

**LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDEILIO BERTHOLAU**

Council website address-[www.llantiliopertholevcc.org.uk](http://www.llantiliopertholevcc.org.uk)

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY**  
**COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE LLANTILIO PERTHOLEY**  
**COMMUNITY HALL ON THE 21ST FEBRUARY 2024**

**Those attending: Councillors M Hayward (Chair), C Harry (Vice-Chair), M Skinner, M Edwards, A Barber, Ms K Vaughan and R Fury. Also in attendance was County Councillor Sue McConnel, and the Clerk, Mr Robert Wade. On the floor of the meeting was Zoe Cameron.**

**1 Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Councillors Rev J Gray, K Eldridge and S Baugh. County Councillor Rev Malcolm Lane also sent his apologies.

**2 Declaration of interests.**

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

**3 Discussion on policing issues with Gwent Police personnel**

PCSOs Ionescu (Mike) and Luca were in attendance, but unfortunately had to be called away for operational reasons in the middle of giving their reports. Reference was made to youngsters using the Morrisons car park for racing cars as well as the Fairfield. Mike said that they would put up barriers, although he was made aware that this would inconvenience people who wanted to park there for legitimate reasons, and in particular members of the Constitutional Club. The Chair asked if the club steward might be given a car to the car park, and Mike said this would be considered. He commented on the recent “surgery” at Danyderi, which he said had been very useful. County Councillor McConnel said that contact with people in the streets was generally helpful, and referred to her own “walkabout” which she talked about in her monthly report.

#### **4 To receive the Monthly update reports from County Councillors**

(a) County Councillor McConnel said that the main item of consuming interest was that of the Budget. It had more or less been finalised and they would break even. The schools budget had been a source of concern, with a pay-rise for teachers in mind, but the money had been found. People had disliked the idea that they would have to pay for food waste bags; that idea had been abandoned to foster MCC's excellent record for recycling which might otherwise have been in danger.

(b) For commercial reasons the opening of the new King Henry VIII school had been delayed until the beginning of 2025. Similarly the closure of the Welsh School was set back. There was some discussion as to what could be done with the building, although she said it was becoming decrepit and was already talked of as "a site" and not a building. She did agree that a youth club would be a useful addition to the area.

(c) She spoke of her walk around Dan-y-Deri with Anthony O'Connell from Monmouthshire Housing Association and PC Aled. It had been extremely helpful being able to talk to people face to face about their problems.

(d) Councillor Edwards said he had been appalled at the mess that had been left by Persimmon at Willow Court. Councillor Harry mentioned the mass of weeds on the bank overlooking the Hereford Road. County Councillor McConnell said that that was County Councillor Malcolm Lane's area, and she had to be careful about trespassing on his "patch". The Chair said that he had already been e-mailed, and asked to look into certain issues, and that could be pursued.

(e) Councillors Barber and Vaughan talked of Anti-social behaviour. This was said to be an issue for the police.

At this point Councillor Vaughan and County Councillor McConnell left the meeting.

#### **5 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

The Minutes were approved as a true record, save that, at the request of Councillor Edwards, Clause 10(b) was altered so as to state that the Council had approved the Accounts report forms signed by the Chair "for submission to the external auditor". Otherwise the Minutes were approved on a proposal by Councillor Skinner, seconded by Councillor Harry

#### **6 To consider Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

(a) Page 2 – 4(d) – It was confirmed that County Councillor Lane had been made aware of the problems with Willow Court, and would be asked to pursue them

(b) Page 2 - 6(a) – the Clerk said he was still trying to clarify with Monmouthshire County Council the issue about the cutting of banks to the east of the playing-field, following receipt of the bill for the maintenance contract. Councillor Skinner said that MCC had cut that area for thirty years, and it was agreed that it was strange that MCC were suddenly saying that was not their responsibility. There seemed no sensible reason why. The Clerk said he would try to set up a meeting with MCC to see if the matter could be clarified.

(c) Page 3 – 6(b)- the Chair confirmed that the new bank accounts had now been set up.

(d) Page 4 – 10(b) – the Chair said it was desirable to put the accounts onto the web-site, and that would be done after the external auditor had responded in full.

(e) Page 4 – 11 – It was agreed in principle that there should be a Gardening Committee to which Zoe and County Councillor O’Connell could be co-opted, and probably Richard Moulding if he was willing to become involved. The Clerk was to ask for volunteers. The Chair and Councillor Edwards agreed to be involved. The Chair said that in principle he was keen on delegation and on all Councillors being more proactive and not just reactive, participating more fully in Council work and not just attending meetings. From the floor, Zoe Cameron said she had already spoken to persons at MCC who had said there might be grants available. She was also asked about whether she had ideas for the web-site, which the Clerk said he would welcome. She said that the involvement of Parish Council web-sites.co.uk might help. One issue might be the inclusion of photographs of Councillors.

(f) Page 4 – 12(b) – the Chair said that the work on the drains would be done at the end of the month

(g) Page 5 – 15(a) – The Chair said that Mike Pearson had now produced a map of the bins which he was accustomed to empty. One possible issue might be where his responsibilities overlapped with those of Abergavenny Town. It looked as though three new dog waste bins were required, two for the Willow Court estate and one for the old road by Ty Gwyn. The Clerk was requested to obtain prices for three bins and to see what could be done about repairs. The Chair also mentioned his plan to get people involved through KAT as litter-pickers; the equipment + hi-viz jackets were in the Hall.

(h) Page 5 – 15(b) – The Clerk said he didn’t have positive information regarding the issue of liability for injury caused by the razor wire, but Councillor Fury said he was certain that the Council would be liable if somebody – even a trespasser – was injured. There was some discussion as to the best way of deterring trespassers – the use of anti-vandal paint was a possibility, which Councillor Fury said would cost £20 per litre, or specialised “roll-bars” which would repel trespassers and which would certainly look better than the razor wire which it was generally agreed should be

removed, but not before there was something in its place. Zoe said that that roll-bars cost £49 per metre plus £10 every meter for brackets.

#### **7 To consider correspondence received.**

The Clerk said he had received no correspondence other than that which was mentioned elsewhere in the Minutes.

#### **8 To consider planning matters.**

No Planning matters were due for consideration.

#### **9 To consider the payment of Accounts**

The following payments were approved:

City Illuminations £5,130

Caretaker £1042

Mike Pearson £636

Richard Moulding (gardening) £75

The Clerk said that he had not yet received the bill from the cleaner, and he had texted her but she could not recollect her hours. There was also a potential bill from British Gas, with whom he was having an ongoing battle because they kept on saying they would e-mail the bills to him and then didn't do it. There was also an outstanding account to BT, with whom the Clerk said a Standing Order needed to be set up. The Chair was given plenary powers to authorise payment of those bills when the Clerk had received them.

#### **10 To consider the Financial Statement and other financial issues**

(a) The Clerk had circulated a Financial Statement, which was noted. The Chair said that the money now needed to be taken out of Lloyds Bank and transferred to Nat West, leaving only sufficient money to enable the statement in the Lloyds account, past and present, to be reviewed if necessary.

(b) Councillor Skinner asked about the Councillors' allowances. In particular, he wondered if the Chair's allowance should be £800 rather than £500, which the Clerk believed was the statutory maximum. The Chair said that the amount paid to his predecessor in 2014, 2017 and 2019 had been that larger figure. The Clerk said he would check.

#### **11 To consider any matters regarding the Playing Fields Committee.**

The Clerk said there were no issues which were not already dealt with.

#### **12 To consider matters relating to the Community Hall**

(a) The Chair said that the projector in the main hall was not functioning properly, and did not have a HDMI connection. He had obtained quotations of £1,250, £1,350 and £1,750. Councillor Barber said that he thought that Vision of Abergavenny would provide a cheaper resource. Councillor Fury asked about Bluetooth. The Chair said he would revisit the situation.

(b) He gave notice of a personal interest in the discussion at this point, and withdrew from the discussion. A quotation of £492 from Hayward Davies for completing the installation of the LED lights was proposed by Councillor Harry and seconded by Councillor Skinner and agreed.

(c) The Chair said that the indoor Bowls group was meeting on a regular basis, and providing regular and increasing income. He had been offered a second hand mat, which was actually in nearly new condition, for £50 – a new one would cost over £900 – and a Henry vacuum cleaner, that would be dedicated to keeping the surface of the mat in pristine condition, for £123. Councillor Fury proposed that these should be purchased, and this was seconded by Councillor Skinner.

### **13 To receive information from One Voice Wales**

No issues arose

### **14 To receive any reports on activities of outside bodies**

No issues arose

### **15 To consider any matters that the Chair considers urgent.**

(a) The Chair said that the Council needed to resolve the issue of the Christmas lights extension. The Clerk said he would look into this.

(b) The Chair said that it was necessary to resolve the issue of the responsibility of Mardy AFC to pay towards the electricity. This would involve reading the electricity meters on a regular basis, and he asked the Clerk to attend to this.

(c) The Chair asked if the insurance claim could now be made for the boiler replacement. The Clerk said he would look into it.

(d) The Chair asked if Councillor Edwards had been able to come up with any proposals for exercise equipment in the park.

### **16 The date of the next meeting of the Council**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on **Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7 p.m.**