

Cyngor Cymuned Abbeycwmhir Community Council

MINUTES

A meeting of Cyngor Cymuned Abbeycwmhir Community Council was held on Thursday 17th February 2021 at 8.00pm

The meeting was at the **Philips Hall Abbeycwmhir** within Covid-19 restrictions in place at the time.

	The Community Council Meeting was opened at 8.05pm
0222/01	<p>Present: David Jones (Chairman). Brian Rees, Julie Evans, Keith Powell, Gareth Rees, John Jones.</p> <p>County Cllr. David Evans who attended from 8.15 pm 3 community residents</p>
0222/02	<p>Declarations of Interest: None</p>
0222/10	<p>The chairman asked members for permission to bring forward item 0222/10 Community Broadband in order that members of the public attending with an interest in that item could participate in the meeting and leave thereafter if they wished. This was agreed.</p> <p>A short summary paper from Reece Simmons of Broadway Partners had been previously circulated and was referred to by the Clerk who gave an overview of Community Broadband. It was noted that a scheme for Nantmel and Rhayader was underway and that St Harmon and Pant-y-dwr communities had recently received a presentation from Braodway Partners (an invitation had been given for Reece to attend the Abbeycwmhir meeting but he was unavailable) Community Broaband schemes are community led projects working with suppliers to bring fibre communications to local properties. They are eligible for government funding from UK Gigabit Voucher Scheme and Welsh Top Up (Gigabit Vouchers (culture.gov.uk)). To develop a scheme the Community Council acts as the liaison hub between local residents and businesses and the chosen service supplier. The first steps of this would be creating a small project group, in which a community councillor would be a nominated contact, next steps would be to promote the opportunity locally and contacting the community – in Rhayader and Nantmel this had been funded by Broadway Partners and included a maildrop and marketing materials (posters and social media ‘news’). Community contact is important to identify local interest that will help to judge the viability of a project being delivered.</p> <p>The Chairman opened the floor to discussion and Edina Lacey (who had attended the meeting in St Harmon) spoke on behalf of the attending residents and others in the community. She explained the poor internet service speeds and also lack of phone line availability locally particularly in the Bwlchysarnau area (where she both lived and ran an internet reliant business). She also gave more detail of how a network would be developed by a supplier - the supplier would build the network running fibre to the premises to each property that signs up. Openreach ducts and poles are used but the new supply uses its own cabling. The supplier will also put in additional ducts and erect poles where needed too. This was noted as important as members of Abbeycwmhir/Bwlchysarnau community currently received BT connections from 3 or 4 different exchange lines.</p> <p>Edwina explained that Broadway Partners had indicated Cost there will be no upfront cost for the consumer and then monthly costs initially at £19.99 for internet and around</p>

