

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd November, 2021 At 7.30 p.m. Meeting held via Video Conferencing

21/49. Present: Cllrs. R. Harris (Chairman), J. Hodge (Vice-Chairman), E. Blackman, E. Giordano, N. Dodman, K. Williams.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Clerk.

21/60. Apologies: County Councillor M. Jones.

21/61. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Only: None.

Personal and Prejudicial: None.

21/62. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th October, 2021 were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Chairman.

21/63. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

21/63.1 Saplings, Cornwall Lewis Memorial: Still to be removed.

21/63.2 Appointment of Internal Auditor: The Clerk confirmed that Mr. Stephens had accepted the appointment.

21/63.3 Holding of Hybrid Meetings: Members agreed that the Clerk complete the survey issued by One Voice Wales.

21/64. Finance:

21/64.1 Payments: No payments this month.

21/6.2 Change of Bank to Unity Trust Update: The Clerk confirmed that the application form had been submitted online and the signatory form would be submitted shortly together with the necessary supporting documents.

21/65. Correspondence/General:

21/65.1 PACE Update: Cllr. Dodman provided a brief update on the recent activities and referred Members to the Minutes of the group as previously circulated. Members also noted the reply re. the increased involvement of young people and were pleased to know that a plan for this would be considered.

21/65.2 Statutory Notice of Closure: Llanfihangel Rhydithon School: Members had heard that the County Council was re-visiting the decision on closure. The Clerk advised that she had not seen any confirmation of this and that the notice of closure had been issued. Following a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk submit an objection to the closure.

21/66. Village Matters:

21/66.1 Minor Village Matters: No matters raised this month.

21/66.2 Dark Skies Update: The Clerk reported that Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council had nominated representatives but that she had still not heard from Whitton, Penybont or Llangunllo with Bleddfa. The Clerk would speak again to Penybont Community Council as it had been very supportive initially and Cllr. Dodman would speak again to Whitton. Should all be willing to proceed then an initial joint working group meeting would be arranged.

21/66.3 Broadband Project Update: The Clerk confirmed that the letter for residents was with Broadway Partners ready for despatch and that she had looked at the list of addresses for obvious errors. All being well the letter would go out in the next couple of weeks. The Clerk suggested several locations for the banners to be provided and it was agreed that she request six to eight to be located at the village entrances, at the school and at the Town Hall (subject to permissions

being obtained). Cllr. Harris confirmed that he had spoken to the landowners and these had agreed for banners to be sited on their gateways.

21/66.4 Changes to Street Lighting due to disconnection of power supply: Members discussed the options and the Clerk reported that the County Council had confirmed that she had again spoken to the Officer involved and that he had replied stating that while solar panels were improving they were still expensive - especially the batteries, plus they didn't gather as much electricity in the winter - just when lights were needed most. He had added that Western Power could indeed be asked to remove cables from a property. Once the supply was disconnected the County Council would review the situation but it was very unlikely to pay Western Power to install a new connection given the small number of lights affected.

Cllr. Hodge left the meeting at this point due to another engagement.

21/66.5 Report on Meeting with OPCC re speeding on A44: Three Members and the Clerk had attended this meeting and gave a short report on what was discussed. All agreed that the only course of action that was realistically available was to write to Welsh Government requesting average speed cameras on the A44, particularly between Walton and Penybont/Crossgates. Cllr. Giordano pointed out that much of this length of road allowed for high speeds and so it would not be necessary to install any large number of cameras in order to catch those whose speeds were causing the problems not to residents. To vulnerable road users (horse riders, walkers, cyclists) and general motorists. There was also a footpath crossing the A44 near to the Vron, near New Radnor village. Members asked that the Clerk chase up the data promised by PS Ian Price and also ask for the distances apart of the average speed cameras in North Wales. It was agreed that the Clerk do the following –

- Write to the relevant Welsh Government Minister requesting average speed cameras.
- Copy in the relevant Senedd Member.
- Write to the Police and Crime Commissioner confirming the above and requesting the support promised.
- Chase up the speed and collision data promised for the A44.

21/66.6 Fly Tipping, School Lane: The grass cuttings were now cleared.

21/66.7 Reply re. Wall High Street: Members noted the reply from the County Council stating that a bollard was not considered practical and also raising the issue of vehicles parking along High Street which added to the problem. It was agreed that no further action be taken on the request for a bollard.

21/66.8 Empty Property, Flat 4, Caer Lan, Water Street, New Radnor: Members noted the reply from the County Council Housing Department that repairs had been necessary and that the property would be available for re-letting on 4th November.

21/66.9 Shade now installed on street lights at end of and bottom corner of Rectory Lane (near Ashfield): The Clerk reported that Cllr. Hodge was still receiving complaints about the light near Ashfield and had agreed to take photographs of the light spill at night for the Clerk to submit to the County Council.

21/66.10 Meeting with Radnor Ranges: Cllr. Harris reported that he and Cllr. Hodge had held a meeting with the Ranges and reported the following –

- Increased employment with a number of young people now in posts at the site.
- Explosives now being mixed on site.
- Recent drone trials.
- Log Cabins used as basic labs and now have concrete blocks against them for blast prevention.

21/67. Planning:

21/67.1 Planning Application Decisions: No decisions this month.

21/67.2 Planning Applications: The following applications were considered -

21/1861/LBC Grid Reference: E:323074 N: 260605 Proposal: Listed building consent for internal and external alterations, refurbishment, erection of extensions including some demolition works and proposed landscaping Site Address: Downton House, Walton. Resolved no objections be raised.

21/1793/FUL Grid Reference: E:323074 N: 260605 Proposal: Alterations, refurbishment, erection of extensions including some demolition works, landscaping and all associated works Site Address: Downton House, Walton. Resolved no objections be raised.

21/68. Casual Vacancy Update

The Clerk confirmed that notices had been displayed. She was asked to forward details to the Carnival Committee for circulation. Cllr. Williams would arrange for something to be included in the Hub Whatsapp group.

21/69. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 9th December 2021 via video conferencing.

The meeting closed at 8.23 p.m.

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