

CYNGOR TREF LLANFAIRFECHAN TOWN COUNCIL

NEUADD Y DREF,
LLANFAIRFECHAN
LL33 0AB



TOWN HALL
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LL33 0AB

Minutes of Town Council ONLINE Meeting Wednesday 3rd February 2021

In attendance: Chair: Mayor Delohne Merrell; Cllr Carol Gell; Cllr Andrew Hinchliff; Cllr Claire Hughes; Cllr Christopher Jones; Cllr Nia Jones; Cllr Iolo Kars Jones; Cllr Christine Roberts.

Two members of the public in attendance online

446. WELCOME BY CHAIR OF THE MEETING

Mayor Delohne Merrell welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded that to help to run the online meeting smoothly, it is requested that everyone remains on mute until they due to speak.

447. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Deputy Mayor Penny Andow had submitted apologies; Cllr Gareth Wyn Jones was not in attendance. Resolved to receive and take note

448. TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

1. Andrew Wilkinson , CCBC Head of Neighbourhood Services was present to discuss promenade car park

Precis of the current situation: Contractors have been approached to conduct remedial repairs on the car park, but they have refused to take on the work due to the level of damage. A recent CCBC site visit to the car park resulted in recognition by CCBC that remedial works cannot now be considered, and full-scale reconstruction must be the option. A survey has been ordered and it is planned that work will take as a matter of urgency. A decision will be taken with regards to a revenue stream to pay for these large-scale works. This may include pay and display with Town Council offered an option to sponsor resident permits. The promenade car park is now the only free access coastal parking in the county. The car park is currently closed due to Covid-19 and on reopening it may be that some areas will have to remain closed due to damage.

Comment from member of the public Pay and display should not be an option and it is wrong for residents to have to be charged

Response CCBC is aware of the impact. Town Council have been offered the opportunity to arrange permits and all houses around the car park will be protected with resident only parking areas. The CCBC Cabinet decision is that all assets must provide some revenue to meet maintenance requirements which is why car parks have been fitted pay and display. To pay for the refurbishment, a loan will be taken out and revenue will need to be found to pay for this.

Question from Councillor concerned about the fact the car park may not reopen due to damage.

Response The car park will not remain closed, just that some areas may be now too damaged to use and may have to be out of bounds.

Question from Councillor could CCBC provide some indication of timescales?

Response It is very difficult to tell but it is hoped that the survey and project plan will be in place after about a month. Pressure has been applied to ensure this is done quickly. The work will be done and then revenue streams considered to pay back the loan.

Question from Councillor – Town Council have repeatedly noted there is poor access for pedestrians and have requested that this matter is rectified as part of the reconstruction. Concern about displacement parking if the car becomes pay and display.

Response CCBC are aware that Town Council have requested that the poor pedestrian access is considered and that effective pavements are provided to help improve safety for pushchairs and wheelchairs. This will be considered in the project. Domestic properties on the promenade will be protected with the introduction of resident parking restrictions if Pay & Display is introduced

Interim comment from member of the public: It is outrageous that residents should be asked to pay to park at the car park. This has been open since Victorian times and should be available to residents

Response 2015 Survey by Town Council returned a majority of responses from residents against the idea of Town Council precept being raised to support a free car park - it may be time to ask this question again. Pay & Display will be the option if no other external funding for current work and future maintenance can be found.

Question from Councillor: The option to look at car park funding from the A55 junction work community payback had previously been considered. Is that option now discounted due to this need to move quickly?

Response: Community payback from the junction could possibly be used for other projects perhaps the idea of funding resident permits could be considered. IT is probably going to be 2-3 years before these kind of conversation can be resolved as the junction project has been delayed due to Covid-19

Question from Councillor: If the project is going to be a full reconstruction, please can we include electric charging points?

Response: Yes, this has already been included in the brief along with the changes to the pavements

Question from Councillor: Can CCBC please confirm that plans for the A55 junction project will still go ahead despite the UK leaving the EU?

Response: It has been reported the funding is still available and the statutory processes are currently help p due to Covid-19. However, the project is scheduled to go ahead.

Question from Councillor: Could the community pay back from the A55 scheme be used to pay back a loan for the car park?

Response: CCBC Cabinet have stated that all assets must provide a revenue stream. External grant funding might support resident parking permits for a set period – something to investigate.

Town Council current action on car park

At this stage there is nothing to be done until the scheme proposal is available. CCBC will keep the Town Council informed of progress

Coach parked on Station Road This matter is causing great concern and has been referred to the Traffic Commissioner, NWP and CCBC. CCBC have looked at various powers in legislation but it does meet the criteria. It is not abandoned and is not parked in a restricted area. CCBC could look to legislate for parking restrictions but this would cause difficulty for residents in the area. NWP might consider it an obstruction under the Road Traffic Act, but this has been considered by NWP and found not to be the case. It seems that it will be necessary to leave this matter to the Traffic Commissioner for a judgement.

Mayor Delohne Merrell thanked Andrew Wilkinson for attending the meeting on behalf of CCBC and for providing all the information.

