

Cyngor Cymuned **LLANBEDROG** Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on 29/11/2021, 7:00pm – COVID-19

John Brinley Jones (Ch'r) Andrew Parry Greta Hughes Claire Russell-Griffiths
Gwenllian Davenport Alan Harper-Smith Thomas Victor Jones William Roger Jones
Hughes
Ann L Williams Pat Humphreys (Clerk)
(Translator)

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom software in line with COVID-19 guidance

The Chair requested that anyone wishing to contribute should raise their hand and that voting would take place by a show of hands.

1. Apologies

Ian Goronwy Williams, Alaw Ceris, William Penri Jones.

2. Declaration of Financial or Personal Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 25/10/2021

It was agreed that the minutes were a correct record.

Proposed: Thomas Victor Jones Seconded: Gwenllian Davenport Hughes

4. Any Urgent Business

None.

5. Lôn Pin Solar PV Development

A response to the questions sent to Chris Bale following the last meeting had been received and forwarded to members by the Clerk so that they could read it before the committee meeting. There was very little time to do that as the response was received a day before the meeting. Alan Harper-Smith had further questions following this response and would send them to the Clerk following the meeting. Gwenllian Davenport Hughes had sent a very useful email to the Clerk on the day of the meeting outlining points that the company should follow to maintain biodiversity on the site, and the Clerk thanked her for that information. Greta Hughes had searched the company online and Chris Bale was the sole manager. It didn't appear that the company had the resources to undertake a project of this kind, and that was a cause of concern for her. They intend to employ one person only, so there would be no local benefit at all to Llanbedrog. The Chair had also looked into the company, and it appeared that they were completely lacking in financial reserves. Chris Bale told the Chair that they would be looking for investors once the application had been approved. As it would impact views within, and outside of the AONB, Thomas Victor Jones had drawn the AONB committee's attention to this and, should the application succeed, they would investigate the matter. Alan Harper-Smith found it interesting that the only reason they had selected Llanbedrog was because of the connection to the grid, and that the landowner was prepared to rent out the land to them. Chris Bale needed to be thanked for his response, but it was evident that more questions were arising that needed to be asked.

Cyngor Cymuned LLANBEDROG Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on 29/11/2021, 7:00pm – COVID-19

Resolution: It was resolved that everyone should forward their questions the Clerk so that she could compile them and draft out another letter to Chris Bale. The Clerk would circulate the letter to members in the first instance and, if all were agreed, she would then forward it to Chris Bale, asking for a response by the second week in January to allow everyone an opportunity to read the response before the January meeting.

6. 2022-2023 Budget

A budget had been created by looking at the expenditure for the previous full year, namely 2020-2021, and the expenditure to date for the year 2021-2022. The Clerk had circulated a copy to all members prior to the meeting and the Chair went through the figures.

The sums allocated for grass cutting relating to footpaths, the playing field, Llan village field, and the cemetery had been reduced as the contract quotes had been received and were substantially lower than the sums allocated during recent years. The sum for additional work had also been reduced as the allocation was adequate to cover the work. The sum for the toilets and the Clerk's salary remained the same and the insurance had also been reduced as it was also lower than the sum allocated in the past. Administrative equipment, audit, fees, and others remain unchanged or have been increased slightly in line with the 2020-2021 expenditure and the expenditure to date during 2021-2022. The two new items on the budget are the translation and broadband for the hall and these will be additional expenditure from 2021-2022 onwards. Funds have also been allocated for the new cemetery as work needs to begin there very soon. As a contribution has already been made to the National Eisteddfod at Boduan, a sum of money will not be earmarked for this purpose in the forthcoming year and therefore, the total sum for contributions was somewhat lower. Alan Harper-Smith enquired whether the sum allocated for the noticeboards was adequate, and the Chair said that it was. Claire Russell-Griffiths proposed that the budget could be increased so that a contribution could be made towards the improvements to the playing field. It would be unfair to expect parents in the village to be responsible for raising all the funds themselves when Llanengan Community Council had raised their precept in the past to revamp the playing field at Abersoch. The remaining members agreed.

Resolution: It was unanimously resolved to add funds to the budget as a contribution towards the playing field. The budget was approved and a precept of £24,000.00 was suggested.

Proposed: Claire Russell-Griffiths Seconded: David Andrew Parry

The Clerk agreed to contact the Clerk of Llanengan Community Council to enquire about the sums allocated for Abersoch playing field and Thomas Victor Jones reminded everyone that it would be possible to apply to AONB for grants towards the playing field.

