**Llanddewi Velfrey Community Council**

**Minutes of normal meeting held Tuesday 11th January 2022**

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

Cllr Lewis as Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1 – Apologies for absence**. There were no apologies for absence.

**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 Thomas and seconded by Cllr Eynon, agreed by all present. They would be duly signed at the earliest opportunity.

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

**A40 update**. The latest newsletter from the contractors had been widely circulated in the last fortnight. The 30mph limit had been introduced on the main road, and signage for some back roads stating no through road – local access only had also been put up. Concerns regarding speeding traffic already taking the old Pengawse Road were raised – the Clerk would contact the contractors to request additional signage to cover that route.

The newsletter had mentioned community benefits. The list compiled previously was re-considered, and it was agreed to pass this to the liaison officers, adding in a request for support with the Queen’s Green Canopy – specifically the planting of a tree and provision of a plaque for the occasion. The Clerk would contact accordingly, and also ask what environmental work would be carried out to generally benefit the community.

It was mentioned that archaeological investigations had apparently found roundhouse remains at the west end of the bypass construction area near Penblewin.

**Overhanging trees**. The Council were pleased to know that these had now been removed.

**Remembrance Service.** This had been well-attended and thanks were expressed to those who organised and participated. A collection had been made of £142.00 which had been sent on to the Royal British Legion directly. No formal receipt had yet been received.

**5 – New business.**

**Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.** It was discussed how the Council might mark this event and agreed that the planting of a rowan tree with an associated plaque in the Play Area would be suitable. The Clerk would contact Alun Griffiths to see whether this could be provided from within their community benefit provision. It was also hoped to have a community party and light a beacon during the long Bank Holiday weekend – Cllr Lewis was in discussions with CADW regarding the beacon.

County Cllr David Simpson joined the meeting during the following item.

**Council budget for 2022-23.** The Clerk had previously circulated information on the current year’s expenditure and budget and a proposal for 2022-23 for discussion. This was also provided on screen to aid the discussion. After consideration a sum specifically to cover the Jubilee tree was added in case it was required, and the budget for the coming year was agreed by all.

**Council precept.** Following on from the above discussion, it was agreed that the Council should request a precept of £4500.00 from Pembrokeshire County Council to cover their anticipated expenditure for the year. The Clerk would make this request accordingly.

**Donation request**. A request had been received from the Noah’s Ark Children’s Charity. This and any other donation requests would be considered in the March meeting.

**Speedwatch group**. A query had been raised in the meeting with Alun Griffith’s officers as to whether the Council might wish to participate in a local speedwatch group. This was discussed and it was agreed that the extensive 30mph limit now in place would be likely to reduce the issue, especially with the promised monitoring by the contractors and GoSafe. It was also felt that joining the group would be a matter for individuals, not the Council as a whole. The Clerk would pass these views back to the contractors, and confirm whether they would be using their own speed monitoring equipment as suggested as well as GoSafe’s monitoring the road. She would also ask whether the contractors could provide any feedback on speeds recorded in graph or spreadsheet format to the Council for information.

**6 – County Councillor’s report.** Cllr Simpson spoke about the wave of covid-19 infection that was having a serious impact upon not just the individuals concerned but also upon the County’s business infrastructure with employers throughout the County having to cope with staff shortages. He went into detail on the impact being felt by the local Health Board especially, and number of individuals impacted by the lack of suitable care packages and carers.

He then spoke briefly upon the upcoming Wales Audit report due this week on decisions that were made in PCC during 2020.

A query was raised regarding the fencing along the pavement near Ivy Cottage – this had been put in when the pavement was widened but the posts were now rotting. Cllr Simpson stated that it would probably be the Trunk Road Agency’s responsibility, but he would look into it.

A query was raised regarding the timetable for the revised Local Development Plan. Cllr Simpson stated he would check upon this and get back to the Council with the latest information.

**7 – Correspondence received.**

* One Voice Wales remote training. This was noted.
* Older People’s Commissioner for Wales – online engagement sessions. This was noted.
* Welsh Government consultation on planning and second homes and short term lets. This was noted.
* PCC information on their budget for 2022-23 including a consultation. This was noted.

**8 - Planning:**

Planning application: 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.

**9 - Finance:**

Bank balance main account £6198.49 as of 1st January 2022

Bank balance second account: £20.00 as of 1st January 2022

Bank balance business interest account: £5606.02 as of 1st January 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 December, January
* Clerk’s expenses for December, January
* Clerk’s tax December, January
* Hall insurance - £760.34

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

Since the meeting was being held remotely, and in accordance with the Welsh Government requirement to work from home, it was noted that the cheques could not be signed. It was agreed that the payments would be made by online banking and suitable records kept to ensure that there was a clear audit trail and evidence for the payments.

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

A query was raised as to when PCC might start taking in and recycling soft plastics as some shops were now doing. Cllr Simpson stated that there were plans to upgrade the recycling facilities within Pembrokeshire in the next couple of years.

**11 - Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting was agreed for Wednesday 9th March 2022, starting at 8.00pm, and that it was intended it would be in person in the upstairs room of the Hall unless Government restrictions or requirements to provide remote access necessitated it be a Zoom meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.