2. Solar Christmas Trees

Question from member of the public – Why did the Town Council feel it was appropriate to spend over £2000 on renting plastic trees that did not work properly when there were lights available that could have been used?

Response: This project came about to help Light Up Llan because they were not able to put up their lights due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It was an opportunity to test the solar trees and we are not aware that any of the trees were not working and they were checked regularly. The trees worked well and received good feedback from residents.

Further question from member of the public: Was there due diligence in considering best value – couldn't contractors be brought in to put up the existing lights?

Response: Due to the pandemic, we did not have access to the lights. Other options were considered but, as it is a very difficult time, this option was considered to be appropriate.

Further question from member of the public There are three members of the Light Up Llan committee on the Town Council could they not have accessed the lights?

Response: The keys were not available, and this option offered a good solution at a challenging time. It gave us the chance to test sustainable options. Town Council are keen to support Light Up Llan in any way possible. There is an AGM planned for the spring where it is hoped the committee can take things forward for 2021.

Resolved to receive and take note

449. TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF COUNCILLOR'S INTEREST – CODE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONDUCT

Name	Nature of Interest	Withdraw
Cllr Andrew Hinchliff	Item 13 Planning. On CCBC Planning Committee	Did not withdraw as no discussion took place.

450. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES 13th January 2021

Minutes from 13th January 2021 had been received by email and were taken as read. There were no matters arising:
Proposed Cllr A Hinchliff Seconded Cllr Carol Gell Unanimous Resolved to approve and take note

3. TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS CURRENT ACTION LIST REPORT FROM THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT TEAM

The CMT use the Action List as an operational tool.

Town Clerk reported on the list:

5 Vans in Pen y Bryn - Red van is now parked appropriately and has full documentation. White van is still without MOT and has been reported to NWP

9 Grit Bins – have been requested and this is being actioned

12 The first Covid-19 vaccine event took place at the Community Hall on Friday 30th January and 54 people were vaccinated. It was reported that the 80+ patient cohort have now been contacted and vaccinated where possible.

13 Ysgol IT project – Chromebooks have now been ordered and will be distributed as needed. An end of project report will be sent to Town Council by 31st March 2021 to report on outcomes. Town Council and the schools are working together on an IT device refurbishment project. Residents have been asked to donate old equipment to be used at home by pupils who do not have IT access. Cymuned Medr Llanfairfechan Skill Community members will help to restore the equipment for safe use by pupils.

16 Town Regeneration Fund – two gazebos have been bought and two more are ready for ordering. We plan to buy connectors and side walls that will turn the gazebos into marquees. All options have been considered and it was agreed that the ones on show from InstantPromotion are the most flexible and appropriate option. Once the equipment has arrived, local businesses and groups will be able to use these for their events. Due to Covid-19 regulations, it is not possible to use them with side walls at the moment, but this is something that will be useful for the future. Clerk to contact the chemist to see if a gazebo would be a useful option for their queuing area. It was commented that the gazebos will look impressive and have the Town council logo printed on them. Resolved to receive and take note

451. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE PROPOSAL TO START WORK ON TRANSLATING WEBSITE

This has been previously approved but has been on hold due to work pressures and then challenges with regards to the pandemic. Two quotes have been received for this work – Cyfieithu Cymunedol/Community Translation at Menter Iaith = £652.68 + VAT to translate 10,878 words and Delwedd charge £80 per 1,000 words so the cost for translating the content would be £870.24. Proposal is that we use Menter Iaith to complete the translation and then Delwedd will complete the input for no extra charge as this was included in our original IT quote.

Proposed Cllr A Hinchliff Seconded Cllr C Jones Unanimous Resolved to approve and take note

452. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATIONS JANUARY 2021

Previous meeting of Town Councillors and emails have provided information for a way forward:

1. Llanfairfechan and North Wales Croquet Club requesting £1230.00. It was agreed that Town Council would fund towards new edging boards and fencing with a grant of £500

Proposed Cllr A Hinchliff Seconded Cllr C Jones Unanimous Resolved to approve and take note

2. Dwyfan Ministry requesting £1538.91 for IT equipment for community wellbeing outreach

It was agreed Town Council could only look at the community chromebooks which would be at a cost of £539.94.

However, clerk is to request further supporting evidence on how this project will operate before a decision on funding can be made. It was also noted that money from Town Council can only supply support for Llanfairfechan residents as this is stated in legislation.

Proposed Cllr C Jones Seconded Cllr C Gell Unanimous Resolved to approve and take note

453. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE CURRENT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES REPORT

This matter was postponed until next meeting Resolved to receive and take note

454. TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ABOUT ANNUAL MEETING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

It is proposed that Mayor Delohne Merrell and Deputy Mayor Penny Andow continue in post until our 2021 May Annual Meeting which will take place either online or in person. The Crisis Management Team structure has served the Town

Council well through the pandemic and it is likely that the pandemic will still affect proceedings to at least the springtime, if not beyond. Cllr Chris Jones has declared that he is available to stand as Deputy Mayor in 2021/22 and those formal processes will take place at the May meeting. To meet legislation, the belated 2020/21 Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday 24th February 2021 at 7pm

Proposed Cllr A Hinchliff Seconded Cllr C Jones Unanimous Resolved to approve and take note

455. TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL REPORT AND PETTY CASH REPORT

No observations were made – all reports had been sent out by email previously for the attention of councillors.

