

# Aberhafesp Community Council

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Minutes of the Aberhafesp Community Council held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 via Zoom.

1. **Welcome**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Declaration of Interest**
4. **Minutes of previous meeting**
5. **Matters arising**
6. **Appointment of new Councillor**
7. **Financial Update**
  - 1) **Bank Reconciliation.**
  - 2) **VAT claim**
  - 3) **Review Election Arrangements**
8. **Planning - 21/0353/HH Erection of carport & fuel store - Hazel Grove, Aberhafesp.**
9. **Speeding - Bwlch y Ffridd**
10. **Road Safety Issues and Road Safety Review - Aberhafesp.**
11. **Road signs - Aberhafesp/b**
12. **Code of Conduct**
13. **Correspondence**
  - 1) **One Voice Wales Membership**
14. **County Councillor update**
15. **Other Issues**

**Present:** Cllrs. N Hamer (chair), R Jones (Vice), G Green, A Nutting, J Hopkins, R Amy, S Pryce, C Cllr. Hulme, Mrs R Hamer (clerk)

**Also present:** Ankur - Aberhafesp Hall

1. **Welcome** - The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and to Cllr Pryce who was recently elected and fills the vacancy. Everyone was reminded to stay on mute unless they were speaking.
2. **Apologies** - None
3. **Declaration of interest** - None
4. **The minutes of previous meeting** had been sent out to all councillors. Proposed Cllr. Nutting, seconded Cllr. Hopkins. All in agreement minutes to be adopted.
5. **Matters arising** - Bank Farm - Pending Consideration  
Ty Coed Afalau - Approved RESOLVED  
Holiday Lodges Bethel - Application Withdrawn RESOLVED  
Crematorium Aberhafesp - Pending Consideration  
Sewerage works Aberhafesp - Cllr Jones to take on land and make safe himself. RESOLVED  
Pot holes - Point pitch and Tyn y Pales on job sheet with Highways to be completed in suitable weather and when machinery available.
6. **Appointment of new Councillor** - Clerk had been to see Cllr. Pryce to fill in and sign relevant paperwork as unable to do during virtual meeting.
7. **Financial Update** - Bank £34150.01 including £30000 from sale of land. VAT had been claimed and received £256.88. It had been agreed that polling cards and postal vote applications would be sent out to electors at an additional cost of approx. £220.00 in addition to the estimated cost of election £1000 -£1500, invoice yet to be received. Mrs Sian Griffiths had agreed to be the internal auditor

again this year, clerk reminded that there was £50 in the budget to offer for doing this. Clerk advised that the new external audit arrangements were to be delayed by a year due to a large number of councils still not completed last year's audit. The donation of £1250 was usually sent to Community Association, if this was sent there would be £648 left in reserves due to the cost of the election. It was decided to reduce donation to £625. £1250 had been donated earlier in the year, and they had also received a grant for £10,000, with no costs this last year due to Covid and the centre had been closed. Proposed Cllr Hopkins, seconded Cllr Green.

