

Minutes of a Remote Meeting held on Thursday 17th September 2020

Present: Cllr A Bates, C Lewis, R Lewis, P Bowen, K Curry, J Harris,
Cty Cllr D Evans

Apologies: Cllr J Price, J Morgan (accepted)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the September meeting.

NC 53/20 **Declarations of Interests**
There were none.

NC 54/20 **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 14th July 2020 were confirmed and signed.

NC 55/20 **Information from Minutes**
None.

NC 56/20 **Planning**
None

NC 57/20 **Correspondence**
a) Powys County Council – Meeting for Chair and Clerk – 15.10.20
This meeting clashes with the Community Council meeting. The Chair will consider if she wants to attend and notify the Clerk.

b) Local Resident – Reduced Speed Limit at Gaufron
Email expressing concerns at the speeding along the A44 at Gaufron, particularly motorbikes.

Members discussed this and agreed that speeding along the A44 from Crossgates to Rhayader is an issue.

Resolved: to write to PCC Highways outlining the resident's concerns and suggesting that they install speed camera signs and also carry out some form of traffic speed monitoring.

NC 58/30 **Finances**
a) Clerk's Out of Pocket Expenses & Home Working - £141.92 – approved.

b) National Pay Award
The Council have been notified of an national pay award of 2.75% from 1st April 2020.
Resolved: to approve the award backdated to 1st April 2020.

c) Budget/Expenditure to 31.08.20
This was noted.

d) SLCC Subs Contribution - £27.24
Resolved: to pay this contribution towards the subscription.

NC 59/20

Community Council Website

New legislation is coming into place with regard to accessible websites. The current website is not fully accessible and needs some development work to conform with this legislation. The Clerk had obtained a quote from the existing provider to develop a fully accessible website for £1270.

Cllr Curry asked if the Council needed to obtain 3 quotes due to the value. The Clerk confirmed as this was a development of the existing service this would not be a requirement.

Cllr Harris felt the Council should look around for an alternative.

The Clerk confirmed that she did not have the sufficient technical experience to prepare a specification, members confirmed they also did not have this knowledge.

Resolved: to upgrade the website via Vision ICT at a cost of £1270 and future annual hosting of £175.

NC 60/20

Issues Argoed Lane

The Clerk had been contacted several times by a resident of Argoed Lane expressing concerns about the lack of Broadband coverage and highways issues. She had put them in touch with Cty Cllr Evans.

The Clerk had provided information to the resident with regard to a Broadband scheme being offered in Llanwrthwl and Cllr Curry also provided information on possible satellite Broadband service and grants. Cllr Curry had also spoken with Kirsty Williams who has been involved with this previously and is now taking this matter up.

Resolved: to write to PCC to express concern that there continues to be poor Broadband access in this and some other areas in Powys

Cty Cllr Evans had met with the resident and had walked the lane and discussed the issues with the resident.

Resolved: to write to PCC to inform them of the complaints received as the residents feel this lane is substandard.

NC 61/20

Nantmel School

Cllr Curry had been in contact with the Planning Officer who had been in discussions with the agent who have been instructed to advertise the building for its current purpose for a period of 6 months. No members had seen anything about this yet. The Clerk will make contact with McCartneys with regard to this.

Cllr Curry had forwarded the above information to the descendant of the person who had provided the land upon which the school had been built and had emphasized the relatively short time-scales now remaining.

Cllr Curry had received a reply from the descendant thanking him for the information but also asking for a duplicate copy of the Land Registry document as the one he had previously sent, which the descendant had forwarded to a cousin, had been lost in the post. Cllr Curry had provided a further copy.

The response he received from the descendant confirmed that they realise the tight deadline for this matter now and would look into it.

The Chair asked if a meeting of the Action Group should be called to update everyone. Cllr Curry suggested that a copy of the draft Minute should be sent to Julia Lewis for circulation as, because of Coronavirus restrictions, a 'physical' meeting would not be possible. This was agreed.

NC 63/20

Other Matters

a) Llwyn Lane Potholes

Cllr C Lewis reported these. Cty Cllr Evans was asked to look into this matter.

b) Gas Issues – Rhayader

Cllr Curry had received a call from Andrew Twigger advising that there is an issue in Rhayader with the Gas supply and there are many vans in the town advising residents of this.