Proposed Cllr A Hinchliff Seconded Cllr D Merrell Unanimous Resolved to approve and take note

456. TO APPROVE PAYMENTS

1. Staff Payments February – wages and employer & employee pension contributions to date – £3194.46 (will be paid 22nd February 2021)
2. SLCC annual membership payment £180.00
3. Fizzy Pickle Projects January contract payment – £900
4. CCBC CCTV capital payment towards installation - £3720.00
5. Siemans Photocopier lease March to June 2021 – £362.40
6. Instant promotion gazebos - £1307.40 (Covid -19 Town Centre Business Support)
7. D2P Bollard covers - £462.00
8. APT Fogging liquid - £76.48 (to be reimbursed by Community Hall)

No queries raised.

Proposed Cllr A Hinchliff Seconded Cllr C Hughes Unanimous Resolved to approve and take note

457. TO DISCUSS PLANNING MATTERS

0/48097 Plas Llanfair Cottage Parc Hen Blas East LL330RW

To prune 1 no. cedar and 2 no. beech trees

0/48106 Mona Buildings Station Road LL33 0AP

Change of use to sui generis for the purpose of opening a dog grooming salon & pet accessories/pet shop

All Councillors receive the links to the planning portal information a week before our meetings and again when the documentation for the meeting goes out. It is taken as read that everyone has looked through the documentation before the meeting and they are required to bring comments to the meeting for sharing, where discussion will take place if there are queries.

For planning application 0/481065, it was noted that Town Council are happy to welcome a new business to the town. It was noted that, due to the river, this is an area where there is a known rat population so we would like to be assured that animal foodstuffs are stored safely in vermin proof containers

Resolved to receive and take note

458. TO RECEIVE URGENT CORRESPONDANCE

1. Solar Trees – rental costs – already discussed
2. Plas Menai Covid-19 updates and BCUHB vaccination strategy – already discussed. Strategy was previously distributed for information
3. Election timetable for Bryn Ward – this has been sent out. CCBC have set the date for the Bryn Ward elections as 18th March, however, this will depend on Covid-19 regulations at that time so this may not be achievable.

459. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEETINGS

1 NWP liaison meeting. This is now planned for each month and the next one is Thursday 25th February at 10am. Much of what was covered has been mentioned in earlier items of the meeting. CMT will refer any matters to full Town Council as required and Town Councillors can attend the liaison meeting if they wish – contact the clerk for details.

2 Online WG meeting Corporate Joint Committees – email information will be sent out

3 Schools Governors Meeting reported by Cllr Claire Hughes – This was an informal meeting and quite productive. Morale seems to be good and engagement with online is high during the current lockdown. Key worker children are in attendance every day and there is follow up with families who are not engaging with the home school programme. The order for Chromebooks has gone in and there has been some work undertaken to link with families who might need the extra support of IT equipment.

Resolved to receive and take note

460. TO RECEIVE URGENT CONCERNS & COMPLIMENTS

1. Concerns raised about the flooding at the back of the cemetery. This has been raised previously and County councillor is in conversation with CCBC about this matter. Apparently, there is an empty reservoir in the area that might be used to help with this problem. Work teams are monitoring the situation
2. Stream from the Horeb footpath area is bubbling out of the ground. CCBC are aware and have undertaken some work with the resident there
3. Concern that roadwork signs have not been removed from Valley Road and they are causing chaos. Clerk to chase up
4. Several councillors individually thanked the Crisis Management Team for their work during the pandemic. The process has enabled us to respond quickly to the daily queries and help to protect the community.
5. Query about Census 2021. Clerk to investigate the process and share information. (<https://census.gov.uk/about-the-census>)
6. Concerns that there are serious signs of damage on the cob path. CCBC are aware and have accessed funding to complete the work. This will be addressed when possible.
7. Report that drains are blocked near the crossroads. Clerk to report
8. Note that the CCBC road sweeping machine makes a big difference in the community as it protects the areas from getting slippery and dangerous. Thanks to the CCBC officer in his work on this.
9. Congratulations were given to Cara aged 7 who has won first prize in the 'pony poster' competition. This was set up on the Facebook Notice Board by a resident as there was a growing problem of people feeding the Carneddau ponies. This is very bad for their health and so a call out was given to prepare warning signs to be erected in the area.

Resolved to receive and take note

4. MEETING CLOSE 9:10pm & NEXT ZOOM MEETING: Wednesday 24th February 2021 at 7pm online

If you have any queries or comments, please contact: Town Clerk on 01248 681697 or jayne@llanfairfechan.net