Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog Community Council

held on Thursday 26th November 2021

PRESENT: Sarah Davies; (Chair) Phillip Lloyd; Trevor Bates; Mair Evans; Einion Davies; Jean Davies (Clerk) and via Zoom Anina Price; Barbara Roberts Tegid Davies:

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| Agenda  No | Details | Minutes | Action |
| 1 | Welcome and apologies | Cllr. Sarah Davies welcomed those present to the Council.  Due to current Covid restrictions meeting was held at Canolfan Ceiriog to enable Councillors and the public to attend in person or virtually via Zoom  Apologies; Cllrs. Eric Jones; |  |
| 2. | Confirmation or otherwise of previous meeting | Accepted as correct and signed accordingly |  |
| 3. | Clerk’s Report | Given all that’s happened this year the Community Council’s activities since 1st April 2019 may have been forgotten. However, suffice to say that the Council was very busy and remains so.  Two new Councillors were welcomed – Tegid Davies and Rhys Hughes and the Council has nine community councillors and Councillor Trevor Bates who is the LA Councillor. Eleven meetings took place (no meeting in August) during twelve months ending the 31st March 2020.  In terms of improvements the Council paid for new village signs which many residents have welcomed in a positive way. Due to concerns regarding anti-social behaviour in the village, the Council decided to install a CCTV system and Councillors Sarah Davies, Lloyd and Bates are authorised to access the recording when needed. The annual ROSPA report identified the wooden fence in the toddler area as a high risk and therefore the Council was duty bound to address this and a new metal fence has now been installed. In addition, a new bench was purchased for the playing field and for Pandy.  Following a consultation with residents it became apparent that what was lacking was youth provision in the village and therefore the Council signed a Service Level Agreement with WCBC’s Youth Service to hold sessions for young people in the village weekly. However due to dark nights and the weather it was decided to postpone any sessions during the winter months until March of this year when of course the whole country was put in lockdown and again some sessions remain outstanding. During lockdown Youth Service staff have offered Zoom meetings for young people although the take up of this service is not known at the time of writing. However, it doesn’t look as it face to face work will be undertaken until restrictions ease.  In Pandy there were concerns expressed by some residents regarding the felling of trees above Pandy. Natural Resources Wales and WCBC became involved to try to resolve the situation and allay residents’ concerns.  The youth provision plan also included building a Pavilion type building on the playing field which would have dual purpose of somewhere for the young people to meet on club nights and also storage for the rugby club. After consultation with the National Trust, Councillor Tegid Davies drafted and submitted the planning application to WCBC. However due to objections raised by Natural Resources Wales that the playing field was assessed as being a high risk of flooding the application decision is still pending. Councillors Tegid and Sarah Davies are currently drafting a Flood Risk Assessment Report which will hopefully satisfy Natural Resources Wales and the Council will then be given permission to build the pavilion.  The Council received a small amount of funding from North Wales Police to provide activities for young people and a Fun Day was arranged in August 2019 one of the activities was a pop-up skate park. However due to high winds and rain forecasted for the day the skat ramp company stated that they would have to withdraw due to Health and Safety Concerns and therefore the day was cancelled.  In September 2019 the Council finally signed the lease for the toilet block from WCBC. John Keen continues to undertake caretaking duties. The toilet block accounts for over 10% of the Council’s overall budget, it should be pointed out that public toilets in communities far larger than ours have been permanently closed. That said Councillors are aware that the building seems to attract a lot of antisocial and criminal behaviour. Damage was caused to the toilets by two youths who were charged and one agreed to undertake some reparation work. More recently an adult damaged the locks to the toilets during lockdown and has been ordered to pay for the cost of repairs.  Of course, in March both the playing field and toilets were closed to comply with government Covid 19 guidelines. They re-opened on the 1st August with strict guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid. Whilst most who use both comply with these guidelines it is of concern that a small minority seem to ignore them.  The Council continues to support charities that benefit the residents of this community. The Institute and Canolfan Ceiriog receive regular financial support. In addition, the Glyn Valley Tramway and the Christian Centre received a one-off donation during the year. The Local Eisteddfod is also a beneficiary and this year a donation was made to the National Urdd Eisteddfod and Powys Eisteddfod which were to be held locally.  The Community Agent Project continues to evolve and during lockdown the CA has been contacting isolated residents by phone, text, email and by walking around the village. Before the lockdown the CA undertook drop-in sessions at the surgery and also walking football/netball/Tai Chi/Craft workshops were established. The walking group remained popular and the CA also arranged a reading club which was welcomed by many residents in the village. The CA suggested creating a buddy-system and information about this was placed in the Glyn News – however the response was extremely poor. Tentative steps are being taken to re-start some of the groups whilst complying with the guidelines.  Of course, shortly afterwards a form of buddy system was put in place as following the lockdown many individuals put their name forward to volunteer to pick up groceries and prescriptions for those having to isolate. Volunteers were also very keen to deliver the lunches which this Council, in partnership with the two other councils in the valley, once a week to older residents in the community. Indeed, special thanks goes to a very dedicated and talented team who undertake all the preparation and cooking on a weekly basis. Whilst the lunches were initially free a small charge is now made and it is pleasing to note that most of the residents have continued to receive the lunches. Of course, once the lockdown eased many of the volunteers returned to work but it is encouraging to note that new volunteers have stepped in to deliver the lunches.  I’m sure that all Councillors will be very pleased with the manner in which the community pulled together to help others when the lockdown was first announced back in March and of course, continue to do so. It is hoped that when the next AGM is held, we will have some sort of normality back. Suffice to say this Council will react appropriately to what challenges Covid 19 presents. |  |
| 4. | Any other matter not listed | No other matter to discuss |  |