

LLANPUMSAINT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th March 2024 at 8.00pm

Attendees: Councillors Arwel Nicholas (Chair), Kumi Ariyadasa (Vice-Chair) Dylan Jones, Felix Merry, Ann Pettitt; and Lyn Thomas.

Apologies: County Councillor Bryan Davies, Councillor Clare Bishop and Councillor Derick Lock.

Minute Ref.	Agenda Item	Decision
3/24/3	Declarations of Interest	Cllr Pettitt, declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the planning application for the hall (agenda item 9), and minute reference 3/24/9 below.
3/24/4	Minutes of previous meeting	AGREED: To approve the draft minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held on 9th January 2024
3/24/5	County Councillor's update	The Chair updated the meeting with regard to the health of County Councillor Bryan Davies, who was recuperating from a heart attack and is still unfortunately unable to carry out his Councillor duties. Concerns were raised that some considerable time had passed since he last attended our Community Council meeting. Cllr Ariyadasa reminded all of the 6 month rule and explained that Carmarthen Council would be keeping an eye on this. It was noted there is no obligation for him to attend Community Council meetings but there are matters that need to be discussed. The Clerk was asked to contact Carmarthen County Council to find out how community issues could be raised during his absence.

3/24/6	Budget Monitoring	A spreadsheet setting out the current spend against the 2023/24 budget had been circulated. It was noted that the current situation shows an underspend. This is largely due to not having a paid Clerk and the budget for asset repairs having not yet been spent.
3/24/7	Wales Audit Update	The circulated spreadsheet sent to each councillor showed the cheque for 16/17 has never been cleared and now assumed lost, so payment may be outstanding. The 2022/23 audit has not been completed to date and their fees for this are waited upon.

3/24/8	Payments for Approval	<p>AGREED: To approve the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Clerk's SLCC membership fees (£85) b) Clerk's salary (from 5th February 2024 to 15th March 2024) (£328.25) plus reimbursement of ILCA training fees (£72), total £400.25 c) Wales Audit fees for 2020/21 (£350) & 2021/22 (£542), total £892 d) Trywydd, translation for January 2024 (£72) e)* One Voice Wales training. Councillor Pettitt (£19) f)* Llanpumsaint Memorial Hall Hire Fees (£20) <p><i>*Late receipts considered as Urgent items, with the permission of the Chair.</i></p>
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<p>3/24/9</p>	<p>Planning Application</p>	<p>Cllr Ann Pettitt declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the planning application for the hall Planning – Application PL/07254, Llanpumsaint Village Hall and withdrew from the meeting during discussion of this business item (agenda item 3), and minute reference 3/24/3 above.</p> <p>The remaining councillors had no objection to this application. Indeed all thought it a benefit to the wider community.</p>
<p>3/24/10</p>	<p>Assets – Maintenance and repairs, update</p>	<p>Councillor Thomas reported that he had been unable to get a response from the contractors he requested to quote. With regret he is unable to pursue the matter further. The new Clerk was tasked with finding 3 contractors to quote for the repairs of Ty Hys. Also to contact the school to see if they are willing to repaint (as a fun project) the bus shelters due to graffiti. It was also noted that as the council are responsible for the telephone boxes, the one by the church is full of books and concerns were raised of liability should there be an accident. The clerk will speak to the new vicar regarding this when possible.</p>
<p>3/24/11</p>	<p>Graig Junction</p>	<p>In relation to the concerns about the personal interest of one of Bronwydd's Community Councillors, it was reported that the Bronwydd Clerk had advised that the requested actions had not yet been completed, in terms of training etc due to the councillor having a bereavement and as a consequence had not attended the last two meetings.</p>

