**Llanddewi Velfrey Community Council**

**Minutes of normal meeting held Wednesday 8th November 2023**

Present: Cllrs, Jamie Lewis, Wynn Griffiths, Tudor Eynon, Edward Howells, Keith Thomas and County Cllr David Simpson.

**1 – Apologies for absence**.

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

**3 – Questions from members of the public.** There were no questions from any members of the public.

**4 - Minutes of previous meetings**.

There were accepted as a true record and agreed by all present. They were therefore signed.

**5 - Matters arising from previous meeting**.

**A40 bypass.**  The seventh quarterly LALC meeting had been held, and matters discussed included the upcoming closure near Narberth, which was now put back until March, and would most likely be for between three and four weeks only. Proposals to site electric car charging points in the centre of the village by Griffiths as a community benefit were discussed – it was agreed that the Council were in favour in principle, but would appreciate a meeting in person with the relevant people to agree the details. The Clerk would contact Griffiths accordingly.

Concern was also expressed about parking near the Henllanfallteg junction once the work was all completed. This would be taken up with PCC at that time if it was an issue, with double yellow lines a possible option for safety reasons.

Griffiths were also currently planning on work to renovate the plinth and sign opposite the Village Hall as a community benefit. They would be providing a wreath for a young person to lay at the upcoming Remembrance Service.

**Internal Auditor**. The Clerk had previously explained that best practice was to consider changing the internal auditor periodically to ensure that the Council was acting properly and in accordance with the law at all times. The Council had agreed that ‘fresh eyes’ could be of benefit. Accordingly the Clerk had contacted internal auditors who worked locally, and one had agreed to undertake this work for the Council at the same rate as the current auditor. The Council was therefore pleased to appoint the new Internal Auditor, to commence work in April 2024 with this year’s accounts.

**6 – New business.**

**Acknowledge receipt of the completed 2022-23 audit from Audit Wales** – there were no issues to report.

**Pembrokeshire community boundary review.** This was discussed at length, and it was noted that there would be no compulsory mergers of community councils as a result. It was agreed that the Clerk should draft a response to send off on the matter.

**7 – County Councillor’s report**. Cllr David Simpson reported that he had been involved in discussions with Griffiths on various matters, and had supported the request to have lane resurfacing carried out, but this had failed because it was a BOAT not a public highway.

He also spoke about the wider improvements happening in the County, such as the Haverfordwest car park / transport interchange and the Ocky White development (including 240 bodies discovered which caused inevitable delays). He emphasised that the vast majority of the funding came from capital grants brought into the County, not from Pembrokeshire’s own funds.

**8 – Correspondence received.**

* One Voice Wales remote training. This was noted.
* Pembrokeshire consultation – polling districts, places and stations. This was noted.
* OPCC invitation to open day in November for Councillors. This was noted.
* Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service 2040 consultation. This was noted.
* Ombudsman for Wales list of advocacy/advice agencies. This was noted.

**9 - Planning:**

No planning had been received for consideration at this meeting.

**10 - Finance:**

Bank balance main account £3134.18 as of 30th October 2023

Bank balance second account: £25.00 as of 30th October 2023

Bank balance interest account: £8135.83 as of 30th October 2023

Income received – £0

Invoices/contractual/other payments to consider:

* Clerk’s monthly salary for October, November
* Clerk’s expenses for October, November
* Clerk’s tax October, November
* Royal British Legion – wreath - £18.00

These payments were all agreed by those present and it was also agreed to have them made online, with bank and payment evidence provided to Councillors by email.

It was agreed for the Clerk to continue to transfer £5 to and from the main account to the lesser used reserve account periodically to keep the account marked as active.

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

Concerns were raised again about the number and frequency of the Atlantic waste lorries travelling through the village and the waste being dumped in Pembrokeshire from elsewhere. There was a lot of disquiet about this being expressed locally. Cllr Simpson stated that it was a private company undertaking the work, the site would have been licensed by the Environment Agency, and there was nothing that PCC could do about it.

The Clerk stated that the January meeting would include consideration of the budget for 2024-25, and the precept.

**11 - Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting was agreed for Wednesday 10th January 2024 starting at 8.00pm.

There being no other business to consider, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.