7. A499 Pwllheli to Llanbedrog – flooding

There had been flooding, a few weeks previously, on the A499 between Pwllheli and Llanbedrog, namely the main road servicing the whole of the southern area of Pen Llŷn, and the road was closed for 5 days on this occasion. Drivers had attempted to use the back roads to get to their destinations, and had spent hours driving around, but to no avail. This is a longstanding problem and yet, nothing was being done about it. Dylan Bullard, a Pwllheli councillor, had drawn

Cyngor Cymuned **LLANBEDROG** Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on 29/11/2021, 7:00pm – COVID-19

attention to this issue in the press and the Chair had contacted him to express the Community Council's concerns about the issue. The Chair proposed that a letter be sent to Gwynedd Council and the Assembly to draw their attention to the problem and request a solution to the problem as a matter of urgency. Thomas Victor Jones proposed that Town and Community Councils in Pen Llŷn could collectively write to the Assembly and Gwynedd Council requesting that they now proceed to find a solution as the problem had existed for decades, and nothing done about it. Gwenllian Davenport Hughes had seen a petition about this on Facebook following the last flooding incident.

Resolution: It was resolved that the Clerk drafts out a letter to be circulated to members. If they are satisfied with the letter, the Clerk is to circulate it to all Town and Community Councils in Pen Llŷn asking for their support to the letter.

The Chair was keen for the Clerk to send another letter to Gwynedd Council asking them to respond sooner to any flooding by setting up traffic lights or immediately closing the road rather than allowing drivers to attempt driving their cars through the floods, to no avail. The electronic lights were not switched on either, so drivers were unaware of the hazard. Gwynedd Council should monitor the situation regularly so that the road may be reopened as soon as it is safe to do so, and to avoid unnecessary inconvenience to road users.

8. Road from the A499 towards Llan Village, passing the gable end of Glyn y Weddw Arms – Gareth and Menai Evans' letter

David Andrew Parry had received a copy of the letter sent to Steffan Jones at Gwynedd Council from Gareth and Menai Evans regarding the road from the A499 towards Llan Village, passing the gable end of Glyn y Weddw Arms. They were seeking a solution to the parking problems encountered there during the summer and the Clerk read out the letter to members.

It was received for information, whilst awaiting a response from Steffan Jones (Gwynedd Council) to the letter.

9. Ebst Elis Smits – GwyrddNi

An email had been received from Elis Smits introducing himself as the Area Climate Action Community Facilitator for Pen Llŷn with GwyrddNi, a new organisation developed by Rural Energy Developments and their partners. The email was asking whether Llanbedrog Community Council would be interested in hearing a presentation from him about the organisation and how Community Councils could become involved. Thomas Victor Jones was particularly keen for him to come and present to the Community Council as he had already met Elis Smits in one of the interesting afternoon events held in Pwllheli every Thursday where he spoke about the organisation. David Andrew Parry and Greta Hughes agreed.

Resolution: It was resolved to invite him to the March committee meeting to give a presentation to the Community Council.

10. Footpaths

The Clerk had contacted Natural Resources Wales to seek an update on the fire path on Tir Cwmwd Mountain and spoke to Ian Houston Roberts. They had no record of who cut this

Cyngor Cymuned LLANBEDROG Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on 29/11/2021, 7:00pm – COVID-19

path in the past and he asked whether any members of the Community Council had this information. The Clerk said she would enquire. He also said that 80% of NRW's work involves rivers and flooding so they don't usually deal with this kind of thing. He wondered whether the Community Council had got confused between Natural Resources Wales and the National Park. Thomas Victor Jones remembered a scheme called *Lliw yn Llŷn* based in an office at Oriel Plas Glyn y Weddw with an officer working there. That would have been about ten years ago, and he wondered whether the fire path had been cut through this scheme. Greta Hughes also recalled this and that they experimented by allowing a square patch to grow on the mountain. The Chair knew the officer and said that he would call him for more information.

