

YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 18 May 2022
at 7.30pm at Cradoc Golf Course

Councillors present: Valerie Davies Bob Wood Rebecca Watkins
Jane Price Geoff Watkins Kate Dunning

Also present: Michael Westhorpe (Clerk) Cllr Iain McIntosh
Jane Joseph (New Clerk)

22/05/1 Apologies for absence

22/05/1.1 Cllr Dilys Davies was at a wedding.

22/05/2 Declarations of Interest

22/05/2.1 There were no declarations of interest

22/05/3 Election of Chairman

22/05/3.1 Cllr Kate Dunning nominated Cllr Jane Price. This was seconded by Cllr Bob Wood. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Jane Price was elected as Chairman. Cllr Jane Price thanked everyone for there support.

22/05/4 Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

22/05/4.1 This was signed.

22/05/5 Election of Vice Chairman

22/05/5.1 Cllr Jane Price proposed Cllr Bob Wood and this was seconded by Cllr Geoff Watkins. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Bob Wood was elected as Vice Chairman

22/05/6 To receive a report from PCSO Alex Daniels

22/05/6.1 PCSO Alex Daniels was unable to attend the meeting but he had sent a written report indicating that 3 calls had been received in the last month about suspicious activity and fraud. Patrols had taken place in the Aberyscir area to try and spot off road bikes being used but none had been seen.

22/05/6.2 Cllr Valerie Davies reported that 2 people had been seen riding an off road bike followed by a white Audi. This pattern has occurred several times. Cllr Rebecca Watkins reported that there was also a black BMW series 3 with 2 bikes using Aberyscir Common. The Clerk was asked to report this back to PCSO Alex Daniels.

22/05/7 To confirm acceptance of the Code of Conduct, to update the register of Members' interests and to receive councillors' declarations of acceptance of office

22/05/7.1 All members signed the declaration of acceptance of office confirming their acceptance of the Code of Conduct. The register of members' interests was updated.

22/05/8 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 23 March 2021

22/05/8.1 It was agreed that the minutes should be signed as a true and accurate record of the last meeting.

22/05/9. Clerk's report including information from minutes

22/05/9.1 Cllr Geoff Watkins confirmed that David Lewis had not been in touch about the verge by the seats in Aberbran. Someone had put some stones by the verge to discourage vehicles driving on the grass.

22/05/10 To review the Council's Financial Regulations

22/05/10.1 The financial regulations were approved unchanged, other than to record the date of approval in line with the recommendation by the internal auditor.

22/05/11 To review the Council's Standing Orders

22/05/11.1 These were approved with a small amendment to make voting for a minor authority representative a secret vote.

22/05/12 To appoint a governor to Cradoc School

22/05/12.1 Cllr Kate Dunning was unanimously appointed as a school governor.

22/05/13 To confirm membership and remit of the Planning Committee

22/05/13.1 It was agreed that all councillors would be members of the Planning Committee. It was confirmed that the remit of the Planning Committee would be to consider any planning applications that cannot be considered at a scheduled council meeting and to make responses to the relevant planning authority.

22/05/14 To discuss the internal auditor's report and to approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2022 (circulated by email)

22/05/14.1 The internal auditor's report was approved. A recommendation was made to increase the level of reserves. As the Council had budgeted for election costs that would not now be incurred, the level of reserves are expected to increase significantly. It was also recommended that standing orders and financial regulations should include the date of approval. This has been actioned by the Clerk.

22/05/14.2 The accounting statement of the Annual Return, which had been previously circulated was approved. All questions in the annual governance statement were agreed. The Annual Return was approved.

22/05/15 To receive an update on the Cradoc School proposals

22/05/15.1 Cllr Rebecca Watkins reported on the progress of the legal challenge. A positive meeting with the barrister had taken place and the business case was being submitted shortly.

22/05/15.2 Cllr Iain McIntosh reported that he had submitted a motion to Powys County Council proposing that the new administration should take the closure of Cradoc, Dolau and Llanbedr schools off the table. For procedural reasons it may not be possible to take this motion to the meeting on 26 May though Cllr Iain McIntosh was appealing against this. If necessary this motion will be heard on 14 July but if successful, this will not give Dolau and Llanbedr schools much time to reverse the closure which is due to happen in September.

22/05/16 Financial Matters

22/05/16.1 The Clerk's hours for March and April (48), pay (£471.81) and expenses (£45) were approved. The HMRC payment of £164.20, the internal audit fee (£65), handover payment to the new clerk (£39.10) and litter pick refreshments (£20) were approved.

22/05/16.2 The Clerk reported that the cashbook showed a balance of around £5,121 after the above expenditure is taken into account. The budget monitoring spreadsheet indicated that the balances at the end of the year would be around £5,591.

22/05/17 To consider arrangements for the Queen's Jubilee and to approve the risk assessment for the bonfire beacon

22/05/17.1 The risk assessment and training document were approved. The Clerk was thanked for his work on this. The Council also expressed its appreciation and thanks to Ian Griffiths who was building the bonfire beacon and preparing the site. It was agreed to start publicising the event and to ask the school

to assist with this.

22/05/17.2 Email correspondence from the school to Cllr Jane Price about the school's jubilee party on 27 May was discussed. The Clerk was asked to write to the acting head teacher to clarify who was actually being invited to the event.

22/05/17.3 Cllr Jane Price reported that she had been asked by a member of the community if the Council would be sending a card to the Queen to congratulate her on her platinum jubilee. This was agreed and the Clerk was asked to do this.

22/05/18 To consider alternative sites for the Queen's Green Canopy Project

22/05/18.1 There was a discussion about where to plant trees but no conclusion was reached. Cllr Kate Dunning volunteered to acquire some trees from the Woodland Trust. There was support for buying a plaque to commemorate the initiative.

22/05/19 Correspondence

a) Request for support by Wales Air Ambulance

22/05/19.1 The Council decided to carry on with the existing policy of not supporting any charities.

22/05/20 To consider attendance at an induction meeting for councillors on 8 June in Llanfihangel Nant Bran (see email from Cllr Jane Price)

22/05/20.1 Jane Joseph explained that the date had been changed to 15 June. There had been a number of changes in recent years so the training would be useful to existing as well as new councillors. Cllrs Jane Price, Geoff Watkins and Rebecca Watkins said that they would attend the event and it was agreed to share the cost (£50 total, £25 to Yscir) with Trallong Community Council.

22/05/21 Issues to report to Powys County Council

22/05/22.1 Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he was going round the area taking photographs of potholes and reporting them to Powys County Council. This increases the chance of the potholes being repaired as Powys County Council could be liable for any damage caused to vehicles. Cllr Kate Dunning mentioned the poor state of the path beneath houses in Cradoc. Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he had reported this several years ago but would do so again.

22/05/22.1 It was noted that the road narrows sign needed for Cradoc Road had still not been installed.

22/05/22 Any planning applications that arrived after the agenda was sent out

22/05/22.1 There were none.

22/05/23 Feedback from newsletter distribution

22/05/23.1 The clerk was given amendments to the newsletter distribution list for next year.

22/05/24 Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Wednesday 13 July 2022 (7.30pm)

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

