged

Please note that, due to the recent Covid-19 lockdown there is no finance report this month.

A finance report will be prepared for the next meeting in June that includes all payments up to May 31st, 2020

319. TO DISCUSS PLANNING MATTERS –

0/47286 51 Cae America Llanfairfechan LL33 0SJ

No observations were made on this matter. Cllr Andrew Hinchliff was not moved to the waiting room as no discussion took place.

320. TO RECEIVE URGENT CORRESPONDANCE

None reported. All correspondence is being forwarded to Councillors directly by email during the pandemic

321. TO RECEIVE URGENT COMPLAINTS / COMPLIMENTS / CONCERNS

Some obscene graffiti on the cycle has been reported and CCBC have been out to clear the offending words. However, these have now been replaced again and so Clerk has reported to CCBC again. CMT were not happy that only the obscene word was removed Clerk to ask for the whole statement to be removed.

Several Councillors thanked Crisis Management Team, James and Jayne for their work during the Covid -19 pandemic and lockdown.

Concern that WG regulations regarding use of beach are confusing for residents. People are unsure what they are able to do during the lockdown. The football pitch is being used by people without social distancing and some rubbish is being burned. Report to PCSO Sara and ask her to attend the next TC online meeting.

Llanfairfechan Foodbank were thanked for all their work – they are coping with many requests for foodbank parcels and their volunteers are working hard.

Cllr Alan Jones, Cllr Gareth Roberts and Cllr Glenn Robinson were thanked for all their hard work over the years and it was noted that it is a great shame they have resigned.

Clerk to contact CCBC to ask if a bin could be opened at the bus stop as there is a difficulty with rubbish at the moment.

Royal Mail postmen now have the key to the public toilets in Village Road for the period of lockdown. They are very pleased about this and will ensure they stay locked and that they are cleaned before the key comes back to us.

There are concerns about PROW footpath 9 as there has been an altercation between owners and members of the public. Clerk to phone resident who reported to discuss and then ask CCBC for resolution.

322. CLOSE AT 8:20pm & NEXT ZOOM MEETING: Wednesday 17th June at 7:00pm online