

**CYNGOR CYMDEITHAS LLANFYNYDD
LLANFYNYDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Clerk: Elaine Blakeman, New Cross, Dryslwyn, Carmarthen, Carms. SA32 8SD

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**Minutes of the meeting of Llanfynydd Community Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday,
7th July 2015 at Speit Chapel Vestry.**

114/15: PRESENT: Chairman Cllr. Brian Thomas, Cllrs. Meirion Jones, Mairwen Rees, Lee Strudwick, Haydn Jones & David Jones.

In attendance were County Cllr. Mansel Charles & the clerk Mrs. Elaine Blakeman.

Also Present: Helen Sargent, Val Martin, Chris Hattersley, Sue Fitzgibbons & Community Officer Roger Anthony.

115/15: CHAIRMANS WELCOME – The chairman welcomed everyone present.

116/15: APOLOGIES - Cllr. David Jones stated that he would have to leave the meeting at 8.30pm as he has committed to training the Llanfynydd YFC Tug of war team who had an upcoming All Wales tournament. County Cllr. Mansel Charles stated that he too would have to leave at 8.30pm. And Cllr. Lee Strudwick stated that if the meeting went on that he would have to leave at 9pm.

117/15: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Both Chairman Cllr. Brian Thomas & Cllr. Mairwen Rees declared an interest in Correspondence Item no 5, a letter from Llanfynydd YFC looking for sponsorship for the upcoming sheep shearing event.

118/15: MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr. Mairwen Rees & seconded by Cllr. Haydn Jones that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2015 be accepted as a correct record of proceedings.

119/15: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. 103/15a JAPANESE KNOTWEED –

Cllr. Strudwick informed the Council that he had a price of £50& vat for the 5ltr roundup which was recommended by Hillary Forster of NRW. He also confirmed that Mr. Meirion Rees has the certificates required for using the chemicals & is more than happy to supervise the Community in its treatment of the Knotweed. It was noted however that the issue still remains of having how to treat private land. It was agreed that this is to be reviewed in the Sept. meeting & to appear on the Sept. agenda.

b. A lengthy Letter was read out from Mr. Chris Hattersley expressing his concerns regarding the way the Japanese Knotweed Infestation along the river bank down towards the Amor Chapel has been dealt with recently. Mr. Hattersley stated that the methods of dealing with the Knotweed are in complete contravention of the methods outlined and agreed with NRW and approved by the Community Council. Mr Hattersley has requested the following:

- Clarification from the Community Council with regards to help from Volunteers within the community and an assurance that residents who are concerned about the village & community be included in future clean up operations.
- To know why the Community Council allowed the spraying on the riverbank to happen & what they propose to do to ensure that inappropriate remedial actions by misinformed individuals are

not allowed to happen again.

- With regards to the cutting back of the Hedge & the knotweed in the hedge next to Mr. Bob Strudwick's land asked the Council for assurance that steps will be taken to ensure that this will not happen again.
- Requested an explanation as to why no information posters have been put up next to the knotweed so community residents are informed & aware as to what is needed & why.
- Requested assurance from the Community Council that action will be taken to ensure the community get back on track in accordance with the NRW recommendations from this spring.

In response to Mr. Hattersley's requests it was noted that of course Community Contribution is more than welcomed & that is what forms the community. In this instance there was no formal meeting arranged but as with many operations in the village, sometimes one person starts to do something in the village, then another person comes along & helps & before long there is a group working together. The spraying took place as recommended by Hillary Forster of NRW at the site meeting, a pre spraying would slow down the growing process & that cutting & spraying the knotweed shouldn't affect the spreading if it's not in flower.

It was noted that the Knotweed problem around the area of Mr. Bob Strudwick's land was much worse over the years prior to Mr. Strudwick's treatment.

It was noted that former Councillor Mr. Peter Law had put notices up in the notice boards on the problem of Japanese knotweed & how individual landowners should treat the problem.

It has already been noted that the Japanese knotweed is to be discussed & appear on the Sept. Agenda & following a plan on when & who is to treat the knotweed, updated information would be put up around the village on recommendations on how to treat the Knotweed on private land.

It was agreed that the clerk would contact Mr. Hattersley stating that the matter of Japanese Knotweed is in the process of being dealt with.

120/15: DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT – the meeting was suspended while Officer Roger Anthony delivered his report.

Community Officer Roger Anthony noted that there is a problem with farm gates been stolen in the surrounding areas of Llanfynydd. He suggested marking the gates may help in their recovery if they are stolen. It was noted that the fire brigade were called to the village a couple of weeks previously & Officer Anthony was asked if the fire brigade had any problems in accessing the house due to the obstruction of a parked vehicle. Officer Anthony reported that he hadn't heard anything, but would look into it. Officer Anthony noted that there was an issue with traffic speeding in the village; he is also looking into this.

