**CYNGOR CYMUNED DINAS CROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14th December via Zoom

Members present – Lynne Upsdell (Vice Chair), Gareth Jones, Alison Parkes, Tanya Horwood, Phil Simpson (Chair), Bob Kilmister (County Councillor), Mike Parkes, Harriet Pemberton

Apologises – Eric Nicholas, Keith Battrick

Phil welcomed Fiona Cooper to the meeting as a potential new councillor.

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and proposed by Lynne Upsdell and 2nd by Harriet Pemberton

Audit Report – Deposit Account £7,185.95 Current Account £96.53

Clerk contract of employment and salary. Elin and Lynne had met and amended the contract as necessary. This had been sent out to all members for approval. All ok. Phil and Elin signed contract

Budget setting 2022/2023

Elin had prepared annual expenditure for year ending 2021 and up to date for year ending 2022. This was presented to the council. Please see attached documents and new budget proposal as agreed for 2022/2023. The Precept has been increased to £25,000 per annum. This would mean an average increase to residents of between £9.00 and £12.00 per year. The budget proposal and increase to precept was proposed by Gareth Jones and 2nd by Tanya Horwood.

Elin also pointed out that no return to date had been received from Welsh Audit. Bob pointed out that everything was running behind by months due to COVID.

Lynne also pointed out that she had a cheque for £300.00 for the purchase of the bench by WI Dinas Cross.

Matters Arising.

Tom Evans from Untangled Events who presented to the Council at the last meeting re Xmas Market/Fair to be held on the weekend of 18th/19th December has had to postpone the event in light of the situation surrounding the new Covid Omicron variant and the uncertainty of restrictions/risk that could arise following the Welsh government announcement. Tom’s plan is to hold a three-day event over the Easter Bank holiday. The Council were in full support and asked Elin to write and convey this and to also thank Tom for all his hard work so far. Elin also mentioned that Tom had said he had experienced difficulty with the committee at YHY. They were initially happy for him to hire the kitchen but when he went to visit with his chef last week, they had changed their minds. They said they had to do “With being burnt in the past”. Tom did manage to talk them around but with the condition of paying a hefty deposit and a signed contract. The CC were disappointed and could not understand why this was happening, as the addition of an event like this could only have a positive impact within the community

Phil asked Elin if Tom would be happy to send over a copy of the contract for the CC to read. Lynne would contact Rex and ask when there next meeting was in order that she attend as a council representative. All agreed this would be a good idea. Further discussion around this matter would take place at the next meeting.

Cwmsafe – It was agreed that the situation would be closely monitored next year and regular contact be kept with PCNP.

Allotments – The working group are taking over the allotments.

Playing Fields – Grant has been received and all play equipment ordered. Deposit being paid. Work to start in early 2022. A meeting would need to be called in early January to organise the removal of the old play equipment in readiness for installation and delivery of the new. Tanya to contact the committee and organise a date. Elin has applied for grants for Phase 3 -drainage on the remainder of the field.

Pwll Gwaelod – Still waiting a reply from David Cole re Barony Land. Elin to keep chasing. Still awaiting reply. Phil to write a formal letter

Bwlch Mawr – road repairs – nothing has been done as yet. Bob with take phots and re contact Trunk Road Agency. Bob Chasing

Wales & West Housing – Phil, Harriet, Elin, Gareth and Bob attended. Went well but would have been good to see some more people there. Issues have arisen regarding the name given to the new housing development which is Parc Brynach confirmed by Bob at this meeting. Eric was approached in the Ship Aground by members of the community to say they felt the new development should include the name Will George who’s field it originally was and who is from the village with a lot of history behind him which should be acknowledged and remembered. Eric sent a letter for the meeting which was read out by Phil. Harriet felt it was important as councillors to be able to say to residents if approached the correct answer as to why people’s names cannot be used. Gareth Suggested the possibility of a sign provided by West Wales Housing with some history of the field and Will George himself. Elin to write to Rhiannon Ling.

 Bob read out an email response from PCC re naming of streets etc.

“The Council have a very strict policy in line with other councils in the uk. Roads/streets cannot be named after individuals “

Eric also raised concerns via Phil re sewage for the new housing development. Was there enough capacity for the current station above Pwll Gwaelod to cope. Bob said there was as, Welsh Water had been part of the planning and consultation process. Bob also advised that testing at Pwll Gwaelod had been carried out through the summer and water quality was excellent with no failures. It was pointed out that there would always be a risk with overflow and run off due to heavy rainfall.

Cwm Yr Eglwys – sea wall large hole – PCC are fully aware and will repair.

Induction Loop at YHY. A system has been purchased and is awaiting installation by a sound engineer from Theatr Gwaun.

Poppies and Wreaths – Poppy boxes ordered for next year.

Armistice Service Sunday 14th November – All went well. A number of people attended for refreshments prior to service which was good to see. Good turnout for service.

Manorowen update – no closure planned but hours have been reduced. You can now book a slot on the day.

Xmas Tree – An artificial tree was bought but was not suitable and has been returned. It needs to be slightly smaller approx. 3 or 4m. Phil had seen a good way of securing the tree and we will buy one for next year. A real tree had been delivered to the school.

**Correspondence**

Newport SLSC are refurbishing their clubhouse and are looking for financial support. They have applied for EPG grant as well as setting up a Giving page and other fundraising activities. All in favour donate £100.00 Lynne Upsdell proposed 2nd by Alison Parkes

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

All applications had previously been emailed to all council members

Fron Helyg – All good

Morning Start – all good

1, Tower Hill –Put back as was

**AOB**

Lynne had received a letter re a neighbourhood app. Bob confirmed this was a marketing product only.

Gareth has been contacted by a journalist about giving an interview re second homes. This was conveyed to Bob and Gareth declined the interview.

Gareth had been approached by a couple of residents saying that rubbish had been left behind after rubbish collection. Bob pointed out that due to shortages some teams were not familiar with the area and this was causing a problem, if the problem persists to let Bob know.

**Date of the next meeting Tuesday 4th January 2022 6pm 2021 via Zoom**