

**LLANPUMSAINT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**DECISIONS TAKEN AT COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 at 8 pm**

**Attendees:** Councillors Arwel Nicholas (Chair), Kumi Ariyadasa; Clare Bishop; Dylan Jones; Derick Lock; Felix Merry; and Ann Pettitt

**Apologies:** None

Also in attendance (for part of the meeting): County Councillor Bryan Davies

<b>Decision /Minute Ref.</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest</b>
3/23/1	Minutes of previous meeting	AGREED: To approve the draft minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th January 2023 as a correct record of the meeting.	
3/23/2	County Councillor's update	<p>County Councillor Bryan Davies provided an update and information on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 20mph speed limit consultation – Cllr Davies explained that he had supported the proposed extension of the 20mph speed limit at the bottom of Coopers' Hill, but noted the Community Council's view was that the speed limit here should be 30mph.</li> <li>b) Japanese knotweed in the railway station yard – Cllr Davies reported that the ground had been leased by the local authority to the Llanpumsaint Sustainable Community Group and the LA had written to this group in October 2022 asking them to address the Japanese Knotweed, but had not yet had a response. Documentation was provided to the Clerk to follow up if necessary.</li> <li>c) Skanda Vale traffic matters – Cllr Davies reported that he had spoken to all concerned residents and representatives of Skanda Vale and would be collating information before discussing further with Skanda Vale. In response to representations made by a resident of the Rhydargaeau Road, who explained that they were also affected by Skanda Vale traffic, Cllr Davies agreed to make further enquiries with residents along this road.</li> </ul>	Cllr Ariyadasa declared a personal and prejudicial interest in point (c) as a trustee of Skanda Vale

		<p>d) Concerns raised by residents in the Rhydargaeau Road area – a member of the public was invited to speak about their concerns, which had been emailed to Cllr Bryan Davies and circulated to all Community Councillors prior to the meeting. Concerns raised included hedges, ditches, water on the roads due to poor drainage, no gritting salt in the boxes, potholes and refuse collection. Cllr Davies confirmed that he had passed these matters on to relevant officers within the Council for response.</p> <p>e) Glass recycling boxes – Cllr Davies confirmed that all residents should now have black glass recycling boxes.</p>	
3/23/3	Dyfed - Powys Police	The Chair welcomed PCSO Martin Dickenson who introduced himself and confirmed his role and responsibilities. There was a discussion about issues affecting the local area (occasional careless driving and petty theft), although it was noted that crime levels are low. Officer Dickenson, no. 8046, said he was contactable via 101.	
3/23/4	Financial Matters	<p>NOTED</p> <p>(i) the Clerk's update on the Council's current financial position - VAT return had been submitted; Council Tax precept demand had been submitted to Carmarthenshire County Council; all outstanding bills paid. Budget monitoring reports would be brought to future meetings.</p> <p>(ii) Wales Audit Office update - all requests for information had been responded to. WAO "sign-off" was still awaited for the past 3 years' returns.</p>	
3/23/5	Payments for Approval	<p>AGREED: To approve the following payments:</p> <p>a) Trywydd, translation for January meeting, £94.20</p> <p>b) One Voice Wales membership 2023/24, £122</p>	

3/23/6	Recruitment of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer	<p>NOTED that there was still a vacancy for the role of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and that the vacancy was still being advertised; and that pending the appointment of a new Clerk, the Council would need to focus on essential business priorities.</p> <p>AGREED: to look again at advertising the vacancy online and readvertising through networks.</p>	
3/23/7	Railway Bridge	<p>NOTED that:</p> <p>(i) the Community Council had discussed potentially convening a public meeting to discuss the future of the Railway Bridge and whether to request its removal;</p> <p>(ii) a missing chunk of the wall had been reported to the County Council for repair; and</p> <p>(iii) Cllr Davies reported that the temporary safety barriers would be replaced with new fencing shortly and the roadside which was starting to give way was being looked at.</p> <p>AGREED: to take no further action on the matter of the Railway Bridge for now, as it does not present a danger and is not a key priority for the Council.</p>	
3/23/8	Coronation commemorative gift for Village school pupils	<p>NOTED: the 3 quotes which had been obtained by Clerk.</p> <p>AGREED: That the quote received from the local business, Bunny &amp; Moo, be approved; that the text on the mugs should in the Welsh language only, and include individual pupil's names; and authorise the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to place the order and make arrangements for the presentation of the gifts.</p>	
3/23/9	Assets - Inspection for Repairs and Maintenance	<p>NOTED: that the Council was seeking 3 contractors to inspect and quote for repairs needed to the Council's assets.</p> <p>AGREED: that 3 local individuals/firms would be approached to inspect and provide quotes to undertake this work.</p>	
3/23/10	Biodiversity Plan	<p>NOTED: that a revised draft Plan had been prepared and circulated to all Councillors and the Clerk prior to the meeting; and that the Clerk's recommendation was that the Council nominate a</p>	

		<p>Member Champion for Biodiversity rather than setting up a Committee.</p> <p>AGREED:</p> <p>(i) to nominate Cllr Bishop as the Council's Biodiversity Champion; and</p> <p>(ii) delegate authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Biodiversity Champion and the Chair, to finalise the Council's Biodiversity Plan, having regard to the Council's limited resources and assets; and receive the finalised Plan at a future Council meeting for information.</p>	
3/23/11	Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, Annual Report 2023/24	<p>NOTED: the determinations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in relation to the remuneration to be paid to all Community Councillors with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, subject to any individual Councillor confirming in writing to the Clerk that they wish to waive their entitlement.</p>	
3/23/12	Correspondence	<p>The following items of correspondence were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 20s Plenty for us - Noted;</li> <li>b) Promoting Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire - Noted;</li> <li>c) Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018-2033 - Public Consultation - Noted;</li> <li>d) One Voice Wales , Training Needs survey - Agreed that individual Councillors would inform the Clerk of any views and the Clerk be authorised to submit a response on behalf of the Council, having regard to any views expressed;</li> <li>e) Community Review - Noted; and</li> <li>f) Mobile Phone base station upgrade - Llwynceilyn Farm – Noted, no concerns raised.</li> </ul>	
3/23/13	Forward Plan	<p>AGREED to note and approve the draft Forward Plan, with one additional item – Gwili Railway Line, Public Access, to be added to the Plan for May 2023.</p>	
3/23/14	Urgent Items:	<p>a) Brechfa Wind Farm Small Grant Scheme. It was NOTED that this scheme could potentially support a Christmas tree event in the village and it was AGREED that the previously established Working Group</p>	<p>Cllr Merry declared a personal interest in this matter as his wife is the manager</p>

		meet to consider making an application on behalf of the Community Council.	of the Wind Farm Grant Fund.
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