8. **Planning 21/0353/HH Erection of carport and fuel store Hazel Grove.** It was decided to send no comments to planning department.
9. **Speeding - Bwlch y Ffridd** - An officer had been out and surveyed the area. A number of new repeater 30MPH signs would be erected to try to ensure motorists adhered to the speed limit. There was not the volume of traffic to do a speed assessment.
10. **Road safety issues and road safety review Aberhafesp** - Cllr Amy initially emailed C Cllr Hulme, but then also emailed Russel George MS. Chris Lloyd Senior Highways Officer PCC, was due to go out and inspect Aberhafesp, but this has now delayed the safety review due to Purdah. This is because Community Council cannot provide an election candidate with information going forward to assist or benefit a politician before an election. The results of the review therefore will not be known until towards the end of May. C Cllr. Hulme had driven through Aberhafesp since and noted that there were a number of signs that should not be there. Making enquiries as an individual, if the signs were removed the Community Council would be challenged on this. The Community Council need to be aware of local issues. It was thought that Cllr Amy was rather impatient in pursuing through Russel George MS. The speed watch van had been out in the village recently. Cllr Amy responded that there was no point in going through Community Council as a local resident had tried this in 2018 and had not got a satisfactory answer. Cllr. Amy copied Russell George MS and other residents as he found Chris Lloyd to be unhelpful. Cllr. Amy was told that no mirror could be erected on the verge. It could not be erected in the field as the hedge was too large and the field behind sloped downhill. He did not see why PCC could not ask Department for Transport for permission. Chris Lloyd only had to travel 4 miles up the road to review! C. Cllr Hulme, Chris Lloyd had agreed to do review but could not commit due to Cllr. Amy contacting Russell George MS. Chris Lloyd covers the whole of Powys and could not just pop up the road to review. Cllr. Amy was reminded to be careful with the tone of his emails. There was new legislation with regards to 20mph, this would be taken into account when the safety review was done. PCC do not approve of mirrors on verges, that was the policy. There were new residents at Aberhafesp Hall they would have entered and exited using the entrance when purchasing the hall. They should take the opportunity to talk to the neighbouring property about visibility. Chris Lloyd will carry out survey and report back to the Community Council, as to options going forward. Cllr Amy responded - 20mph would never get. Mirrors accept PCC policy but think it should be reviewed. New residents the potential new crematorium and holiday camp would increase traffic. Neighbouring property has a large wall. None of these options are solutions. Chair - Ann Griffiths came to a meeting in 2018 and it was reported back to her that there were not enough properties to extend the 30mph speed limit. Community Council now had to wait until Chris Lloyd had done his review. Cllr Jones- The concerns of the residents should have been brought to the Community Council and should not have been acted on as an individual. You cannot act on behalf of the Community Council; this is in the code of conduct. You are a Community Councillor and it needs to go through the meeting so there is a paper trail. C Cllr Hulme, members are reminded of the code of conduct there could be historical or future consequences acting as an individual, it needs to go through a meeting. 8.13pm Cllr Amy informed the meeting that he resigns and left the meeting. Cllr Green enquired if when he reported the concerns of the egg lorries was he correct to go to C Cllr Hulme. C Cllr Hulme was ok with this, she was concerned about the number of emails and had received 35 email exchanges on the subject matter between Cllr Amy, herself and Chris Lloyd.

Ankur owner of Aberhafesp Hall – Felt that the issue in exiting the hall was like a Russian Roulette, yes it was in a 30mph zone, but vehicles were travelling faster. He has a young family and does not find it safe and would appreciate if something could be suggested or done. Chair – As a Community Council we understand your concerns, but would now have to wait until the safety review had been done and the findings reported back.

11. **Road signs Aberhafesp/b** – C Cllr Hulme had been in contact with Cllr. Myfanwy, she agreed with residents that the signs should be with a P. Any new signs will be with a P.

12. **Code of Conduct** – covered in point 10 above.

13. **Correspondence** – Membership for One Voice Wales for year £70, agreed that would sign up to again, as very useful.

Montgomeryshire Community Awards it was decided to put forward either Gemma Owen or Aberhafesp YFC as an individual or group. C Cllr Hulme pointed out that the email had come from Craig Williams MP and to make sure that the link for the awards was used and to not go through the Conservative website as Community Council needed to be neutral.

14. **County Councillor Update** – The census has gone very well especially online, which was easier to do. March report was due out after the easter break. C Cllr Hulme was shocked as to why an election was called to fill the vacancy at the great expense of the Community Council. It was explained that 10 residents had written in to request an election and there was nothing the Community Council could do, procedures had to be followed. If no election was requested, we would have co-opted somebody on at no expense.

15. **Other Issues** – Blocked drain next to Aberhafesp Church and blocked gutters on road from bottom of Garreglwyd to junction of Aberhafesp had been reported as a lot of water running across road and was icy during the cold weather. There had been one car accident.

It was decided to set up a Facebook page for the Community Council to put up the agenda and other information related to the Community Council. It was proposed by Cllr Hamer and seconded by Cllr Jones to trial for 12 months to see how it worked, it was noted that the administrator would be able to remove inappropriate or offensive comments. Clerk to set up and monitor.

No other issues the chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed at 8.40pm