Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council in the Community Hall on Thursday 15th March 2018

Present: Cllr D Lewis (Chairman), E Newman, R Shelton, R Watkins

1 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr R Stuart-Lyon, R Thomas

2 Declarations of interest: None

- **3 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st February 2018:** These Minutes, which had been previously circulated to all councillors, were approved and signed by the Chairman
- 4 Matters arising from the above Minutes: None

5 Correspondence

- Marie Curie Nurses in Wales request for financial assistance: Councillors decided that, although they have every sympathy with the work undertaken by MCNinW, they preferred to support very local- rather than countrywide charities. Therefore they declined to give a donation.
- **Kidney Wales, Walk for Life:** The clerk reported that he had placed copies of the letter on the noticeboards with a request that anyone wishing to organize a walk should contact him: nobody has come forward.
- Wales Audit Office questionnaire: Councillors contributed answers to the questions read out by the clerk to enable him to answer the questionnaire online.
- One Voice Wales invitation to renew membership: The Council decided to renew membership at a cost of £34 for the year.
- **Dolau Level Crossing closure:** The clerk reported that the level crossing will be closed overnight for seven hours from the evening of 4th April to the following morning.
- 6 Consideration of Planning Application P/2018/0253 for Outline: Residential dwelling and associated work (all matters reserved) at Holly Cottage, Dolau, Llandrindod Wells, Powys
 - Councillors decided that they had no comments to make regarding this application

7 Finance:

- Requests for grants from groups in our community: No requests have been received.
- Consideration of the latest annual report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: The clerk distributed photocopies of parts of the report concerned with small councils. Councillors decided that remuneration would be available, but each councillor must notify the clerk in writing as to whether they wished to accept remuneration or not. It was agreed that reimbursement of travel expenses incurred by councillors when on council business will be available.
- Bank balances: A copy of the clerk's report is appended to these Minutes.

- **Investment:** Cllr Shelton and the clerk reported that they had met the CEO of the Robert Owen Community Banking to discuss investing with the group. They were told that investment money from the Community Council and the Dolau Recreation Association would be used to support start-up businesses. The CEO stated that such investments are fully underwritten and therefore there would be no risk that our money would be lost if the businesses failed. Councillors decided that £13,000 should be invested for two years with ROCB to earn a return of 1.5% per annum.
- **Risk Assessment:** The clerk had circulated a Risk Assessment document to councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors agreed that the risk of infidelity is extremely small and therefore Infidelity Insurance is not required.

8 Any Other Business:

- County Cllr H Lewis reported that Planning Application P/2018/1389 for erection of three dwellings on land adjoining The Manse had been approved that day by the Planning Committee. He stated that the Welsh Assembly Government is considering levying a tax on undeveloped plots of land. A similar tax in the Republic of Ireland, currently set at three per cent, rising to seven per cent in January 2019 has to be paid annually each year the land is left un-developed, according to an article in the Shropshire Star
- A request was made that the clerk should write to Highways to express thanks for the new signs on the A488 near the church.
- **9 Date of next meeting:** Thursday 17th May (unless an earlier meeting is needed)

Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council Receipts & Payments for the year to 31 March 2018

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