

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting held on the 20 March 2024 at Pandy Village Hall.

**PRESENT** Clrs Davies, R Morgan, Phillips, R Morgan-Evans, Rippin, Buckler and Cty Clr David Jones

**APOLOGIES** Clr Bentley

**COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** None

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Current A/C £400 Reserve A/C £9082.00

Since the February meeting, payments made were as follows: the Clerk (annual salary) £2,000; HMRC (PAYE) £500.55; Vigilant (fire exit door lights) £330; Merlin (Dog Waste Collection) £145.60; One Voice Wales (subscription) £241.00 and Helen Rippin (Website) £120.

Details re the 2023-2024 External Audit had now been received from Audit Wales.

Contact had been made with a One Voice Wales representative who had informed CCC that a meeting was due to take place between the Auditor General for Wales and the Head of One Voice Wales re the disquiet expressed by a number of community councils re charges for the annual external audit (which, of course, were in addition to the costs of an annual internal audit) especially where precepts were small. Concern had also been expressed over insignificant issues which were being brought up for criticism by the external auditors. CCC's unanswered requests for an explanation of the fluctuation in audit fees over the years, especially the £680 for the 2021-2022 audit, had been mentioned to the One Voice Wales representative in the light of the recent information sent out by Audit Wales which seemed to suggest that any contact (phone or otherwise) with Audit Wales which required an explanation/answer from Audit Wales would also be charged a fee !!

Mrs Chimene Haines, FCCA had been invited to carry out the Community Council Internal Audit for 2023-2024.

A new contract for Merlin Environmental Services (2024-2025) had also been received, signed and returned. CCC would be sent a countersigned contract by Merlin Environmental Services Ltd.

Councillors agreed that £150 should be donated to the local primary school to help pupils with regard to payments for school trips.

Councillors also agreed that £150 should be paid to the food bank in Abergavenny.

Councillors agreed that a new mortice lock be fitted to the bar door at a cost of £90.

Councillors confirmed their approval of the sale of the redundant Village Hall fridge for £100.

It was also decided that a donation to Cwmyoy Hall should be included in the budget proposals/precept for 2025/2026.

The **MINUTES** of the previous meeting were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

1. An email had been sent to the local community support officer asking him to monitor speeding through Llanvihangel Crucorney Village.
2. County Councillor David Jones had emailed MCC Traffic asking for an update on work promised re the parking bay outside the local primary school.
3. Re the request for information with regard to the results of the traffic survey near the former Park Hotel, no information had been forthcoming.
4. CCC was still waiting for a reply from MCC re an appropriate form of wording for a notice/letter advising on the timely disposal of rubbish from the holiday cottages in Llanthony.
5. Ty Doli potholes. CCC had received an incident number from MCC.
6. The excessive noise issues on Wern Gifford were being dealt with by MCC.

7. The blocked drain at Pont Rhys Powell had been reported and CCC had received an incident number from MCC. It was thought that work had already begun at that location but on a larger scale than just a blocked drain.
8. No action had been taken as yet re the clash between markings on the road for a 30mph limit and a sign indicating a 20mph limit at the entrance to Llanvihangel Crucorney.
9. Re sources of help for those suffering from the cost of living crisis, councillors were shown a leaflet issued recently by MCC called “ *Here to help with the cost of living: Claim what’s yours*”. It was agreed to post the leaflet on the Council’s Website, the Council’s Facebook Page and the Llanvihangel Crucorney News Facebook Page. It would also be sent out with the 'What’s On Crucorney' email.

## REPORTS

1. Pandy Village Hall. At a recent meeting, it was reported that there was c. £3k in the current account and £2.5 k in the deposit account. The HMC was congratulated re its recent FSA Food Hygiene 5-star rating for the Hall. A request was made for a new mortice lock to be installed on the doors of the bar. Also of concern were the following items: the main doors to the foyer needed adjusting; there were small areas of damp in the committee room; the inside fire exit light was too bright and a wall light fitting and coat hooks needed to be removed from the committee room. The Hall Management Committee was also asked to provide its end-of-year accounts for CCC.
2. Cwmyoy Hall. An email had been received which said there was no news of note at the moment.
3. CEC/CIC. No report.
4. Primary School. As with other organisations, there would be a tightening of the budget for the next school year. A book monitoring session had taken place at the last governors’ meeting with an introduction to a new scheme of marking /assessment.
5. Police Report for February. The report contained information re a fence around a site which had been cut, a 3-vehicle RTA, a 2-vehicle RTC (motor bike and lorry), a 2-vehicle RTC and the theft of a quad bike.

## **PLANNING DECISIONS**

1. BBNP 24/22604/TPO The Old Vicarage. Approved by BBNP. Noted.

**OBITUARIES**          None

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no further queries from councillors re correspondence which had been emailed to them.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. An email had been received from a non-local member of the public by both CCC and the Hall Management Committee. It contained comments about a group which had recently started to book the Hall for an hour per week. Relevant authorities had been contacted after whose advice councillors and the HMC decided to let the bookings continue although it was thought advisable to ask the group's organisers to produce a current public liability insurance document for future bookings.
2. Comments were made again about the poor state of the roads in the area.
3. It was reported that there were out-of-date notices left on the various notice boards in the area.
4. It was reported that Powys County Council had carried out some good repairs to the road surface on the Powys side of the road at Capel y Ffin.
5. It was reported that dog mess was still not being picked up by some irresponsible dog owners in the area. Councillors agreed to put up a couple of notices with photos on the CCC Facebook Page and the Llanvihangel Crucorney News Page.

The meeting ended at 20.55 The next meeting would be on the 17 April 2024.