

# Cyngor Cymuned Trefriw Community Council

Mrs Sandra Jehu, Clerc a Swyddog Cyllid/Clerk & Finance Officer  
Gorphwysfa, Trefriw, Conwy, LL27 0JU  
Ffôn/Telephone 01492 640108 E-bost/Email: clerk@trefriwcommunitycouncil.co.uk

## Cofnodion Rhagfyr 4 2018 Cwrdd y Cyngor / Minutes 4th December 2018 Meeting of Council

Present / Bresennol: Chair Cllr A Minton, Cllr M Jehu, Cllr M Lees, Cllr Porter, Cllr D Sandham and Cllr Williams  
In Attendance: Sandra Jehu Clerk / RFO, County Cllr Jones and 6 members of the public

### **Resident Issues:**

#### Christmas tree

A member of the public clarified the history of the village Christmas tree, Previous sited in the Church yard the current location was to council land and had incurred a cost of £1000 for an electricity supply. Because the site is lower than the road it requires a tall tree. TCC meet the cost of the tree and lights and responsibility for installation, Walkers are Welcome assume responsibility for the social event, when the lights are switched on and insurance for the event, with members of the public contributing food and drink. With reference to recent comments on social media they stated that this was not a time to apportion blame and suggested that a small working group be formed to plan future events. It was agreed that those present at this years switching on ceremony had had a good time. A second member of the public, who said they had donated the tree for the previous 15 years, explained that lack of communication had contributed to confusion as to whether a tree was required this year. When the Chair of TCC had made contact a tree had not been cut and the tree that had been taken was actually a windfall. A replacement tree was offered and could be delivered the following day, Cllr Lees and Clls Jehu offered to set it up.

#### Dogs in recreation park

A member of the public reported that they had recently challenged people exercising their dogs in the recreation park, and expressed concern that people misusing the childrens park and the 'dogs field' may not be local. Some people are not picking up dog poo and there is currently no contract for enforcing. It was suggested that a dog poo bin be sited in the field, with reference being made to previous discussion regarding local authority inability to empty additional bins. An offer was made by member of the public to transfer waste to bins currently emptied. Gates should shut automatically but don't and are routinely found open. It was agreed that signs and bylaws need enforcement and that the matter should be referred to Cllr Jones. Cllr Lees offered to photograph offenders, if notified.

#### Drainage

Concern was expressed that current drainage systems in the playing fields are not effective, despite the costs incurred. . The Chair commented that he had not been permitted to carry out the work.

It was agreed that reference would be made in the minutes to issues raised by the public but individuals would not be identified unless they specifically requested identification.

### **1 To confirm that a Quorum of elected members is present.**

Cadarnhau bod yr aelodau etholedig sy'n bresennol yn ffurfio cworwm  
A Quorum was confirmed by the Chair

### **2. Apologies / Ymddiheuriadau LG Act 1972 sch 12 par 40**

To accept apologies and consider approving reasons for absence  
Derbyn ymddiheuriadau ac ystyried cymeradwyo rhesymau dros absenoldeb  
All Councillors present

### **3. Declarations of Interest / DATGAN BUDDIANNAU. LG Act 2000 s50 Local Authorities (Wales) Order 2008/788**

To disclose personal and financial interests in items of business listed below.  
Datgan diddordeb personol ac ariannol yn y materion wedi eu rhestru isod  
All Councillors signed the appropriate documentation and declared no interests

### **4. Minutes / Cofnodion LGA1972, Sch 12 para 41(1)**

To receive, approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
Cllr Jehu and Cllr Lee proposed and seconded the Minutes as a true record of the Meeting date 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018

## **5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/ CYHOEDDIADAU Y GADEIRYD.**

Cllr Minton thanked those who had assumed additional responsibilities in the absence of the clerk.

## **6. Correspondence / Gohebiaeth**

Since the resignation of the previous clerk there has been a period when no emails addressed to the clerk were accessed. SJ confirmed that correspondence now received will be routinely forwarded to councillors.

## **7. County Councillor's Report / Adroddiad-y-Cynghorydd Sir**

Cllr Lees read a report received from Cllr Jones who was unable to attend the meeting due to other Council commitments:

*Since the last meeting of Trefriw Community Council I have been involved in the following:*

*On 6<sup>th</sup> November I attended an Education and Skill Overview and Scrutiny Committee where we considered and scrutinised reports on the following: a report from the Head of Service; Children, Families and Safeguarding on the Social Inclusion in Conwy Project – progress update; a report from the Strategic Director of Social Care and Education on the Statutory consultation regarding Ysgol Y Gogarth increase in numbers; the annual review of the Impact on Wellbeing in Schools: a Call in of Cabinet decision (9.10.18) – Report on the Consultation on Post 16 Home to School/College Transport. The webcast of the full meeting can be viewed at [Conwy.public-i.tv/portal/webcast\\_interactive/381984](http://Conwy.public-i.tv/portal/webcast_interactive/381984)*

*On 19<sup>th</sup> November I ran the Conwy Half Marathon to raise money for the Abergele Community Action Youth Provision. It has been very difficult trying to fit in training on top of two jobs and battling illness but on the day I managed to finish the 13.1 mile run on 2 hours 24 seconds and to raise just over £1700.*

*I have had discussions with a local about an idea for a project which aims to improve the mental health of young people in school. I have had brief discussion with a secondary school's governors who welcome the idea, I have undertaken some preliminary research into potential funding avenues to allow this work to happen. This is in the very early discussion stages and I am not able to give any further information at this point but feel this could be a very worthwhile piece of work which could help a lot of young people cope with the pressures of schoolwork and exams.*

