

Minutes of a meeting of Llanrug Community Council held at 7:00 pm Tuesday, 15 October 2019 at Menter Fachwen, Cwm y Glo.

Present: Councillors Phil Roberts (Chair), Avril Jones (Vice Chair), Richard Robinson, Haf Williams, Martin Jones, Clifford Williams, Alan Pritchard, Cemlyn Jones, Goronwy Hughes, Hefin Jones, Gwion Llwyd, Iola Parry, Meirwen Lloyd.

Apologies: Councillor Beca Brown

Also Present: Councillor Berwyn Parry Jones (Cwm y Glo Member on Gwynedd Council)

Mrs Rhian Whiteside Thomas, Llanrug Primary School (for item 497 only)

492. To receive a welcome from the Chair

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

493. To receive apologies.

Apologies were received as noted above

494. Declaration of personal interest.

These are to be recorded as appropriate

495. To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 17 September 2019

The September minutes were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman

496. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes.

490. To request police presence at next council meeting;

497. To receive a presentation from Mrs Rhian Whiteside-Thomas on behalf of Llanrug Primary School

A presentation was received from Mrs Rhian Whiteside - Thomas on behalf of Llanrug Primary School. She explained that the school would welcome the support of the community council as the school is currently in the process of applying for grants etc. She explained that children are expected to go out to play these days, and this is going to become statutory in schools, but when the weather is bad, this is not currently possible in Llanrug. The school tries to apply for grants and one of the conditions on many applications is that the community supports it.

Resolved:

a) To receive and thank Mrs Rhian Whiteside-Thomas for the presentation;

b) To agree to support any application made by the school for grants to promote the scheme

498. To receive a report from Councillor Cemlyn Jones on the meeting of the governors of Llanrug Primary School

Following the above presentation, no further report was available. It was requested that the item be placed on the November agenda.

499. To consider whether Llanrug Community Council aspires to be a Council with the general power of competence.

The Chairman reported that he had recently attended a meeting of One Voice Wales in Pwllheli with the clerk and one of the implications that was to come soon was the need for Community and Town Councils to be awarded the GENERAL Power of Competence.

In 2018 an independent review panel made 47 suggestions for changes to the way community and town councils work in Wales.

The Minister has now recognized out of the 47 suggestions that 3 of them will be moving forward for legislation soon.

Currently, because of 'BREXIT' the process is slower than expected moving through the Assembly.

It was originally promised in June, but this has now moved to October.

These 3 suggestions are not shocking news, because it confirms the current First Minister's intentions and aspirations for the future role of community and town Councils.

2. The three suggestions

1. Mandatory Annual Report for all councils;
2. Competence powers;
3. Mandatory training for all councillors

Mandatory Annual Report for all councils

This is a way to engage with the community and inform residents of what the council is doing for them. Members will recall that this council passed that we would produce a pamphlet for distribution to the residents of Llanrug and Cwm y Glo before the end of March 2020.

Competence Powers

If the council wishes to be identified as having the power of general competence, the following must also be met;

- a) Two thirds of the members must have been elected. Llanrug meets this because 12 members have been elected (no election is required) and two have been co-opted;
- b) It is essential that the clerk is suitably qualified, e.g. CiLCA. Llanrug meets this criterion;

Mandatory training for all councillors

Make it compulsory for all councillors to attend in-service training. Training is likely to be (but not limited to), the Code of Conduct, The Council as a body, working with other councils that include Gwynedd Council or neighbouring community councils.

What is it for?

If the council succeeds in gaining the inclusive power then it will allow the council to do anything an individual can do unless specifically restricted by the general power or other legislation. For expenditure under the above, the Welsh Government sets an amount for each financial year where it can be spent under s137 and for 2019/2020 is £ 8.12 for each elector.

Cwm y Glo	440
Llanrug	1340
Pontrug	297
Total	2077

This would mean that this council can spend up to £16,865.24 (£ 8.12 x 2077) under this section. Of course, it does not mean that the council has to spend it just that it has that power if it wants to and it will strengthen the status of Llanrug Community Council.

Resolved: To ensure that Llanrug Community Council meets the appropriate criteria for becoming a community council with competence

500. To receive a report from Councillor Berwyn Parry Jones on activities during the month at Gwynedd Council.

Buses

There has been a recent consultation on the use of buses, asking what loss of bus would mean to residents. The idea is to try to organize the service better, so that the buses run to suit wherever possible. Possibly make use of smaller buses and taxis, but at the same cost to the users.

