

# Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council

## Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 28th November 2013

**Present:** Cllr M Jones (Chairman), K Bufton, D Lewis, S Powell, R Shelton, J Thomas, R Watkins

**1 Apologies for absence:** County Cllr Hywel Lewis

**2 Minutes of the meeting held on 17/10/2013:** The Minutes were read, approved as being a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **3 Matters arising from the Minutes:**

- No report has been received from Mr Davies regarding the A488
- Nothing has been heard from Vanessa Garwood regarding the date for a meeting concerning the setting up of a district Community Benefits Group
- Defibrillator: No progress yet: the Chairman has been waiting for contact from Mr Adrian Cooper. An article was not placed in the Trumpet for December because the deadline had passed before the Council meeting: one will be sent in shortly.
- Craffryn Lane: Objectors to the overhanging trees are urged to write to Mr Garman.

### **4 Correspondence:**

A letter from the organisers of the Urdd National Festival to be held in May 2014 requesting a donation was read.

**5 Community Benefits group:** Mr Bob Kennard gave a presentation to the Council, a copy of which is appended to these Minutes.

In the discussion that followed the suggestion was made that there should be a public meeting to approve and give legitimacy to the Group. In reply, Mr Kennard stated that this was unnecessary since the Group had the full backing of the elected Community Council. Concern was expressed that the Group must be prepared to be part of a wider county group and to share benefits, otherwise we might lose out if other developments with much larger benefits take place in nearby areas. Mr Kennard replied that nothing done or agreed so far precluded keeping options open for working with a larger group.

The Chairman congratulated Mr Kennard and the members of the Group on the work done so far.

### **6 Requests for Grants:**

- Dolau Young Farmers requested a grant towards the construction of a mezzanine floor in one of the Community Hall storage cupboards. It was agreed that the building of such a floor is the responsibility of the Management Committee of the DRA and therefore the application was inappropriate.

- Request from Dolau Playgroup for a grant towards the costs of keeping the Playgroup going even though the number of children has dwindled to two. A representative of the Playgroup explained that in eighteen months time it was forecast that there would be more young children to make the Group viable – but in the short term a one-off grant was requested. Council decided to give a grant of £450 with the possibility of a little more after Christmas. The only way the Council can give much more is either by raising a much larger precept from Council Tax, or reducing the grant given to DRA in the next financial year. It was suggested that the Playgroup should approach the DRA for funding.

**7 Community Council Budget:** The Clerk provided councillors with a statement of the anticipated income and expenditure for the current financial year, which shows a very small surplus. Councillors decided that there was very little room for manoeuvre if the precept was not increased for the next financial year.

**Cllr Shelton proposed, Cllr Lewis seconded, that the precept should increase by 15% to £1670. All councillors approved this proposal.**

**8 A.O.B.** It was agreed that a laptop and external hard drive be purchased by the Council for the use of the Clerk at a cost not exceeding £350.

**9 Date of next meeting:** Thursday 20th February 2014, starting at 8:00pm