**Llanddewi Velfrey Community Council**

**Minutes of normal meeting held Wednesday 9th March 2022**

Present: Cllrs Jamie Lewis, Tudor Eynon, Wynn Griffiths, Keith Thomas, Meurig James and County Councillor David Simpson.

Cllr Lewis as Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1 – Apologies for absence**. There were apologies received from Cllr Derryck Prosser. It was also reported that Cllr Prosser had resigned that day from the Council for personal reasons.

**2 – Declarations of interest**. No interests were declared.

**3 – Minutes of previous meeting**.

There were accepted as a true record and agreed – proposed by Cllr Griffiths and seconded by Cllr Thomas, agreed by all present. They were duly signed.

**4 – Matters arising from previous meeting**.

**A40 update**. The first quarterly meeting of local authority representatives had been held the previous week, and attended by a number of Cllrs and the Clerk. The minutes and presentation would be forwarded when they were received. An explanation of the necessity of the 30mph was provided, and measures suggested to get the safety message across to users of the A40 during the work. There was GoSafe police speed monitoring taking place, and the temporary speed warning signs were in place and would shortly be operational.

**Queen’s Jubilee**. A meeting with the Hall Committee had taken place immediately prior to this meeting to discuss activities for this event. It has been agreed to focus activities on the Friday 3rd June, the actual Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday, with different things happening through the day and evening. More information would be circulated in the community as things were decided.

Alun Griffiths were providing a rowan tree to plant as part of the Queen’s Canopy. It was agreed to purchase a plaque from Royal British Legion Industries for £129.99 for the tree, which would be also supporting the RBL.

**5 – New business.**

**Donations**. Donation requests had been circulated. It was agreed to not make any donations this year and to focus on the local community for them in the future.

**Upcoming elections**. The Clerk circulated the packs provided for existing Councillors, along with information from the recent PCC briefing on this topic. A few queries were raised and answered about the process, and the changes from previous years.

**External audit 2020-21.** The unqualified audit report had been previously circulated to all Councillors. It was noted that there were no issues or concerns raised by the external auditor.

**One Voice Wales membership**. This was discussed, and it was agreed to be a member of OVW for another year.

**Annual Independent Remuneration for Wales Panel** report. This had been previously circulated. The Clerk gave a very brief update on it for the coming year. The Council decided not to commit to any of the optional payments that were given in the report.

**Council insurance renewal**. The Clerk had sought comparative quotes to ensure best value for the Council, and provided the information for consideration. It was agreed after discussion to take the 5 year LTA from Zurich as the best value option.

**Play area** 3 year SLA with PCC for inspections and grass cutting. This had been previously circulated. It was agreed to accept the proposed SLA including the grass cutting element. It would be suggested to the Hall that their insurance policy be reviewed in the light of the cover this SLA provided to the play area.

**Clerk remuneration**. The Clerk left the room for the following discussion. The current remuneration package was reviewed in the light of length of service and the CiLCA qualification gained. It was agreed to offer amendments to the contract. The Clerk rejoined the meeting, and accepted the proposed amendments.

**6 – County Councillor’s report.** Cllr Simpson spoke about the various speed reduction measures in the region that were happening, including a reduction to 40mph just off the Penblewin roundabout and the 20mph on the Llanfallteg Road.

There had been a lot of storm damage across the county and PCC staff had worked around the clock to deal with repairs and restore services. Locally there had been less damage, although slates had come off the bus shelter roof – this was reported by him to the relevant PCC department.

Tavernspite School was consulting on an alteration to the school week pattern, potentially moving to a pattern used by 25 other schools in the county.

Covid was still around, but far less of a concern than it had been, although the hospitals were still full because they were on catch-up for the various treatments and operations that had been displaced by covid.

The Ukrainian situation was a major concern, with the county potentially being asked to accommodate 200 refugees and families on a short-term basis, so plans were underway to manage this influx.

**7 – Correspondence received.**

* One Voice Wales remote training. This was noted.
* Long course Weekend 2022 in July. This was noted.

**8 - Planning:**

Planning application 21/1011/PA. Removal of agricultural occupancy condition. Maes yr Rhos, Llanddewi Velfrey. SA67 7PA. There were no objections to this application.

Planning application 21/1053/PA. Outdoor swimming pool, related facilities; garage. Old Vicarage, Llanddewi Velfrey. SA67 8UT. There were no objections to this planning application.

Planning granted: 21/832/OHL. Divert the present 11kw overhead lines to enable the building of the new road. New road, Llanddewi Velfrey. There were no objections to this and it was noted that it was required by the construction work. This was granted 24-1-22

**9 - Finance:**

Bank balance main account £5198.40 as of 3rd March 2022

Bank balance second account: £20.00 as of 3rd March 2022

Bank balance business interest account: £5606.02 as of 3rd March 2022. This account now holds the War Memorial bequest; the reserve for Cllr allowances; the reserve for elections.

Invoices/contractual/other payments:

* Clerk’s monthly salary for January, February
* Clerk’s backpay for nationally agreed settlement for 2021-22 year (agreed March 2022)
* Clerk’s expenses for January, February
* Clerk’s tax January, February
* Council insurance - £355.39 (see item above)

The bank balances, income and expenditure and payments due were all accepted - proposed by Cllr Eynon, seconded by Cllr Thomas, and agreed unanimously.

**10 - Councillors’ reports for consideration at next meeting.**

A query was regarding ownership of a tree near Maes Yr Dderwen which had a TPO, and had storm damage. It was believed to be in private ownership so the responsibility of the landowner – Cllr Simpson would ask the PCC Tree Officer to inspect and confirm.

A litter bin near the weighbridge was blocked in and not used – it was asked whether this could be relocated e.g. close to the Hall. Cllr Simpson would raise this within PCC.

The potholes in the area, including outside the Hall and on the back lane were again raised as an issue.

**11 - Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting was agreed for Wednesday 11th May 2022, starting at 8.00pm, and that it was intended it would be in person in the Hall unless Government restrictions or requirements to provide remote access necessitated it be a Zoom meeting. It would be the Annual meeting, followed by the normal May meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm.