

LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDEILIO BERTHOLAU

Council website address-www.llantiliopertholeycc.org.uk

Chairman/Cadeiriad
Councillor M Hayward
Deri-Down
Hereford Road
Abergavenny,
Monmouthshire
NP7 6HT
Tel: 01873 853336
Mob: 07951 208554

Clerk/Clerc
Mr. R. Wade
4 The Coach House
Penoyre Estate
Cradoc
Brecon
Powys
LD3 9LP
Tel: 01874 409890
Mob: 07502 590038

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY
COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY
COMMUNITY HALL ON THE 22ND DAY OF MARCH 2023

Those attending: Councillors M Hayward (Chair), M Skinner (Vice-Chair), G G Cowan, Ms N Watkins, C Harry and A Barber. Also in attendance were the Clerk, Mr Robert Wade, and Mrs Marjorie Bennett from the Skirrid was also present on the floor of the meeting.

1 Apologies for absence.

Apologies were tendered by Councillors M Ewers, Rev J Gray, S Salway, M Edwards, K Eldridge and S Baugh. County Councillors Sue McConnel and Rev Malcolm Lane also gave their apologies for their absence as *ex officio* members.

2 Declaration of interests.

It was agreed that these could be tendered as and when they arose during the meeting.

3 Discussion on policing issues with Gwent Police personnel

The Police report for February 2023 was available and had been distributed by the Clerk by e-mail. The Clerk said that PCSO Ionescu had said that a police representative might be present at the next meeting. It was noted that there appeared to be a rise in Anti-Social Behaviour, and the Clerk said he would ask PCSO Ionescu about that in particular. Councillor Harry said that, immediately after the last meeting, he had witnessed cars careering round the Fairfield Car Park, at great speed and without lights, and with no visible police presence. The Chair asked when the car park was locked that evening. It was agreed that this point could be put to PCSO Ionescu as well.

4 To receive the Monthly update reports from County Councillors

Neither County Councillor was present. The Clerk said that he suspected that all attention was on the forthcoming budget.

5 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th February 2023.

The Minutes were approved as a true record, The Chair proposing and Councillor Barber seconding the proposal.

6 To consider Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th February 2023

(a) Page 2 – 4(b) – The Clerk said that County Councillor Lane had sent him a report and photograph, which he would forward to the Council, showing the footpath from the Willow Court estate to Greystones beautifully tarmaced over, but ending abruptly with what the Chair said was a flattened out section at the Greystones end. County Councillor Lane could be asked about that at the next meeting.

(b) Page 3 – 6(b) – the Clerk said that he was still investigating the issue of Wi-Fi. He knew there was a telephone line and box in the Hall, but didn't know how it could be adapted, nor what the cost might be. Councillors Cowan and Watkins said that they were aware that a fuse had been taken out to disable the telephone which had been there. The cost was of the order of £40 per month, and it was rarely used, so it had not been thought right to retain it.

(c) Page 3 – 6(c) – Councillor Ms N Watkins questioned whether she had used the expression “no comment” when asked about the Lloyds Bank account. The Clerk said she definitely had, but he accepted that, when the Clerk said he would take as a “no”, she said nothing in response.

(d) Page 3 – 6(e) – Councillor Harry confirmed that Mardy AFC had obtained pre-application approval for the container. The issue was expected to be decided on the 17th April. Councillor Barber said that its location had been queried. The Clerk said there was a photograph but unfortunately no plan which expressly stated where it was to be. Councillor Harry said it would be near the school rubbish bins. There was no problems now with the grant, despite the delay.

(e) Page 6 – 6 (f) – The Clerk said that no final decision had been made with regard to the PSPO that was expected to increase dog control and reduce excrement. He would report back to the Council at the next meeting on this and the issue of a lock on the gate.

(f) Page 4 – 6(g) – The Chair proposed (seconded by Councillor Harry) that the Councillors Allowances for the current year should be paid in the year 2023/4 because of the difficulty over the Council’s bank account. This was agreed.