121/15: CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were discussed and noted:

Correspondence for June 2015

1. Clerks & Councils direct July Issue
2. CCC – Consultation on Promoting Independence for Older People in Carms.
3. CCC – Application for safe routes in communities grant
4. National Botanic Garden of Wales – Yr Ardd & Summer 2015 events brochure
5. Llanfynydd YFC – Shearing Event
6. OVW - Wales Efficiency Strategy Consultation. Link available on request.
7. OVW - **One Voice Wales Larger Councils Conference - 8 July 2015 - Hafod a Hendre Royal Welsh Showground**
8. Kerry Jones - Countryside / Environment company introduction
9. CCC - FREE planning training workshop for Community and Town Councillors, 17th August - Carmarthen
10. OVW - Get help for your community through Resource Efficient Wales. Link available on request.
11. Letter from Chris Hattersley – Re. Japanese Knotweed
12. CCC – Dispensation forms

Road Maintenance

13. County Cllr. Charles - ENQ No.14,618 - Damage to stone wall Pontynyswen
14. County Cllr. Charles - ENQ No.14,605 - Missing Sign Post near Speit M.C. Chapel
- County Cllr. Charles - ENQ No.14,603 - CULVERT NEAR PANTGLAS HALL, LLANFYNYDD Correspondence for May 2015
15. Glasdon Brochure

Late Correspondence

16. Brechfa Wind farm Consultation
17. Pre application document for mobile phone tower
18. Thank you card from Mrs. Julie Jones.

122/15: HALL PLOT/COMMUNITY GARDEN

- a. 105/15a, Items held at school – To be reviewed.
- b. It was noted that Grace, Helen & Debbie are looking after the maintenance of the Garden up to the 2nd Sat in august & that the Community Council would maintain the garden for the 2nd half of August.
- c. Compost. It was noted that Cllr. David Jones had emptied the compost bin & the compost was of good enough quality. County Cllr. Mansel Charles agreed to donate a compost bin, so that they can be used alternatively while the compost is breaking down.

123/15: ROAD MAINTENANCE

- a. 106/15a: Right of Way opposite Meadow View –To be reviewed.
- b. 106/15b: Bridge by Penybont – It was noted that the bridge has been hit again. Cllr. David Jones is to try & get more information on the culprit & the clerk is to contact CCC.To be reviewed.
- c. 106/15d: Pot holes at Bryn Yr Eglwys up to the Brechfa Forest- To be reviewed.
- d. 106/15e: North Lodge Pant Glas Hall – A response from Stuart Quick of CCC stated that the stone drain had been inspected & cleared, but there appears to be a blockage within the grounds of Pant Glas & the Highways inspector has spoken to their maintenance dept. To be reviewed.
- e. 106/15f: Missing sign Corner Opposite the Farmers – A response from Stuart Quick of CCC stated that the missing signs will be placed on the ongoing replacement programme & will be allocated as resources allow. To be reviewed.
- f. Neighborhood Watch sign by Speit Cemetry near the sewage works – It was noted that the neighborhood watch sign has been knocked. Councillors agreed to go & have a look at it after the meeting.
- g. Hedge cutting – Councillors noted their concerns for road safety as the hedges in the area are very overgrown. The clerk is to inform CCC.

124/15: PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications received by the council.

County Cllr. Mansel Charles noted that he had been informed of a planning application for a steel container at Pen y Garn, SA32 7JY & that there was a report of tree felling at Upton Hall, he asked the Councillors if they had any information on these issues. None were reported.

125/15: WEBSITE

It was agreed that details of the Creffiau Plwyf Llanfynydd Parish Craft would be posted on the Website.

126/15: FINANCE

- a. It was agreed that a donation of £50 would be made to Llanfynydd YFC Sheep shearing event. Chairman Cllr. Brian Thomas & Cllr. Mairwen Rees both declared an interest & didn't partake in the decision. A cheque was prepared & signed accordingly.
- b. The clerk noted that on checking the annual return she noted that there was a difference of £50 between the closing bank balance of last year & the opening balance of this year. It was due to a

cheque that had not been presented at the end of the year but had subsequently been cancelled & reissued. The clerk stated that she had to send back the return to make the deadline but had put a note to the accounts regarding the difference.

127/15: COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY

Casual Vacancy – The clerk noted she had been contacted by CCC & the members of Llanfynydd Community have not requested an election, so the council have the job of co-opting for the 2 vacancies. The clerk signed a prepared notice of co-option & it was decided that any applicants interested apply by the 18th August, so that they would be in time for the Sept. meeting. It was agreed that the notice would be put up in Capel Issac, Abergorlech, 2 in Llanfynydd village, Brechfa & Dryslwyn post office.

