

Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council

Serving the Community of Dolau Radnorshire

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council which was held on **Thursday 19th January** at Dolau Community Hall and started at 7.45pm

Present- Cllrs Rob Stuart-Lyon (Chair), R Shelton, R Thomas, R Watkins, E Newman, D Lewis & County Councillor D Edwards. Also present was one member of the public

1. Apologies for absence – Cllrs C Watkins
2. Declarations of interest- None
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th November 2022. These were read and agreed correct, proposed correct by Cllr R Watkins and seconded by Cllr R Shelton.
4. There was one matter arising from the minutes – Notice board - suggested it be a Coronation project by Cllr E Newman. It was suggested a metal notice board- be acquired. Cllr E Newman agreed to seek quotations.
5. Correspondence;
 - Email from One Voice Wales enclosing the new model financial regulations for Community Councils- Cllr R Shelton proposed we use these as a draft to update our financial regulations for presentation at the Annual Meeting in May 2023. All agreed.
 - Audit Wales regarding the 2020/21 annual returns. Audit Wales state they have not received our return. A photo copy has been sent by email and a response is awaited. The payment for auditing the 2019-20 account will be re sent with a cheque by recorded delivery.
 - Powys Elections Service – the local electoral register has been sent and is available for members to see.
 - The Clerk of Penybont Community Council sent a message seeking details of how Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council makes meetings accessible via Zoom mobile links. Details have been sent to the Clerk
 - Email from Sarah Price representing Dolau Ti a Fi playgroup seeking a grant towards the cost of organising a trip to Cantref. To be considered under Grants
 - Email from Eve Watkins representing Dolau YFC seeking a grant towards expenses for the Entertainment Competition. To be considered under Grants
 - Email from Dolau Recreation Association seeking grant towards to cost of a trolley for the gas barbecue. To be considered under Grants

- Email from Emma Jones Powys CC Planning Officer introducing herself as the Community Council liaison officer and follow up email re the letter sent to Powys Planning regarding the possible unauthorised development of a wild camp. Emma noted receipt of the letter and recommended the Council consider writing a formal complaint online. Members were concerned that the queries in the letter had not been addressed and asked the Clerk to contact Emma Jones for more information. C Cllr D Edwards also agreed to follow up the matter.
6. Death of former clerk - it is with great sadness that we report the death of the former Clerk Ray Trend. The Chairman spoke about the debt the local community owed to Ray who was active in supporting local organisations in addition to his many years of service as Clerk to the Community Council. It was proposed that a message of condolence and a donation of £50 towards family's choice of charity be made. This was proposed by Cllr R Watkins & seconded by Cllr D Lewis. The funeral service will be held on Saturday 28th January at Offa's Orchard Gladestry. The Community Council will be represented.

7.Highways

- C Cllr D Edwards has reported that hazardous waste has been found dumped in the lay by near Underhill- this has been reported and is being removed.

8.Dark skies update

- Nothing to report- ongoing project

9.Reports

- DRA Report – Cllr E Newman reported that AGM is on Thursday 26 January. The AGM will be followed by a normal business meeting, all welcome.
- School report- Cllr D Lewis reported that unfortunately the school looks like it will close. Before Christmas the School Governing Body was positive and hopeful that the school would stay open. The Powys CC Cabinet meeting was brought forward and unfortunately the Cabinet overruled the proposal for a Welsh Medium School. The School is scheduled for closure in July 2023. After an extremely hard-fought fight to keep the thriving school in Dolau open it looks like all avenues have been explored. There are still ongoing discussions trying to explore any last-minute attempts to keep the school open.

10.Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

- Budget - As before
- Trees - £950 remaining to spend on trees, after much thought it was proposed that we purchase the trees from Bucknell Nursery as they are climatized to the area, we will also purchase tree guards and stakes. When the trees are collected a works party will be formed and the trees will be planted. Cllr R Shelton will sort out the purchasing of the trees & guards.

- Grants/bursary - Three requests for grants have been received from local groups.
 - I. Dolau Ty a Fi playgroup requested £216 towards the cost of a recent trip to Cantref
 - II. Dolau YFC requested £240 towards the cost of purchasing entertainment costumes
 - III. Dolau DRA requested a contribution towards the cost making a stand for the BBQ estimated at approximately £500.

After some debate about the merits of each request Cllr R Thomas proposed that we should grant £200 to Dolau YFC and Dolau Ti a Fi and £100 to the DRA. This proposal was agreed by all.

11. Community Council Finances

- Bank balances as of the 3 January 2023

Current account- £7,066.33

Money manager- £1,217.94

- Recent transactions

Current account- payments in £1,583.00- precept

Paid out - £5.00 - bank charges

Money manager payment in - £0.85 interest

Outstanding payments (cheques 100541- 100549) total £2,882.06

12. Position of Clerk- The Clerk had given notice in October 2022 and agreed to continue in post until the end of the financial year. It was agreed to advertise for a new Clerk. In the interim Cllr R Shelton was asked if he would take up the role of acting clerk until a new appointment has been made. Cllr Shelton agreed.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his work over the past three years.

13. Any other business;

- A member of the public also thanked the outgoing clerk. He also made an enquiry regarding the missing milestone in Dolau – Cllr E Newman will report that it is missing to Powys again.

Date of next meeting (provisional subject to matters requiring decisions) - 16th February 2023.

Meeting closed 21.05