**CYNGOR CYMUNED DINAS CROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 05th April 2023, YHY 6pm**

Members present –Phil Simpson (Chair), Tanya Horwood, Harriet Pemberton, Eric Nicholas, Keith Battrick, Lynne Upsdell, Huw Murphy, Alison Parkes.

Apologies – Fiona Cooper, Gareth Jones, Elin Jones.

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and proposed by Keith Battrick and 2nd by Eric Nicholas.

**Matters Arising.**

**Playing Fields**– Dyfan Evans, Chair of the Playing Field Committee (PFC), attended this part of the meeting to discuss a way forward for the Playing Fields and their development. It was agreed that the current group had achieved an awful lot and that this should be acknowledged.

Lynne asked if Dyfan needs more people on the PFC and he said yes; more people with younger children would be good.

We heard that Simon who runs the tennis courts in Dinas was keen to run the two facilities together and that was seen as a good idea by all.

Dyfan said that there was a 10-year plan that included drainage, a cycle path for the younger children around the edge of the field, and green exercise machines, it just needed new momentum behind it.

The Council asked Dyfan to request an estimate for the rest of the drainage work (the other half of the field had cost around £20,000, for a rough order of magnitude), and also when the work could be done. It was suggested that once this was known Elin could ask for an ‘Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant’. By the end of April/May there may be some PAVS funding e.g., £5,000 to fund the Playing Fields as well.

While we were discussing the Playing Fields, it was agreed that PFC need to investigate two new signatories to be able to write cheques, and that drainage is now the priority for the PFC. Dyfan Evans left the meeting here.

**Action Request**: Huw was going to look into claiming VAT back for Council expenditure because it was understood that this had been achieved in other areas.

**Dog bins** – Laminated signs to be done for dog bins we now have a laminator and Elin to produce signs – ongoing.

**The wood on benches** – The work has been completed.

**Happy Bench** – Securing of base in hand with Eifion in progress - ongoing.

**Pwll Gwaelod** – Keith now has the paint and is waiting for a dry day. Phil and Eric offered to help.

**Wales & West Housing (WWH)** – there was a lengthy discussion on this subject. Keith reported back that he had met WWH recently and had a pleasant discussion with Mr Craig Davis representing them. There was some verbal confirmation that Gold/Silver level entry criteria was for people living in Dinas for three years, or who had children who were going to school locally and had been for at least a year.

The following discussion about who has, and has not, been allocated an offer of a house was not consistent with the above.

**Action Request**: Elin, please write to WWH for written confirmation of what the criteria is for allocating accommodation. Under Freedom of Information Act, (if necessary) it would be useful to understand who has been offered a house so far, and how their application meets the criteria.

**Joe Thomas joined the meeting at this point from Cwm Yr Eglwys Trust.**

**Toilets at Cwm Yr Eglwys (CYE) and Pwll Gwaelod** (PG) – (Ref. Email received and circulated to all councillors informing that both toilets are due to close in Nov 2023 unless other funding streams can be found.)

All council members remain extremely concerned at the prospect. After another long discussion about how awful and unacceptable it would be if either CYE or PG toilets were to close, we agreed:

**Action Request**: Elin: please can we obtain a breakdown from Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) of the costs for running the toilets, for each location, covering:

* Water
* Electric
* Cleaning
* Rates
* Insurance; Public Liability etc.
* Anything else

Once we have this, please send to Joe Thomas who will ask the CYE Trust if they would be willing to take these costs on; investigate charging for the car parks to pay towards the costs.

Huw Murphy mentioned that Newport Community Council has asked for a longer lead time e.g., 2025 – this fits with the question about an appeals process.

It was noted that both these toilets are part of the Pembrokeshire Tourism and should be supported by the beneficiaries of that: PCC, National Trust and National Parks.

Therefore, it was agreed that:

**Action Request**: Elin, please write to the National Parks and ask if they would look into charging for the car park at PG and running the toilets.

