**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 14th September 2021 at Penybont Community Hall at 7.30pm.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs D.Turner (Chair);A.Willemsen D.Lyall ; Cllr D.Baylis: J.Ingram: L.Watkins

 **Apologies**: A.Lawrence

**Absent:**

**Others:** County Councillor M. Weale (mention only, Councillor left the meeting following his report)

**Declarations of Interest:** Nil

**PD/0091/21 Minutes**

To authorise the Chairman to sign minutes of the previous meetings of the Council held on the

* 14th July

**Resolved to accept: Proposed Cllr Lyall Unanimous**

**PD/0092/21 Clerk’s update:**

* Speed Signs: No success was made to gain financial assistance towards the footings of the signs. A balance sheet was produced showing funds available from reserves to cover these costs of £2489.52.

**Proposed by Cllr J.Ingram to proceed, Unanimous**

* With the resumption of public meetings by councils in Wales, the Welsh Government introduced new legislation governing such meetings. (*Statutory Guidance made under Section 4 of the Local Government (Wales) Measures 2011)*
1. Any councillor may attend the meeting remotely, but when speaking must be heard and seen and be able to see and hear other members attending the meeting.
2. Facilities must also be available for the public as above.

The council must therefor invest in technology to comply with this legislation.

1. Broadband at the meeting place
2. Projector and screen
3. Computer with zoom
4. Camera/sound system.

The council were advised that until these measures were in place the council was not permitted to have public council meetings and must return to on-line meetings.

It was agreed to return to such meetings and for the council to investigate the costings to return to public meetings during its annual budget meeting on 11/1/22.

**PD/093/21 County Councillors Report**

* Gave further updates on the closure of Llanfihangel Rhydithon C.P. (Dolau School). New housing in the area is constantly being built and this is a persuasive argument to keep this valuable resource open.
* Penybont Railway Station, the station is an unstaffed [request stop](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Request_stop) with one active platform and serves more than 1500 users per year and is a valuable resource to the local community. However, its access/exit onto the A44 is situated on a blind corner. This is inherently dangerous, and a widening of the verge needs to be considered giving greater visibility. Support to write to Highways Powys was accepted and the clerk will contact Mr T Caine regarding this matter.

**PD/0094/21 Planning:**

* Hendy Wind Farm: Application to discharge Condition 38A (Bat & Starling & Raptor Protection Plan). 21/1564/DIS.

The council felt that this did not represent an accurate study siting numbers of starlings at 30-50,000.

Recent published figures by:

 Radnorshire Wildlife= 180,000

 RSPB = 500,000

It was further noted that construction of the turbines would not begin until this report was prepared, and Powys Planning are not enforcing their conditions.

The clerk will respond to this application and expect that Powys will ensure the monitoring program of mortality of wildlife when the turbines are operating is correctly done.

* Statutory Pre-Application re Bryn Thomas, Penybont LD1 5SW

The council resolved to acknowledge receipt and make no further comments until sight of the plans. **Proposed Cllr Lyall Unanimous.**

* **Complaint Received.**

Ty Pont, LD1 5TY, subject to planning conditions on 19/1425/Ful (20/0962/Ful having been withdrawn) the authorised temporary wooden structure is now being used as a residual property full time , Clerk to contact Planning office.

**PD/0095/21 Community Projects/Issues: Partially suspended during the public restrictions.**

* **Community Council web site: Heritage Grant.**

This matter has now been completed and any comments to enhance its contents would be welcomed. There has been positive feedback from the Heritage Fund, particularly on the use of QR codes describing the walker’s location.

* **Road markings at Llandegley**

Following site meetings by the Chair and Mr T.Caine (PCC Highways) and full discussions at council, it is **Proposed** by Cllr Turner that no further signs or markings or removal of signs/markings are required at the site. Agreed by majority, Cllr Willemsen abstained. Clerk to inform PCC

* **Flooding of the Ithon Terrace**

Cllr Turner reported that a further meeting with authorities is being held in the Community Hall on Friday 17th Sept.

* **My Life, My Wishes**

Cllr J.Ingram brought to the councils attention an awareness campaign by NHS for individuals advanced care planning and ‘end of life’. It was agreed that this should be published on the council web site.

**PD/0096/21 One Voice Wales**

Nothing additional to report

**PD/0097/21 Finance**

* Expenditure to authorise.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| National Heritage | Refund of underspend grant | £326.00 |

* HSBC Bank charges will now be applied to all town and community councils.

 **Proposed to pay Cllr Ingram Unanimous**

**PD/0098/21 Correspondence.**

 Nil

**PD/0099/21 Public Questions**

* Mrs J. Jenkins informed the council about the commitment and service by the mobile library throughout the pandemic, in reaching and supply books, particularly to those less able to go to them. The council supported all the high praise given and will write our appreciation to the staff on this matter.
* Mr Hulse raised an issue of rubbish/fly tipping behind the bus shelter in Llandegley despite the efforts of the villagers. He suggested a request be made that grass cutting behind this location be more frequent thus suggesting to individuals it was a cared for environment and not appropriate to leave their rubbish. Clerk to enquire.
* He supported the council’s opinion on the Hendy report on wildlife and that from his observations, their figures are wildly inaccurate.
* The total lack of information and alternatives regarding the movement of AIL(Abnormal Indivisible wide Loads) going to Hendy Wind Farm requiring the sealing up of the local post box and the effect upon the post office delivery is unacceptable. (*This will form the contents of several issues to be raised with Powys Planning)*
* Raised the possibility of renting out the automated speed signs to other local communities thus assisting with the costs to our community.

**PD/000100/21 Hendy Wind Farm**

Issues raised to be brought to the attention of planning and planning enforcement: -

* Quality of report contained in 21/1564/DIS
* 19/1709/Ful: The biodiversity mitigation and measures detailed in section 6.2 and 6.3 of the approved Biodiversity Enhancement Plan produced by ADAS dated 08/04/2020 shall be fully implemented prior to the beneficial use of the access hereby approved and retained as such thereafter."

Condition 6 has not been discharged, the developer has not implemented the biodiversity mitigation and measures, and beneficial use of the access has taken place (i.e. delivery of the AILs).  The developer is therefore clearly in breach of the planning condition, and Powys should take enforcement action.

* Continued closure of the ‘Boat’ and ‘public rights of way’ for maintenance, which was concluded 8 weeks ago.
* Prohibitive sign to the public use of the rights of way, restricted to Hendy vehicles only.
* The Section 106 agreement with Hendy Ltd of £17,500 for the upkeep of public rights of way, appear not to have been used.
* 12th September at 1920hrs, 3 AIL, brought into Hendy Farm without consideration to residents nor contact with residents.
* Despite the undertakings given, *(see reply from Principle Planning Officer, Holly Wilkinson, dated 4/9/20, …… . I can confirm that this will be raised with the developer to ensure compliance with the details as agreed and encourage effective communication between interested parties.)* This council nor its residents have never been informed/consulted.

**PD/0101/21 Meeting concluded at 9.30pm Next meeting**

**Tuesday 9th November at 7.30pm via Zoom, access code to be published on the** [**November agenda**](https://www.penybontcc.co.uk/Meetings_35368.aspx)**.**