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	<p>£9.99 per month for landline.</p> <p>There was a short open discussion noting the advantages of a potential scheme for the community. Cllr D Evans endorsed the summary made by Edina and advised that a new Broadband Officer had been appointed by PCC to replace Reece Simmons (formally PCC now working for Broadway Partners), suggesting he be contacted.</p> <p>There was general approval for investigating working with Broadway Partners to develop a project. Clerk to contact Broadway Partners</p> <p>It was also agreed that there would be benefits of working with other Communities. Clerk to contact St Harmon Community Council regarding potential joint working.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Edina and the other community residents for attending the meeting.</p> <p>Public left at 8.36 pm</p>						
0222/03	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Thursday, 18th November 2021 were agreed and signed as a true record, ()</p>						
0222/04	<p>Matters arising from the previous minutes: Precept request had been submitted and a receipt from PCC received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A website page re OLB had been prepared by Upper Bridge • Condolence Books re OLB had been purchased and were with the Clerk. Receipted cost within approved budget to be refunded to Clerk within next Admin expenses claim (JE/JJ). • Five accounting package suppliers on SLCC list had been investigated. Most established and used appeared to be Rialtas and Scribe. Having agreed to waive the set-up fee an annual subscription of £120.00 to Scribe was within the general admin budget. Rialtas prices awaited. Approved to delegate best value selection within precept budget to Chairman and Clerk (JE/BR) 						
0222/05	<p>Community Book: see 02221/07 (v)</p>						
0222/06	<p>Planning issues: No new applications had been received. Hawkes Rise: The request to made by Cllr Evans on behalf of the Community Council to PCC to call in the most recent application had been later been recalled by him as planners had advised the planning application amendment would be refused and had been so.</p>						
0222/07	<p>Finance:</p> <p>(i) To balance of income and expenditure was noted and approved and the following invoices were approved. (JJ/KP)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Clerk Q4</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">to be paid by IB on or after 31/12/21</td> <td style="text-align: right;">340.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">WCVA Q4</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">to be paid by IB on or after 31/12/21</td> <td style="text-align: right;">21.30</td> </tr> </table> <p>(ii) The 2019-20 and 2020-21 Audits had been completed by Audit Wales. Both had been given unqualified opinions, an advisory note was made in respect of a missed entry for the carry forward asset value on the 2019-20 return.</p> <p>(iii) To consider applications for funding: Wales Air Ambulance. Agreed to award £200 as in budget but to consider a further award after 2021-22 year end accounts completed. Other applications received during the year were revisited</p>	Clerk Q4	to be paid by IB on or after 31/12/21	340.42	WCVA Q4	to be paid by IB on or after 31/12/21	21.30
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	<p>but no awards made.</p> <p>(iv) It was agreed to appoint Tracy Price as internal auditor for 2021-22 accounts as Her attention to detail and advice was noted as both helpful and valued.</p> <p>(v) Elections – noted that all members wishing to stand again for election to the Community Council in May would be required to complete forms, PCC were encouraging these to be completed online although paper packs could be available at a cost. Agreed Clerk to order paper packs if required (JE/JJ)</p>
0222/08	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>a) Section 137 Discretionary Expenditure Limit for 2022-23 The maximum expenditure that can be incurred under both section 137(1) and (3) for the financial year 2022-23 will be £8.82 per elector. Noted</p> <p>b) Audit Wales – Fee scheme 2022-23 Noted</p> <p>c) PCC Planning – Phosphate target information. Noted</p> <p>d) Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – PCC requesting list of local events. Noted none yet proposed</p> <p>e) Pavo – support for community carbon audits apply by 21 Feb 22. Noted</p> <p>f) Subsidised Home Energy Audits – noted</p> <p>g) Welsh Government Councillor remuneration and citizen engagement in Wales - reports</p> <p>h) The Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) – replacement preparation</p> <p>i) PCC – report a road problem. Pothole hotline reference. Noted prompt response by PCC</p> <p>j) Welsh Government: consultation – measuring inclusion of migrants in Wales. Noted</p> <p>k) Community Broadband: residents letters and phone call. Discussed as an agenda item – see above</p> <p>l) Welsh Government Sustainable Futures Division: Shaping Wales’ Future programme. Noted (as underpinning key policy and strategic planning).</p>
0222/09	<p>Local Member Update:</p> <p>No specific issues were reported as it was noted that key information was regularly circulated from Cllr Evans by email.</p>
0222/10	<p>Community Matters.</p> <p>(a) Windfarm – a meeting due shortly BR unable to attend but Cllr DOE attending. BR advised that planning application expected to be submitted in the near future but unlikely that the development would be completed for 8-10 years</p> <p>(b) Covid-19 – updates continued to be circulated.</p> <p>(c) Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and other community projects. JE updated members of community celebrations for the Golden Jubilee. It was agreed to: work with the Philips Hall Management Group to promote an open meeting to plan local events. It was also agreed that the Jubilee budget (£1,000) be used to purchase a commemorative item (mug /medal) for all children under 16 resident in the community; support shared costs with the hall committee for a community celebration this to also include mail out to residents. (JJ/GR) Noted in previous major community celebrations residents from both villages had participated in events at the Philips hall</p> <p>(e) Community Book: Updates. BR advised that Mr Coward had recently promoted the book and it was likely that he would make a direct bank deposit of money from sales.</p> <p>(f) Community Broadband (see also correspondence and 222/10 above).</p> <p>(c) Tree planting project/community benches – noted as potentially linking to a Jubilee project to be considered from any budget surpluses in the jubilee and election costs budgets.</p>
0222/11	<p>Member Discussions and items not on the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Register of Electors had been received.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Blocked roadside drains and culverts – RG noted that drains by XXXX required further attention. Noted by Cllr DOE to contact PCC. It was also noted that general highway issues could be reported on line and recent use of this services had been successful in PCC promptly repairing potholes reported by DJ and the Clerk.
0222/15	Date of Next Meeting: the next Ordinary Meeting will take place on 2022 after the Annual Meeting. Venue to be advised subject to Covid-19 restrictions
	Meeting Closed 9.18 pm
SIGNED	
DATE	

DRAFT