128/15: STEERING GROUP FEASABILITY STUDY

It was noted that things have changed now in the community.

128/15: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. 111/15a: Creffiau Plwyf Llanfynydd Parish Craft - Cllr. Rees informed the Council that the grant application had been resubmitted & that she should have a response within a fort night. If the response was positive Cllr. Rees agreed to consult with the craft ladies to promote the project.
- b. 111/15b - Llanfynydd Former VA Primary School. The clerk read out a letter from the board stating that they were going to sell the building. It was agreed that the clerk write again to the board requesting that the council be kept informed on any progress & also to mention the clause in the will stating that the building has to be used for educational purposes. To be reviewed.
- c. 111/15h: It was noted that Cllrs. David Jones, Lee Strudwick, County Cllr. Mansel Charles & the clerk Elaine Blakeman had all attended the recent Code of conduct training in Carmarthen.
- d. 111/15i: Dog Foul – The clerk was informed by Steve Raymond of CCC that he would call to the area & feed back to the clerk when they had a chance to look around. To be reviewed.
- e. It was noted that the council have been intending to look at Standing Orders relating to the council so it was agreed that a review of the Standing Orders would take place at the October meeting & it is to appear on the agenda. Also the clerk is to forward on a standard copy of standing orders to all councillors before the October meeting.

129/15: MEETING CLOSED

County Cllr. Mansel Charles & Councillor David Jones left the meeting at 8.30pm.
Chairman Cllr. Brian Thomas closed the meeting at 9.05 pm and invited the members of the public to make any comments they may have. ~~Minutes stand adopted at the meeting was closed.~~

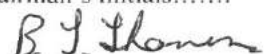
130/15: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the next meeting of Llanfynydd Community Council would be held on Tuesday 1st September 2015 at 7.30pm, Speit Chapel Vestry.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman's Initials.....



The Chairman Mr. Brian Thomas closed the meeting at 9.05pm so that members of the public that were present may comment.

- Mrs. Helen Sargent congratulated Hilary Coole of the Farmers Arms who was recently awarded a 1st class honors degree.
- Mrs. Sergeant spoke regarding the Knotweed stating that the flowers are sterile & if they are mixed with veg matter they can reproduce. She stated that the Leaves had to be burnt as it is illegal to take them away as recommended by Hillary Forster of NRW.
- Mrs. Sargent noted that the LVS too had received the same letter regarding the former VA school building.
- Mrs. Sargent noted that former Standing orders that were sent to Mr. Chris Papworth under the Freedom of Information Act stated that Members of the public could speak at the meeting, & asked that it could be clarified.
- Ms. Anne Fitzgibbon – enquired about a schedule for the Llanfynydd show & thanked the council for their work on the planters being minuted.
- Ms. Fitzgibbon spoke regarding Mr. Hattersley's letter read out regarding the Knotweed & she felt that Mr. Hattersley's points had been dismissed. She noted that members of the public could buy a product over the counter & put it near the watercourse, which may contaminate the water.
- Mr. Chris Hattersley noted that Mrs. Sargent made a valid point regarding the vegetation of the Knotweed, but because the points were made outside the meeting & not minuted as were the Councillors points that were made in the meeting. He noted that the Standing Orders should correct any incorrect information at the time.
- On a personal level Mr. Hattersley stated that he was disappointed that 1 Councillor would rather go to training than stay at the meeting & that another Cllr. had trivialise the points he had raised in his letter. Mr. Hattersley asked that the council reflect on its behaviour & found their actions very disrespectful & outrageous. Mr. Hattersley stated he was very angry. Chairman Cllr. Brian Thomas informed Mr. Hattersley that he had said enough as he was quite heated & getting quite aggressive.

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The council welcomes postal correspondence in Welsh or English - Croesewir gohebiaeth
trwy'r post yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg

Appendix 1

Bank Statements showed the following balances

18/08/2015 Lloyds Bank - Business Current Account: 00092707	£8872.24
18/06/2015 Lloyds Bank – Deposit A/C:07046026	£6739.78
18/06/2015 Lloyds Bank – Chairmans account : 00159763	£196.22
18/11/2014 Lloyds Bank – History of Llanfynydd Account: 00470604	£2482.41
27/10/2014 Lloyds Bank - Hall A/C 00198807	£88.87
12/06/2015 Nat West – Bonus Saver A/C: 30254566	£1632.29
18/05/2015 Lloyds Bank – Athro E Thomas: 07099626	£111.38
18/06/2015 Lloyds Bank – Maud Watkins: 07102252	£4793.42