11. The Cemetery

The original planning application for the new cemetery had expired. The Chair had therefore submitted a new application to the planning department using the previous plans and, because the application was made by a Community Council, the fee would be halved. There were some changes to the plans, namely, to do away with the toilets and lights which appear on the original plan, leaving one substantial piece of work which is to move the water pipe running through the site. A professional company would need to provide a quote for the job but the Chair envisaged that the completion of the work at the new cemetery would come at a substantial cost of around £50,000.00. Thomas Victor Jones enquired about availability of grants to complete the work and the Clerk said she would make enquiries with One Voice Wales. The Chair and Clerk were aware that interest-free grants are available for the work, to be repaid over a period of time. Claire Russell-Griffiths stated that the cemetery should be a priority for the Community Council as the old cemetery is nearing capacity and that burial plots could run out. She also enquired about the position of the new cemetery's land. Is there a tenant, and do animals graze the land? Would we need to give them notice to move off the land? The land also needed to be fenced off as soon as possible, therefore the terms of the tenancy needed to be examined. The Chair had visited the land registry's website and had seen that the names on the deeds remained unchanged. The Clerk said that she had spoken with Elin Tudur from Bryn Martin's office about this very subject earlier that day. She had sent papers to them last July but had still not received anything back from them due to them being very busy at the time. There was nothing she could do to speed things up. The Chair had also spoken with solicitors about placing the Community Council's name on the deeds. It would not be possible to do that at present, only names of the individuals on the Community Council, so it was anticipated that this could become inconvenient and expensive over coming years should the named members on the deeds leave the Community Council as the names would need to be changed again. Greta Hughes found this difficult to believe and proposed that the Clerk should contact One Voice Wales to enquire about this as well. Victor Thomas Jones agreed.

12. The Playing Field

The Chair met an officer from Scottish Power in the playing field to discuss the underground electrical cable. The officer found the cable either side of the entrance and said that the maps

Cyngor Cymuned LLANBEDROG *Community Council*

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on 29/11/2021, 7:00pm – COVID-19

showing the cable's location were not 100%. The only advice he could give was that when any digging work was to be done, that the contractor be given a copy of the map and take responsibility for carrying out a risk assessment. He also stated that it would be essential for all contractors to be in possession of an underground electrical cable locator. It is not usual for them to move the cables and, therefore, following the advice given should suffice. He had also said that the cable would be safe if a spade was being used as it is protected by a sleeve but, if a contractor were to use a JCB, it would be essential for us to convey this advice to them. Greta Hughes enquired whether it would be better, therefore, for the Community Council to state that nobody should volunteer to carry out digging work in the playing field in future. The fence at the entrance needed to be repaired. There would be digging work involved so that two posts could be installed to hold up the fence and so, who would carry out that work? Alan Harper-Smith had always thought that any underground electrical cable had to be at least 2 feet beneath the surface and should be covered by a sleeve, that being at least 1 foot above the cable, as a warning of its location. When the Chair and David Andrew Parry were digging to install some of the posts to repair the fence in the playing field during the summer, they came across this sleeve fairly close to the surface, at around 1 foot down, and they immediately stopped digging. Claire Russell-Griffiths said that care must be taken as one day, the equipment in the playing field would need to be removed. As digging would be required for that purpose, the Community Council would be legally responsible for sharing this advice with any contractor undertaking the work. Therefore, in future, a professional contractor would be required to undertake any work in the playing field. The Chair reiterated that the advice of the Scottish Power officer was that it would be essential for any contractor undertaking digging work in the playing field to be given a map by the Community Council and that it should state in any contract between the Contractor and the Community Council that the contractor should ensure that he ascertains the location of the cable before any work commences, that he has the correct equipment, and that he is competent to use it, and that he is also covered with appropriate insurance for all aspects of the work. Claire Russell-Griffiths enquired what now needed to be done in the playing field. The Chair replied that digging work would need to be done for the installation of one post in order to complete the closing off of the fence at the entrance and because the cable is in this location, he would not be happy for anyone other than a professional contractor to undertake the work. David Andrew Parry agreed that if the digging work required a JCB, there should be adherence to the Scottish Power officer's advice. However, he could see no harm if it was a case of digging 1 foot down with a spade in order to install one post in the ground and he would be happy to do that himself. Alan Harper-Smith said that if it was going to be a wooden post, digging would not be necessary. It could be knocked into the ground, and it would bypass the sleeve. David Andrew Parry enquired about the casual worker. The Chair replied that he had seen him but that he had not had an opportunity to start the work due to the weather. Claire Russell-Griffiths enquired whether they would be employing a professional contractor to install the final post so that the fence could be closed. The Chair replied that he and David Andrew Parry would be prepared to do the work using a spade and Claire Russell-Griffiths said that she would not be comfortable with that option. Greta Hughes was of the same opinion. William Roger Jones agreed that the advice given by the Scottish Power officer be

