

CYNGHOR CYMUNED CAPEL CURIG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at 19.30 hrs on Wednesday 3rd September 2024.

Present: Gethin P Davies – Chairman
Elwyn Jones
Shan Ashton
Robin Kennedy - Reid
Peter Smith – Clerk

Cllr Liz Roberts

Apologies: Marian Lloyd Roberts -Vice Chairman
Dylan Griffiths

Declaration of Interests:

Mr G Davies, Chair declared an interest in item 8 Section C - Planning Application

Minutes: The draft minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2024 were approved without amendment.

Matters Arising:

Streetlights: ER said she had met with the inspector and he had agreed to install additional street lights between the Canolfan and Pont Cyfyng. It was felt by Council that the street lighting on the A5 in Capel Curig is now satisfactory.

Sewage at Bryn Glo

Clerk said there was an outflow at the layby at Bryn Glo on 23rd August. While there was storm water there did not appear to be and sewage present. Clerk said he had sent photos to Dŵr Cymru

Bridge by Fferm Royal:

Conwy have advised us that contractors have been appointed to carry out repair work however, due to Summer time regulations work cannot commence until early September

Public Footpath signage:

Clerk reported that it appears that the local Eryri Park warden has still not returned to work

Condition of A5:

It appears that preparatory work is now underway as the road has been marked up for repairs.

Financial Regulations:

Clerk said we should have financial regulations in place – A standard version, written by The National Association of Local Councils, used by most councils was available and it was agreed these should be adopted and added to our website after personalising to Capel Curig.

T10 Bus service:

Clerk said he had spoken to some of the team at Ynys Môn Show recently and they had indicated that the service is being well used and they have funding to continue the service. They said there would be a slight reduction in service during the Winter months.

Audit Wales:

Clerk reviewed the historic problems this council had encountered. The end result is that Audit Wales have cleared, after examination all our years when apparently, they did not receive our accounts 2018 – 2021. Audit Wales have now issued invoices for work undertaken for this period totalling £2975.18 Clerk said he had sort advice from One Voice Wales on this matter on 3/9/2024. The strong advice was that this should be paid as at the end of the day it was this Community Councils responsibility. Councillors agreed that we would probably have to pay these invoices however the Chair said he would contact Audit Wales to enquire if there was any possibility of these invoices being reduced. He was also going to enquire of Audit Wales had they had any records of any correspondence between Audit Wales and Capel Curig Community Council during the period 2018 – 2021 and if yes what this correspondence said.

Clerk said he felt this must be paid and at least we would have a 'clean slate' going forward. Chair said he would report back to Clerk after his conversation with Audit Wales and advise Clerk as how to proceed.

Clerks Matters:

Clerk said he had attended a two-day (2 hours x 2 days) course online on "How to be a good Clerk' He felt that in general Capel Curig Community Council was conducting itself in a correct manner, however there were some points and procedures which need to be introduced: -

1. Declaration of Interests must be on the agenda
2. Agenda must be published on web site
3. Budget must be reviewed at each meeting
4. Who has agreed to do what should be published
5. While AOB can be included it definitely should not be an area where Councillors introduce items which should be Agenda items. Councillors who wish an item to be discussed should advise the Clerk two weeks plus two days before the next agenda and notice of meeting is published.

Financial Matters:

Clerk said historic audits had been dealt with earlier in the meeting

Regarding last year's accounts 2022/2023 – these have been cleared and Audit Wales have issued the invoice for the work - £258.00. Council approved this.

Clerk said he had recently answered some questions about budgets and procedures for the 2023/2024 Full Audit and the auditor Owen Cray had replied that he now had all the information to complete the audit. So hopefully matters are heading to a conclusion.

Clerk said he had enquired what the likely fee would be but Audit Wales had replied: -

Good morning, Peter,

The 23/24 audit is pending a review process; therefore, it is likely to be beyond September that you will receive an invoice.

