

LLAWHADEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
INCORPORATING LLAWHADEN, ROBESTON WATHEN, GELLI & BETHESDA

Minutes for the Community Council virtual meeting held on Thursday 3rd December 2020 at 20:00hrs, via Zoom.

Present:

Hugh Watchman (Chairman)

Samantha Hebblethwaite

Catherine Hancock

Tracey Watkins

Di Clements (County Council)

Samantha Philipps-Harries (Clerk)

1. Chairman's Remarks

The chairman welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting and thanked everyone that was able to help plant the trees at the Llawhaden sports field.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Michael Barnes.

3. Declaration of Members Interests

There was no declaration of members interests.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting – 5th November 2020

Minutes of the last meeting held on 5th November 2020 were confirmed as a true record. Proposed by Samantha H and seconded by Catherine.

5. Matters Arising There From

a. Highways Projects update: -

Robeston Wathen – the budget for Robeston Wathen was now spent.

Bethesda – the budget for Bethesda was now spent.

Gelli – a warning sign was an option for the village gateway. A solar power warning sign was estimated at £4000; a second estimate was being sought. A speed survey for Gelli was hoped to be actioned in 2021, but as the speed limit is 60mph it was unlikely to highlight excess speeds. Di informed the meeting that the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) hoped to reduce the speed limits in rural areas by 2023.

b. Sports Field, Llawhaden Update – message from Mr & Mrs Gallagher, Llawhaden residents. Mr & Mrs Gallagher supported the plan of planting trees and traditional hedgerows. The plan to site beehives at the site would be investigated further, Tracey agreed to contact a local beekeeper, and Catherine agreed to speak to the Pembrokeshire Beekeeping Society. It was felt the field would benefit from rab being placed at the gateway and a new gate being sited at the entrance.

6. Finance

a. NatWest Bank Account Balances for 5th December 2020:

Current Account - £5045.21 Reserve Account - £1437.52

b. Grant Thornton Audit Certificate and Report for Year Ending March 2020 had been received and no issues had been raised. The notice of conclusion had been uploaded on to the Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) Town & Community Council Website.

c. Invoice for printing of Winter Newsletter 2020 - £75.00. It was agreed to pay the invoice for the printing of the newsletter proposed by Catherine and seconded by Samantha H.

7. Correspondence

a. Welsh Assembly Government – Appropriate Sum under Section 137(4) (A) of the Local Government Act 1972 – Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2021-22 = £8.41 per elector – noted.

Signed:

Chair of Llawhaden Community Council

Dated: 7th January 2021

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8. Planning

- a. Coed Llwyn Drain, Drim Wood, Gelli: erection of a forestry shed for storage and shelter – conditionally approved (20/0084/PA).

9. Points of interest raised by the County Councillor

- a. Planning: The Services and Scrutiny Committee have agreed to observe the planning every 6 months to ensure regulations are being met.
- b. The Riverside Shopping Area: Di had “called it in” to question the decision to purchase. It was believed that funding would be from capital funding and not revenue. Di acknowledged that she agrees with regeneration, but questioned whether this is the best use of resources for the county?
- c. Budget: there was a proposal to request a 5% increase in the Council Tax for 2021/2022.
- d. Interim Chief Executive at PCC: Richard Brown had been employed in this role. An Employment Agency has been employed to encourage candidates to apply for the permanent role.
- e. Visit Pembrokeshire: Di now sits on the board for Visit Pembrokeshire.

10. Any Other Business

- a. Beacons (Natural Resources Wales (NRW)) Pilot Scheme: Catherine had been approached regarding a pilot scheme to plant trees, in pivotal locations throughout the ward, with an autumnal hue to represent Armistice Day. All councillors present felt this was a good idea and agreed to take part in the scheme. The green in Llawhaden and Bethesda were proposed as locations for the beacons. Catherine agreed to let NRW of the council’s interest in the scheme.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 7th January 2021 at 20:00hrs, location to be decided in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

As there were no further business the meeting closed at 20:55 hrs.

Signed:
Chair of Llawhaden Community Council

Dated: 7th January 2021