Planning

As new houses are built, others are sold as holiday homes or Air B&B. The council has commissioned an expert to see if this sale can be managed, either through the Planning or Licensing system. They are going to look at the kind of arrangement that is in place in other countries, such as Ireland being one.

Cwm y Glo School Building

The County Council will be writing to the last members of the Hall Committee to outline their intention to create a new lease with Menter Fachwen. If there is no objection, they will contact the Community Council to ensure that they are willing to surrender the existing lease, and then proceed to discuss and create a new lease with Menter Fachwen. The lease will include a clause stating that community use of the building must also be allowed.

'Bund' by the playing field at Cwm

Proud to say that the construction of the bund has finally taken place, this should avoid flooding the rear of Pool Street houses.

Dolafon Scheme

Still waiting for the work at Dolafon to be done. The Council and Adra Housing Association have agreed a plan that will be jointly funded, but to make the scheme a Scottish Power pole has to be removed, they want a high price to move it, wait for an update now

Multi use route from Llanrug to Pontrug

I've been asking for this for a while now, it seems that it will be done as part of the Bontnewydd bypass scheme. The county council is keen to have a multi-use route running from Llanberis to Caernarfon.

Resolved: To receive and thank you for the report

501. To receive a report from Councillor Charles Jones on the month's activities at Gwynedd Council

Hafan Elan - Official Opening of the refurbished Hall

It was a privilege to cut the ribbon on the official opening of the newly refurbished social centre on 10 October. Almost 40 years have passed since the estate opened in 1980, and 45 years since I asked Arfon Borough Council to provide suitable housing for the elderly on this convenient site near the village square. It is also pleasing to note that 'Adra' (the new name of Gwynedd Community Homes) has agreed to add 12 parking spaces on the estate.

Ogwen Public Footpath

Gwynedd Council has repaired the wall that holds the path up near Ogwen. The stone wall and base of the path had fallen into the river at one location. So, again, the path is safe for pedestrians.

Resolved: To receive and thank you for the report

502. To consider a grant application from Eco'r Wyddfa

In this item, Expressions of Interest were declared by

Councillor Goronwy Hughes
Councillor Hefin Jones

and did not participate in the decision.

Resolved: To agree to a grant of £ 750 towards Snowdon Eco

503. Issue regarding the wall between the old post office and Ysgol Brynrefail (Cllr Haf Williams)

Councillor Haf Williams reported that she had received several complaints regarding the condition of some of the walls which are overgrown and affecting the vision of traffic. It was noted that cars were being scratched with overgrowth. Pictures she had taken were shown where he outlined the problem as well as other locations in Llanrug.

It was further noted that the condition of the wall, from the direction of the square towards Ysgol Brynrefail was poor and that it was in breach. This has already been brought to the attention of Gwynedd Council.

Resolved:

- a) Thank you to Councillor Haf Williams for bringing the matter to the council's attention;
- b) The Clerk to contact Gwynedd Council as a matter of urgency to express concern about the situation, particularly regarding the wall;
- c) Copy Councillor Charles Jones to the complaint

504. Request for Community Council support for a building scheme (Cllr Haf Williams)

It was reported that an application had been received from a third party on behalf of a builder for the support of the community council for a proposed planning application for the erection of houses in Llanrug.

Resolved: Due to a lack of certainty about the scheme then to contact the builder to arrange a meeting with him to seek further information.

505. To receive update on youth club situation

It was reported that a number of children had registered with the youth club and the third person had now been appointed to work at the club.

Club staff were in the process of providing figures of where the children live

Resolved:

- a) To receive the report;
- b) The Clerk to contact neighbouring community councils to ask if they would consider contributing towards the costs of the club as members were attending from their areas.

506. To discuss matters relating to the cemetery

It was noted that work on the footpaths was due to start

507. To discuss playground issues

Councillor Clifford Williams reported that the fence at Nant y Glyn playing field had disappeared and that children were going downhill to get a ball and play and that it was dangerous.

Resolved: To arrange to meet on site to evaluate what can be done.

508. Planning Applications

None

The meeting ended at 21:10

Signed:

Chairman:

Date: 19 November 2019