

20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Meeting of the Aberffraw Community Council  
held via ZOOM, at 7 pm Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**All minutes taken at the ACC meetings follow the guidelines set out by the Welsh Assembly, the NTAG and SLCC. Guidelines state they must show the Agenda Item, and the Resolution / Decision. A summary is optional. The minutes must be agreed by the members of the ACC usually at the next meeting, and signed by Chair and Clerk, therefore there is a possible delay in publication.**

Present            K Woods (Acting Chair), M T Smithurst, E Evans, C G Topps,  
                          A Hughes, R F Owen, Clerk – S Gill

Apologies        A Jones, W Hughes, B Owen

**1 Resignation of Cllr John Owens.**

A letter received from Cllr John Owens was read out to all in attendance by the Clerk. It is sad to see Cllr John Owens resign after almost 40 years on the Community Council, working selflessly as a volunteer. Cllr John Owens will be greatly missed at meetings. His knowledge of the regulations of a Community Council and of the Aberffraw Community as a whole were invaluable, especially to the new Clerk. The Members and Clerk wish Cllr John Owens a restful retirement – he has earned it.

**2 Chair for the meeting.**

In accordance with the legal guidelines and the Aberffraw Standing Orders the deputy chairman Cllr Woods was asked to step in as Chair for this meeting. Proposed: CT, Seconded: MTS, Voting was unanimous.

**3 Resolution on Public Attendance.**

A resolution was made to not allow public attendance due to:

- the sensitive and personal nature of Item 1. A complaint from the PO/RFO/Clerk regarding “vexatious” behaviour from a few members of the public, that have been reported to the Anglesey Constabulary resulting in two case numbers, one from November 2020 and the other 20/01/2021.
- the Community Council received information that the use of the ZOOM platform was considered to be insecure when discussing sensitive items.
- Unless the CC upgraded at a cost of £119.00 the time allowed via ZOOM was 45 minutes. The discussion of Item 1 was considered by the CC to take up most of this allotted time. With most of the other items being carried over to February’s Meeting – as stated on the Agenda.

Proposed: MTS, Seconded: EE - Voting in favour – unanimous

**4 Item 1 on the Agenda – Formal complaint received from the PO/RFO/Clerk**

- To Continue at the February meeting.

**NB: the 45 minutes of ZOOM timed out during the above debate and a second link had to be arranged quickly.**

## 5 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 were accepted as a true record, proposed. Proposed MS, Seconded EE. (The acceptance of these minutes were delayed due to the November 2020 meeting being cancelled due to technical issues – hence no Agenda or Public invites were issued).

**Action:** Clerk to post on Notice Board at the Village Hall and on the New Website.

## 6 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020

2.2 Road to the Lake. The Clerk has received an update from Cllr Bryan Owen sent from Mr R Hinchcliffe of the Highways Department:

*Consent is required from NRW as the site is within a triple SI and near the main river. Our consultants have been discussing for months and months. NRW wanted the Authority to divert the river through the dunes, which was totally unreasonable. An application for consent was passed onto NRW before Christmas, I believe that their timescale to grant permission or not is 12 weeks.*

*It's a long drawn out process and we must ensure that we are following the correct procedures. At this stage of the year, I imagine and would hope to start the repair works first week in April. I can imagine that the whole period has been frustrating for the residents, but I have been pushing this since the road closed.*

## 7 Proposed Budget for financial year 2021/2022

Items of concern:

- Purchase of the plot of land from Ynys Mon Council for future Burial Plots
  - The cost of the land from Ynys Mon Council is £1
  - The cost of legal fees for both parties is £1600 (only £600 was budgeted for last year so an amount of £1,000 is required from the Precepts in 2021/2022)
  - Ynys Mon Council has put restrictions of use on the land, that could add maintenance cost to future Community Council Budgets.

It was proposed by Cllr Smithurst that the Clerk write to our elected Ynys Mon Councillors asking them to intervene and see if we can get a Codicil to allow grazing on the plot for maintenance etc.

- Cost of election for Casual Vacancies
  - There are now three casual vacancies – how will this impact the costs?
  - Will the election process have to begin again?

**Action:** the Clerk to contact the elected Ynys Mon Councillors regarding the plot and to contact the Election Department regarding the additional vacancy.

- Clerk's Salary
  - The Clerk is currently requested to work one hour per day, five days per week (it was recognised that the Clerk currently gives a huge amount of time voluntarily)
  - The current hourly rate paid to the Clerk is the 2019 pay scale of £11
  - The 2020 pay scale was raised to £12.48 for the role currently carried out

The Clerk left the open ZOOM meeting declaring an interest, so that debate could be held. The vote in favour of the increase was unanimous. ***The Clerk has since proposed that the rise in salary be held until the next financial year 2021/2022 as it had not been budgeted for in this financial year – not yet agreed by Members.***

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Cllr Smithurst proposed that the increase of £2,400 in Precepts to accommodate the purchase of land and the election be agreed. It was also proposed that the Budget for the 2021/2022 financial year be agreed. Proposed MTS, Seconded by KW – voting was unanimous.

## 8 Planning Applications

- Planning Consultation D56/2021/1 - Prior approval for the installation of Telecommunications equipment at Bwlan, Aberffraw
  - This document was received at 16.53 on 20/01/2021
  - Cllr Evans put forward objections to the proposed installation
    - It is an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
    - It is an area of Scientific Interest
    - Also concerns with watermains etc.
  - It was proposed by Cllr Evans that a formal objection be forwarded to the consultants – Seconded CT, - voting was unanimous

**Action:** Clerk to lodge objection

## 9 Highways Issues

- Street Lamp out on the A4080 opposite Bragdy – Cllr Hughes informed the Clerk and this was reported to the Highways Dept by the Clerk before Christmas and has since been repaired.
- Steps and Pathway behind Numbers 1 to 3 Bro Bronwen. Cllr Topps informed the Clerk and submitted photos of the damaged steps etc. The Clerk contacted the Highways Dept and the damage has been investigated and a job number created for urgent repair.
- The Clerk was informed of an accident by a member of the community, who suffered quite serious injuries to his head and face (plus other injuries). The Clerk has reported to the Highways Dept the incident which was deemed to be due to the condition of the area left by contractors over the Christmas shutdown. The Clerk has again progressed this for comment from the Highways Dept.

### **Motion raised regarding the use of ZOOM for CC Meetings**

Cllr Topps highlighted concerns regarding the use of ZOOM for meetings during lockdown, as not all members are able to access the software to join the meetings. There have been quite a few technical issues for some members and this results in either only being able to join the meeting for short periods or in some cases not at all. It was suggested the Clerk look into support for these issues, ie: technical issues /funding / audio attendance. A motion was raised that this be added for debate at the February Meeting, as three Members have serious issues in joining the meetings. Proposed MTS, Seconded CT

**Action:** Clerk to progress information

**NB: All other items on the Agenda were held over to the next meeting as the second ZOOM 45 minutes were about to expire.**

**NB: One Voice Wales has informed Cllr Woods that the Welsh Government have stated that until further notice it will not be mandatory to invite the Public into ZOOM meetings due to the issue of security.**