3/24/12	Training Plan	<p>The training plan has been updated and circulated to the councillors. The revised draft plan has been extended to 2027. It was agreed that each councillor could continue to take part in one paid training course per year offered by One Voice Wales when agreed, and that the new Clerk be given the opportunity to complete the training courses provided by the SLCC for the ILCA (Introduction to Local Council Administration) and FILCA (Financial Introduction to Local Council Administration) as detailed in the plan.</p> <p>AGREED: to approve the updated Training Plan.</p>
3/24/13	Councillors' Remuneration Independent Remuneration Panel For Wales, Annual Report 2024	<p>The Council noted the IRPW Annual Report 2024 and its determinations, including the provision for a mandatory payment of £156 per year to be paid to each councillor. This payment is to cover any expenses they may incur, such as working from home was a given example. Other expenses (stationery etc) are a separate matter and the Council agreed to continue to pay the full amount of any agreed expenses. This will be applied from the beginning of April. Cheques will be issued at the next meeting. However, if any councillor wishes to waive this payment, they must do so in writing (i.e email) to the new clerk as soon as possible and before 30th April 2024.</p>
3/24/14	SLCC Respect and Civility Pledge	<p>The Council noted the invitation to sign up to this Pledge and that by signing the Pledge, the council is agreeing that it will treat councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, and representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles. After a short discussion, the vote was 3 -2 against on the premise that the council always followed the requirements of The Pledge and no need to</p>

		sign. It was suggested that the Pledge may be designed more for larger councils who may have issues.
3/24/15	Jenny Eirian Davies Fund	Councillor Ariyadasa was handed the records for these funds, which had been received from the former Clerk. The councillor has agreed to go through these records to establish the relevant details and report back at the next meeting.

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3/24/16	Correspondence	<p>The following correspondence was discussed and noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Consultation on Modernising Education Programme and Local Community Enterprises discussion 18th May 2024(b) Request for nominations for the Kings New Year Honours 2025(c) Carmarthenshire County Council, Town and Community Councils Update(d) Confirmation of Public Footpath Diversion Order, Alltgaredig(e) Carmarthen Council, Promoting Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire(f) Consultation on Integrated Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment(g) Public Rights of Way Project(h) Modernising Education Programme Strategy Consultation(i) Audit Wales Fee Scheme 2024/25 <p>Item (g) was discussed at greater length. Cllrs voiced their concerns, due to rule changes, as to how difficult it would be to maintain footpaths, especially at access points, whilst others expressed the need to be able to use the footpaths for the community's benefit. It was also noted that Cllr Bishop has agreed to meet with the new footpaths officer.</p>
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3/24/17	Forward Plan	The updated forward plan was noted and agreed.
3/24/18	Urgent Items	<p>It was noted that a member of the public had asked to discuss Skanda Vale traffic issues as a late urgent item, but was not in attendance at the meeting. The Chair confirmed that he had not received any update on this matter from the County Councillor, due to his ill health.</p> <p>Also another member of the public, also not present at the meeting, requested the council discuss the amount of water flowing down the road to Skanda Vale. The council was advised the member of the public is waiting for a response from the Highways Dept. It was agreed to await their response.</p>
3/24/19	Personnel Matters	<p>The Council resolved to exclude the public for this item pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, paragraphs 12 and 13</p> <p>The Clerk expressed a personal interest in this matter, as the Council's only member of staff, and withdrew from the meeting during discussion of this business item.</p> <p>a) Payroll arrangements, including standing order for Clerk's salary. The Council noted, with thanks, that payroll arrangements, including notifying HMRC, had made by Cllr Merry. It was proposed and agreed that a standing order should be set up to pay the Clerk's monthly salary.</p> <p>b) Supervision and management. Agreed that Cllr Felix Merry be nominated as Line Manager to the Clerk.</p> <p>c) Employment policies – the draft Disciplinary, Grievance, and Equality and Diversity policies were discussed and agreed, subject to</p>

		amendments to reflect the agreed line management arrangements and any further comments Councillors may wish to make, to be provided to Cllr Ariyadasa within the next 2 weeks.
3/24/20	Date of next meeting	Tuesday 14th May 2024, 8pm
3/24/20A	Thank You	Although not on the Agenda it should be minuted that a huge Thank You was given to Cllr Kumi Ariyadasa for all her hard work as Acting Clerk for the last 2 years. Without her valiant efforts, the council would not have continued as it has done over these years. She can now return to her role as Vice Chair with grateful thanks. The Clerk also thanks the Cllr for her advice in becoming the new clerk and hopes to discharge the duties of the Community Clerk as well as she has.

SIGNED: DATE: CHAIRPERSON:

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