**Action Request**: Huw to ask the National Trust the same question.

**Ongoing** - Elin to find out if there is an appeal process in place.

With regards the toilet block beside the playing Field. Gareth had spoken with Vicky Rees from Edward Perkins. Awaiting an update from Edward Perkins and solicitors who will take this to the barony following the CC registering an interest in the toilet block. Still awaiting a reply from the above – ongoing.

**SWTRA** – Info sent that 30mph area in the village will go to 20mph. Huw confirmed that this is due to happen September 2023 in line with Welsh Government Policy. There is an assumption that the rest of the village limit will remain at 40mph. It was agreed that this is likely to be dangerous; to switch quickly from 40 to 20, especially with visitors not knowing the zones very well when they do come into force.

**Action Request**: Huw was going to find about the 40mph to 30 mph possibility for the rest of the village limit.

**YHY public meeting Monday 20th February** – Several new Trustees will be starting in June 2023 and two people from the Community Council will be joining, to increase the joint work.

**King’s coronation** – Both the HUB and CC are organising a joint celebration day to include BBQ, Band possibly via Arts Council of Wales Night Out Scheme Elin to explore possibility, Ice Cream Van and Bouncy Castle, face painting. **Monday May 8th Afternoon event 4-8pm.** Commemorative mugs will be given to all children in the village under 18, bilingual. Elin exploring but will need to order ASAP - ongoing. We will also sell any remainders to the community. (Ordering 100).

**Action request:** Elin to ask if we can have the hire of YHY free for this event. The Community Council will be putting £1,000 towards costs of the activities and mugs, and The Community Hub will be doing all the work to organise the event and work on the day.

**Allotments** – Huw had called Rose Howard from the organisation running the allotments. They have been tidied up and have created a list to allocate them. The allotments are now fully allocated. If people ask, there is a form online on PCC to request to be added onto the list.

**Kiel House Shop**. It was confirmed that Elin had written a letter on behalf of the Community Council to thank Tanya and Gareth for their contribution and service to the village and wish them all the best for the future.

**Correspondence**

None reported.

**Audit Report** – none this month.

P**lanning Applications (these were previously emailed to Council members for comment)**

Phase 2 WWE housing development – no objections but had consultation taking place. Elin had been informed that all residents in the locality of the development had been notified and all enquiries had been responded to.

**Please however see notes above about WWH and the criteria for Phase 1**. We are also not sure how wide the “all residents” in the locality have been informed – it is unclear which addresses have received letters. It was felt that if the criteria for Phase 1 has NOT been followed, then we have the right to appeal against Phase 2.

**Planning Applications**

**Solar panels.**

**Action Request:** Huw, please ask if solar panels need planning permission e.g. to go on a grass bank.

**Cwm Dewi**: no objections.

**Troedyrhiw** CYE: no objections.

**Greenfields,** Brynhenllan: no objections.

**Porthllisky:** No objections.

**AOB**

Keith: will put wood-preserve on the seat on the tennis courts.

Lynne: has had a package of information from Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDUHB) as consultation about a new hospital being proposed and where it might be. The new locations (two in Whitland and one in St Clears) are a long way (over an hour?) from Dinas so none of the options are very good for our community.

The Consultation is taking place between 23 Feb 23 and 19 May 23.

**Action Request:** please can Elin write to the HDUHB to say that any downgrading of Withybush Hospital e.g. A&E department is of serious concern and that the Dinas Cross Community Council strongly object.

Eric also mentioned that nothing is being done for North Pembrokeshire and we ought to have more investment for here. Please can we request more investment.

**Date of the next meeting Tuesday May 2nd 2023, 6pm at YHY**

Apologies in advance from Tanya Horwood.

**AOB for next Meeting**

Post-meeting note. Harriet was asked by a villager if we could start a petition and put leaflets through everyone’s doors so that the local community are fully aware of what is going on. Facebook page was mentioned. To follow up at the next meeting.