*On 28<sup>th</sup> November I attended a Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee where we considered reports on the following: a report from the Head of Adult Integrated and Community Support on the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy, a report from the Chief Executive on the Corporate Safeguarding Panel Annual Report 2017-2018 and a report from the Strategic Director for Social Care and Education on the North Wales Safeguarding Boards Annual Report 2017-2018.*

*On 2<sup>nd</sup> December I attended (and donated several bottles of wine!) the turning on of the Trefriw Christmas Lights outside Mary Bell's café, organised by Walkers are Welcome. It was great to see some other members of the Community Council support the event which has always brought together members of the community. I look forward to next year's event already and welcome discussion around increased support for the event.*

*If you require any further information about what I've been doing or would like to get in touch to discuss any issues please don't hesitate to contact me.*

Cllr Porter offered to post the report on the TCC website if all present in agreement

## **8. FINANCIAL / CYLLID: LGA 1972 Sch 12 par 41(1).**

### **8.1 Council to discuss and question as required all Financial transactions in Appendix 1**

The Clerk stated that all payments noted and money received had been made by the previous clerk.

### **8.2 Council to discuss current position regarding revision of bank mandate and outstanding payments**

The clerk confirmed that since the resignation of the previous Clerk it has not been possible to make payments or transfer money between accounts as two authorised signatures are required and the council currently only have one. A change of mandate form has been submitted both electronically followed by a posted signed copy. SJ reported that she planned to visit the bank the following day to confirm receipt of the required documents and their progress. The bank continues to correspond only with the previous clerk, therefore it has been necessary to visit the bank in order to get information.

## **9. TREFRIW VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS / GWELLIANAU I BENTREF TREFRIW**

### **9.1 Update on Trefriw Road Safety Project**

Cllr Lees reported that he and Cllr Jones had been unable to organise a meeting for this month but were planning an open meeting for mid January.

### 9.2 Update on Play equipment in Village Playground

Cllr Lees reported that all damaged equipment had now been removed. He proposed using the TCC facebook page to request suggestions for replacement equipment and confirmed that he would seek quotes to bring to the committee.

### 9.3 Update on provision of additional signage in cemetery

Notice requesting that dead flowers be put in bin, approved at previous meeting will be collected by Cllr Minton and Cllr Jehu agreed to erect.

### 9.4 Update on potential of development of Trefriw Hydro Scheme

Cllr Lees confirmed that he has made contact with Mill owner , He stated that grants are available to meet some costs. The initial outlay against the potential income was questioned. Cllr Jones stated that it is possible to source grants for feasibility study. It was estimated that electricity generated could supply 10-15 houses.

## **10. VILLAGE HALL**

### Council to discuss concerns re water penetration

Discussion regarding ongoing problem of blockage of drain between village hall and adjacent residential property, and to which property the drain belongs. Reference was made to CCC records and previous surveys. The Councils attention had been drawn to the damage to the hall floor and concerns expressed about the damp conditions in the electrical cupboard. Cllr Sandham expressed concern regarding related Health and Safety issues and the councils duty of care. Cllr Lees agreed to contact Welsh water re condition of drain and it was agreed that an electrician should also be contacted.

## **11. COMMUNICATION**

### 11.1 Update on website development

Cllr Porter reported that the new TCC website is now up and running. However there is a problem viewing it on a tablet, and there is also no reference to the village hall. She stated that she would want to include an online booking system for the hall. The clerk's details need to be added to the site, Cllr Porter continues to manage the site with the clerk having responsibility for responding to the contact sheet.

### 11.2 Update on TCC Leaflet

Until the new bank mandate is in place it is not possible to place order. There was discussion regarding the fact that some companies will not accept cheque payments and the need for the council to investigate other methods of making payments e.g BACs or cards.

### 11.3 Update on Welsh Language Policy

It was noted that there are currently no indigenous council members with a hope expressed that the introduction of bilingual systems might encourage welsh applications. The estimated cost of translating equipment was reported as approximately £150 per session. The clerk queried whether the translation of agenda and minutes would impact on compliance with required time scales for circulation and was assured that the turn around period should not exceed 24 hours. Although legislation does not require bilingual agendas or minutes it was agreed that there should be total equality in the timing of the distribution of documentation.

### 11.4 Update on TCC Social Media Policy

The Council agreed to adopt the Conwy Council Social Media Policy.

## **12. INFORMATION SHARING**

Following concerned raised at the previous meeting it was confirmed that the Clerk had received GDPR training and that relevant training would be accessed, as available, by other coucillors.

## **13 COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

The clerk confirmed that one application has been received and will be included in January's agenda. A second expression of interest had been made but no application received. Cllr Lees stated that he hoped that the TCC Welsh language policy will encourage further applications but acknowledged that people who had previously been involved may not come back.

Cllr Sandham made reference to the difficulties experienced during the period the council had been without a clerk and requested opportunity to prepare for the introduction of a new Chair. Cllr Minton expressed strong feelings about the way he had been treated by Council members and stated that he would resign in January at a time that suited him and that his period of notice would be in compliance with legislation. He said that he was not prepared to engage in further discussion at this time.

**14 To confirm that the NEXT MEETING of the COUNCIL will be at 7 pm on 8<sup>th</sup> January at Trefriw Village Hall**