**CYNGOR CYMUNED CASMAEL /** **PUNCHESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

A meeting of Puncheston Community Council was on 26 October 2022 at Smyrna Vestry, Puncheston at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Mrs. Anne Thomas, Mr. Dewi Lewis, Mr. Wyn Williams, Cllr. Delme Harries and Mrs. Eirian Forrest (Clerk).

**Presentation** by Micheal O’Broin & Seumas Skinner, Statkraft -Trecwn Green Energy Hub.

Trecwn Green Energy Hub is being developed by Statkraft and is the company's first green hydrogen project to be announced in the UK. The hub is the first of several projects planned by Statkraft, which would create jobs and utilise local knowledge and skills, helping transport switch from using fossil fuels to clean alternatives.

The Pembrokeshire plant, which is planned to be constructed on the site would generate approximately three tonnes of green hydrogen a day. This is enough to run a single bus for over 40,000 miles, or the equivalent of making 350 journeys from Fishguard to Cardiff. Whereas hydrogen is traditionally extracted from fossil fuels, Statkraft's proposal for Trecwn is for green hydrogen - which is extracted from water in a process powered by electricity generated by renewable energy.

In this case, from three wind turbines and ground-mounted solar panels, free from carbon emissions. It is intended that green hydrogen generated at Trecwn will be used to power trains running on railway lines west of Swansea, providing many of the benefits of electrification, such as using a zero-carbon fuel, but at considerably lower capital costs and with fewer requirements for new infrastructure. It could also power Pembrokeshire Council's fleet of HGV lorries and buses, with the site able to produce enough green hydrogen to run around 170 buses every day, when operational.

As the proposed facility will generate more than 10MW of renewable electricity it is defined as a Development of National Significance. The planning application will therefore be submitted to Planning and Environmental Decisions Wales (PEDW) with the final decision made by Welsh ministers. Early site investigations have started and Statkraft will shortly be submitting a scoping request to PEDW to ensure the appropriate environmental studies are carried out as the proposals are developed.

Micheal O’Broin & Seumas Skinner left the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Mrs. Susan Collins, Mrs. Samantha Lewis, Mr. Jamie Williams.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting (28.09.22)** Copies of the minutes of the last meeting had been distributed to members, it was agreed that they were a true record and were to be signed.
3. **Matters arising from the minutes**
* Repairs to telephone kiosk at Little Newcastle – No update.
* Happy to Chat bench – Bench has been delivered to Delme’s address. Waiting for the slab to be put in place.
* Gift and meal for Bob Kilmister – Anne will arrange to drop Bob’s gift off and will get Nicola a bouquet of flowers also.
* Dog fouling – Delme has not been able to put up any signs yet.
* 20 mph zone – No update.
* Sewerage smell by Heol Dewi – No update.
* Annual Audit – The audit paperwork has been posted.
* Code of Conduct Training – Anne could not attend the training after. In Susan’s and Samantha’s absence no update given.
* PCC Development Participation Strategy – In Samantha’s absence - No update.
* 4 Park Avenue – removal of front wall and caravan in situ – No update.
* No Dog signs at play area – Wyn arranged for two signs and has put one on the gate and one on the fence. Payment of £25.00 was made (Chq 661).
* Tree Planting – Susan and Samantha met with Richard Vaughan to discuss options for planting trees in the area. One suggestion was to plant an apple tree in the play area. It was suggested to plant one each end of the Happy to Chat bench and to ask Richard’s advice on which tree would be suitable. A list of trees was circulated.
* Stay Safe in the Home Initiative – Eirian to add a post on Facebook.

Delme gave various updates and left the meeting.

1. **Highway matters**
2. Delme said that the resurfacing of the road from Little Newcastle to Letterston has been done.
3. Resurfacing works have started on the Trecwn to Puncheston road.
4. A faulty streetlight by the bridge outside Maesyrafon has been reported.
5. **Planning**

Nil

1. **Puncheston Village Green wall and path – Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant**

No update.

1. **Jack Davies – DoE Award**

A report has been received from Jack who as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award who over 13 weeks litter picked on five different roads leading to Puncheston. Many bags of rubbish were collected, some roads were worse than others, around 50% of the rubbish was recyclable.

A letter of thanks will be sent to Jack.

1. **Finance**
* Accounts and draft budget were circulated to members prior to the meeting.
* Barclays account balance as of 29 September 2022 - £753.01. Two unpresented cheques totalling £197.57. A VAT claim has been submitted for £1278.34.
* Draft budget – Predicted expenditure - £6934.57 Projected receipts - £7032.35, due to two Audit Wales invoices pending, grass cutting in the play area, potential replacement defibrillator pads, and the ongoing works to the village green it was suggested and agreed to keep the precept for 2023/2024 at £4800.00.
1. **Section 6 Biodiversity and ecosystems resilience duty**

A draft report was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The report was agreed and will be published.

1. **Correspondence**

Thank you card from Anne for her birthday card and present.

1. **Any other matters**
2. Wyn reported that the bus shelter needs painting in 2023.
3. Dewi said the book swap box at the bus shelter is popular and suggested getting a cabinet to hold the books in 2023.
4. Dewi has finished repairing and stained the two benches and are ready to be put in the play area. Dewi will bring receipts in for the materials next month.
5. Anne suggested that a notice should be placed in the notice boards informing residents which Community Councilor represent their area.
6. Delme asked about donation for two wreaths for the remembrance service. It was agreed to discuss in the next meeting.
7. Delme at Full Council (PCC) questioned why Ysgol Casmael is not getting funds for outside learning area as per the Welsh Government Bill. Currently there is no budget to provide this.
8. Delme has been appointed PCC’s Welsh Language Champion and Children and Young People’s Champion.

The meeting finished at 9.40 pm

Date of the next meeting is 30 November 2022.

**Signed……………………………………………………………………………………………**

**Date………………………………………………….**