(g) Page 5 – 15 – Councillor Ms N Watkins said that the issue of the memorial garden had been before the Council and clearly must have been accepted, not least of all because there was a grant of some £6,000 which, if it was now proposed that the garden should be removed, would have to be repaid. The Clerk confirmed her recollection of a meeting with Councillor Ewers on site with Tom of *Keep Wales Tidy* when the whole matter was discussed, and his memory was that the matter was agreed by the Council. If he omitted that from the Minutes, that was unfortunate, and would be on his shoulders, although he firmly believed that it was mentioned. Councillor Skinner said he could not find an entry to that effect, and the Chair said the same, and the Clerk said that he would check and report back to the Council. Councillor Ms N Watkins said that the garden had been complimented by many people, and had become a haven for butterflies and that hedgehogs had been found there, and hoglets had resulted.

(h) Page 5 - 13 – Councillor Ms N Watkins said that her understanding was that alcohol could only be served if the organiser of a party had a licence. The Clerk said he was absolutely clear that this was not the case, and his recollection was that he had investigated the issue before, and had reported back to the Council. He would get chapter and verse for the next meeting.

7 To consider correspondence received.

The Clerk said he had no correspondence that required mention to the Council.

8 To consider planning matters.

The Clerk had circulated Councillors with details of planning matters. The Chair said that he wasn’t happy about the notice that had been given, and had tried to talk to Kate Bingham about the matter, but had had no response to two messages left for her to contact him. He asked if she had an e-mail address, and the Clerk said he would try to find out.

The meeting discussed three matters (it was accepted that the Council should not be making representations regarding the Mardy AFC application because the Council had an interest in the outcome)

(a) 3 Croesonen Parc, Abergavenny

(b) Worlod yr Awel

(c) Glebe Cottage, Llantilio Pertholey, Abergavenny

All three applications were accepted.

9 To consider the payment of Accounts

The following payments were approved:

British Gas £138.02

Caretaker £790

M Pearson (for the bins) £520

Cleaner £342

The Clerk's salary £1215.28 and HMRC £543.18

Councillor Ms N Watkins queried the low Gas bill, and asked if it was estimated. The Clerk said it appeared to be via a Smart Meter. There was also retrospective approval for the payment by the Clerk to Butler Brothers of £174.59 for the urgent repairs to the flat roof of the Hall. The Clerk was also asked to check on whether their bill number 601 had been paid

10. To Consider the Financial Statement and other issues

(a) The Clerk said that the Nat West account at the end of February was £10,083.51 in credit, with about £1,000 still to be paid in from hall users, with more to come, and a further £17,000 to come at the beginning of April from the Precept. Even without the Lloyds Bank account, it appeared that there was sufficient money to pay the Council's debts for the time being.

(b) However, the Clerk stated that he still could not prepare a full and accurate statement because of the attitude taken by Councillors Cowan and Ms N Watkins already well known, in blocking his access to the money in Lloyds Bank and the documents relating to it. Since they were present, he asked both Councillors directly if they were now prepared to sign the form necessary to enable the Council to take possession of its own money and to spend it on the Council's work. Both Councillors said that they were prepared to do so only if they had confirmation from the bank that they would not be responsible for any ongoing problems with the accounts. Neither said what "problems" they anticipated. The Clerk said that he would contact the bank and see if he could procure a letter that would satisfy this point.

12 To consider any matters regarding the Playing Fields Committee

The Chair that he had grave concerns about the state of repair of the playground equipment. The Clerk was requested to contact Playdale to see what they were doing during their inspections. Clearly, repairs were necessary, and the issue was whether Playdale were to carry them out. The Chair said he would look to see what was necessary. The Clerk said that in the meantime it was important that children should not use the broken equipment. The Chair said he would check on that.

13 To consider any matters regarding the Community Hall

(a) The Clerk said that the Caretaker had reported to him that there had been a lost booking of the Hall for a party because it was to be on a Saturday and the car park was taken up completely by footballers and spectators. The Chair said he would ask Chris Price for some sort of agreement to see if this problem could be alleviated, bearing in mind that people did have permission to use the school car park.

(b) The Chair said that people had complained that some of the chairs were stained. Councillor Ms N Watkins said that the former caretaker and cleaner had undertaken a deep clean. The Chair said he would look into what could be done.

14 To consider information from One Voice Wales

No issues arose

15 To receive any reports on activities of outside bodies

No issues arose

16 To consider any matters that the Chair considers urgent.

No issues arose

17 The date of the next meeting of the Council

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on the **19th April 2023 at 7 p.m.**