Regards, Owen

The Council reviewed the financial position and approved the following:

Date	Type	Description	Amount	Balance
18 Aug 2024	CHG	TOTAL CHARGES TO 27JUL2024	-8.00	5765.01
15 Aug 2024	CR	CONWY COUNTY BOROU	1167.00	5773.01
05 Aug 2024	BP	Audit Wales A/c C01285	-258.00	4606.01
31 Jul 2024	BP	Gareth Hughes Capel Curig	-95.00	4864.01
29 Jul 2024	BP	Formston Trees 1329	-165.00	4959.01
19 Jul 2024	CHG	TOTAL CHARGES TO 27JUN2024	-8.00	5124.01
29 Jun 2024	BP	Formston Trees Inv 1295	-165.00	5132.01
26 Jun 2024	BP	Peter V Smith Clerks exps	-48.46	5297.01

The expenditure for a new sign at the cemetery car park was approved ref 31 July 2024

The updated budget was as follows:

DATE	ITEM	BUDGET	TO DATE	YEAR END OVER	YEAR END UNDER
	Grass Cutting	£1600.00	£490.00		
	Clerks Exps	£60.00	£48.46		
	Donations	£100.00			
	Hire of rooms	£120.00	£105.00		
	Councillor Training	£300.00	£38.00		
	Insurance	£250.00	£220.21		
	Bank Charges	£100.00	£24.00		
	British Legion	£25.00			
	Clerks Salary	£700.00	£700.00		
	Web Hosting	£70.00			
	Elections	£350.00			
	One Voice Wales Subs	£45.00	£45.00		
	Stand at Carnifal	£100.00			
	Audit Wales fees	?			
	Repairs to Cemetery	£720.00			
	TOTAL	£4540.00	£1607.67		
	INCOME				
11/4/24	Percept	£3500.00	£1167		
15/8/24	Precept		£1167		

The above was approved by the Council. Clerk said the major adjustments to the budget as discussed about Audit Wales invoices would be included on the next budget for the next meeting.

Planning Matters:

Clerk reported that the following two Planning Applications had been forwarded to appeal by an Inspector at the Welsh Office:

1. Shepherds Hut near Deunant – Case number CAS 03404 D1F5L6
2. Erecting of mast at land by Bryn Engan CAS 03336 M7NW2

In both cases the SNP had refused planning permission and we as a Council had objected but the two applicants had decided to appeal. Clerk had repeated our objections in writing to the case officer.

On 4/9/2024 final comments from Mr Prachhimba Dorjee Khenchen, the applicant for the Shepherds Hut have been received for information.

Planning Application NP4/13/2L Ty'n y Coed Hotel

Clerk said closing date had passed but he had requested an extension so comments could be made at this meeting. An extension to the closing date was granted on 27th August 2024 by the officer concerned Richard Thomas.

Council comments are as follows: -

1. Council has no objection in principle to the development but would prefer to see a smaller number of pods 2 or 3.
2. Council notes that there is a tree preservation order in place for the whole of the land in this area.
3. Council also noted that that the environmental report was for 5 pods while the planning application was for 6 pods
4. It is this Councils responsibility to ensure shared prosperity throughout the community and if planning is granted for this applicant others in the community with similar applications should also be looked upon favourably

Planning Application NP4/13/76G - Dolgam – Mr G Davies withdrew from the meeting.

No objections were raised by Council members to the application.

Mr G Davies returned to the meeting.

Community Council Website:

Clerk said he felt the current web site was no longer flexible enough to cater for our current needs. He had come to this opinion after comments from Audit Wales and after looking at other Community Council web sites. He felt the way forward was to use the web site more and more in order to comply with our duty to keep residents and the public up to date with our activities. He had consulted with Betws y Coed Community Council who have given us details of who constructed their website. It was constructed locally and cost £600.

Council in general approved the proposal and clerk to get more details and report back at next council meeting

Public Toilets in Capel Curig:

Chair reported that he had spoken to Garry Williams from Conwy Council today and had been advised that the whole matter had been put on hold pending further meetings at Conwy.

In the meantime SA to contact Strobe to get information about turnstile access and other types of access to toilets – **ACTION SA**

and

Chair to contact Garry Williams to seek a meeting ASAP to discuss possible ways forward. – **ACTION GPD**

Any other business:

EJ said a traffic sign was obscured by the Toll House on the A5 ER said highways would be shortly cutting all hedges along the A5 in Capel Curig.

BT digital telephone lines and Scottish Power – concern expressed particularly for remote properties. RR to do some research on the matter and report back.

SA said she had attended to the flowers and generally tidied up at the War Memorial.

SA said Siabod Café hoped, following a refurbishment to open shortly. It was noted that the tenant hopes to make sandwiches for his other retail outlets at the Capel Curig location. In time he hopes to have a retail outlet at the Café and will be offering locals discount together with a taster menu shortly.

Following a talk given by the Plastic Free group from Betws y Coed it was agreed to formally adopt their policy at the next Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 7.30pm