Cyngor Cymuned **LLANBEDROG** Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on 29/11/2021, 7:00pm – COVID-19

forwarded to all contractors undertaking digging work in the playing field. Thomas Victor Jones asked who would be doing the work on the fence because it had been in need of attention for a very long time and needed to be sorted. The Chair suggested that the casual worker could do the work. The casual worker is insured by the Community Council because he is retired and doesn't want to arrange his own insurance. Zurich confirmed that if the Community Council anticipated that they would not be paying him more than £3,000.00 per annum, then he could be included on the Community Council's insurance. The Chair and David Andrew Parry agreed that if they were to volunteer to install the final post in the playing field, and that they were happy to do so, then it wouldn't be an issue.

13. Coronavirus covid-19 – Health and Safety Update

No update was available, and it was therefore decided to continue meeting via Zoom.

14. The Village Hall

Due to the rising cost of electricity, the Chair asked whether the hall hire charges could be increased. Enquiries had to be made to find out what the existing charges for hiring the hall were, and Thomas Victor Jones suggested that we ask Barbara Warren. William Roger Jones enquired who was using the hall as the light was on at around 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Once again, Barbara Warren would be the one to ask. Claire Russell-Griffiths enquired whether we were receiving any paperwork relating to the hall and the Clerk said that she was receiving a monthly bank statement so that she could complete the annual return for the Charities Commission. To allow time to ascertain who the hall users are and the current charges, it was proposed that the matter be placed on the January meeting's agenda. The Chair confirmed that he would contact Barbara Warren.

The Chair said that a Christmas tree was required for the village, and that he had ordered one from Glasfryn to be collected on the Wednesday. He would need help to put it up and David Andrew Parry and William Roger Jones said that they would be available to help on the Saturday morning at 10am.

Approved Payments

Clerks' Salary – Pat Humphreys	£366.73
Pat Humphreys – Minutes Book	£37.93
Ann Llwyd – Translator	£195.00
Brown Garden Waste Bin 2022 – Llanbedrog Cemetery	£36.00
Rhys Jones – Invoice for grass cutting at Playing Field and Llan Village as agreed	£1610.00
Ashley Hughes – 2022 Diary	£4.19
D W Roberts – Spraying weedkiller in the Playing Field	£120.00

Cyngor Cymuned **LLANBEDROG** Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held remotely on 29/11/2021, 7:00pm – COVID-19

Payments Received

G D Roberts – permission to erect a head stone – Mair Jones Garreg Wen, Llanbedrog **£140.00**

Planning Applications

C21/0149/38/TC – Penrhos Polish Village, Lôn Llanbedrog, Pwllheli – Application for Lawful Use Certificate relating to a care home, central kitchen, shared dining room, offices, church, Scout dormitories, library, hall and general store, memorial garden and an open space, residential blocks comprising 103 self-contained residential units (used by residents and staff as their main place of residence), and four self-contained visitor accommodation units with 17 rooms.

No need for the Community Council to submit observations.

Any applications received prior to the meeting.

Correspondence

1. **Clerks & Council Direct** – Newsletter
2. **One Voice Wales** – Training
3. **WLGA** - 23.09.2020 Coronavirus update
4. **Welsh Government** – Written ministerial statement for Phase 2 of the Diversity into Democracy Programme
5. **NHS** - Covid-19 App
6. **Welsh Government** – 2020 Remembrance – Update
7. **Welsh Government** - 30.09.2020 Coronavirus update by WLGA
8. **WLGA** - 02.10.2020 Coronavirus update
9. **Independent Panel for Wales** – Remuneration Consultation Draft Annual Report – February 2021
10. **Older People’s Commissioner for Wales** – September 2020 Newsletter
11. **One Voice Wales** – Online training – Planning Aid Wales
12. **One Voice Wales** – Information about hearing
13. **One Voice Wales** – 2020/21 programme of training webinars

Requests for financial contributions

1. **Macmillan Cancer Support** – request for financial contribution
2. **Wales Air Ambulance** – request for financial contribution
3. **Dawns i bawb** – request for financial contribution
4. **The Denbigh Urdd National Eisteddfod 2022** – request for financial contribution.

Resolution: to contribute £50.

Proposed: William Roger Jones Seconded: Thomas Victor Jones

The Chair asked the Clerk whether she had obtained a new book for the minutes, and she showed everyone the book on screen.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.