

LLANPUMSAINT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11TH JULY 2023 at 8.00 pm

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

Apologies: Councillor Ann Pettitt

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

Declarations of Interest: None

Minute Ref.	Agenda Item	Decision
7/23/1	Welcome	The Chair welcomed Councillor Lyn Thomas who was attending his first meeting as a co-opted Councillor. Cllr Thomas presented his signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office to the Acting Clerk.
7/23/2	Minutes	AGREED: To approve the draft minutes of the Annual and Ordinary meetings of the Council held on 9th May 2023.
7/23/3	County Councillor's update	County Councillor Bryan Davies provided an update on the following matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Skanda Vale 50th Anniversary Celebrations - Cllr Davies reported he attended this successful and enjoyable event. Prior to the event, some repairs had been carried out by the Highways department on the road to Skanda Vale.b) Pont y Pandy Bridge - it was hoped that the bridge would be repaired by 30 September.c) Cllr Davies enquired whether there had been any progress regarding the removal of Japanese knotweed from the allotments by the Railway Bridge. Cllr Davies encouraged the local responsible groups to work with the County Council to progress this work and Cllr Bishop said she would try to follow this up.
7/23/4	Financial matters	The Acting Clerk provided an update on the Council's current financial position as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Wales Audit Office - the Audited Accounts had been submitted to the WAO and all associated questions had been answered;b) Annual Return 2023- the draft Return prepared by the Acting Clerk was presented to the Council, along with the supporting cashbook and financial records. It was noted that the Return had been approved and certified

		<p>by the Internal Auditors and required sign off by the Council;</p> <p>c) Budget Monitoring - a spreadsheet setting out the current spend against budgets was circulated and noted.</p> <p>AGREED - that the draft Annual Return 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chair on behalf of the Council.</p>
7/23/5	Payments for Approval	<p>AGREED: To approve the following payments:</p> <p>a) Llanpumsaint Memorial Hall, hire fees for 9th May 2023, £16</p> <p>b) Ashmole & Co, Internal Audit for 2022/23, £156.00</p> <p>c) Members' Remuneration, £156 pa for each Community Councillor except those who have waived their entitlement</p> <p>d) Orchard Web, Heritage Walk Website hosting £60</p> <p>e) Trywydd, translation for May 2023 meeting (£138.60)</p> <p>f) Zurich Insurance, premium for 2023, £333.27</p> <p>g) One Voice Wales, training course undertaken by the former Clerk, October 2019, £40</p>
7/23/6	Recruitment of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer	<p>It was NOTED that there had been no further interest in the vacancy. AGREED - that the Acting Clerk would write again to the Clerks of neighbouring Councils to enquire whether any of them may be interested in taking on the position of Clerk in another Council.</p>
7/23/7	Highways matters	<p>The Clerk provided an update on the following highways matters:</p> <p>a) Graig Junction - the County Council had finally removed the bollards at the junction following representations made on behalf of Llanpumsaint Community Council, with the support of County Cllr Bryan Davies. However the red lines on the road remained and some residents were concerned about the possibility of enforcement action being taken. County Councillor Davies provided assurances that motorists would not be penalised for driving over these lines.</p> <p>Members also remained concerned regarding the apparent breach of the Members' Code of Conduct by a Bronwydd Community Councillor with a personal interest in this matter.</p>

		<p>Concerns had also been raised about the height of the adjacent landowner's wall and positioning of planters which obscured visibility at the junction.</p> <p>AGREED - that the Acting Clerk would (i) write to the Highways Authority to confirm that no enforcement action would be taken against motorists crossing the red lines; (ii) write to the Clerk of Bronwydd Community Council seeking an informal resolution to the conduct concerns relating to the Bronwydd Community Councillor; and (iii) make enquiries about planning conditions relating to the height of the wall and positioning of planters adjacent to the junction.</p> <p>b) Rhydargaeau Road It was NOTED that there was a temporary road closure on the Rhydargaeau Road. There were also concerns about development of land at Ffos Y Broga, although Llanpumsaint Council has not received any notification and could not find any reference to a planning application submitted to the County Council.</p> <p>AGREED: the Clerk, in consultation with Cllr Bishop, to make enquiries about this with the Planning authority.</p>
7/23/8	Annual Report 2022/23	<p>Noted that the Council's annual report for 2022/23 needed to be prepared and published.</p> <p>AGREED that Councillor Bishop would prepare a draft Annual Report for consideration at the next Council meeting.</p>
7/23/9	Correspondence	<p>The following items of correspondence were discussed:</p> <p>a) Code of Conduct Training 24/07/2023, 6pm, offered by the Standards Committee of the County Council - It was noted that this training was very important for all Cllrs to understand their duties under the Code. AGREED that Councillors Merry and Thomas would attend this training.</p> <p>b) Proposed 20mph / 30mph speed limits Orders, Carmarthenshire County Council - the statutory process for making the relevant orders is underway, and there is a further opportunity for objections to be made. NOTED that the proposals reflect the Council's previously agreed consultation response, so no further comments would be made.</p> <p>c) Carmarthenshire County Council, Review of Community Councils – Consultation on Draft Proposals - NOTED that the proposals did not directly affect</p>

		<p>Llanpumsaint, but any comments could be sent to the Acting Clerk for submission.</p> <p>d) Welsh Government Consultation, Term of Office for the Older People's Commissioner for Wales - NOTED that the proposal is for the term of office to increase to seven years. Any comments could be sent to the Acting Clerk for submission.</p> <p>e) Llanpumsaint Welfare and Recreation Association, Grant request AGREED - that the grant request be considered at the September meeting, in line with the Council's established practice, and that a copy of the organisation's latest accounts and details of biodiversity measures be requested prior to that meeting.</p> <p>f) SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity, 2023 Appeal - AGREED that the grant request be considered at the September meeting, in line with the Council's established practice, and that a copy of the organisation's latest accounts be requested prior to that meeting.</p>
7/23/10	Forward Plan	AGREED to note and approve the draft Forward Plan; Cllr Merry to prepare a draft Risk Register for consideration by the Council; and Cllr Thomas to seek quotes for repairs and maintenance of the Council's assets as listed on the Asset Register.
7/23/11	Urgent Items	NOTED that highways hedges and verges needed cutting, and there were reports of blue and black waste bags not being collected.
7/23/12	Date of next meeting	Tuesday 12 th September 2023, 8pm