

Cyngor Cymuned Basle Hefo Chrugion Bausley with Criggion Community Council

Minutes of the Online meeting held on Monday 6th July 2020 commencing at 7.30pm

043/2020 **PRESENT:** Councillors A Lloyd, S. Morris, L Burrowes, D Jones

APOLOGIES: Cllr R Lewis, Cllr T Davies & Cllr F Davies.

County Councillor Lucy Roberts in attendance

Chairman D Jones took the meeting and noted that Cllr F Davies although unable to take part had furnished the Clerk / RFO with her views on the matters to be discussed.

Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Steve Eccleshall

044/2020 This Community Council meeting was held using the Online platform of Zoom, due to the ongoing COVID Pandemic. The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020 state Councils can hold official meetings, with members participating in telephone / video conferencing. There is NO requirement for the Public or Press to attend, as long as decisions / minutes etc are published promptly on the website.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

045/2020 None

046/2020 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING 8th June 2020**

Agreed by all present – Copy to be posted to and signed by Chairman D Jones

PLANNING APPLICATION

047/2020 20/0838/HH. Proposal: Erection of triple bay garage with first floor storage over. Site Address: The Whitehouse, Coedway, Crew Green, SY5 9AR

Councillors discussed this application. It was noted that the site originally had a garage with an “In & Out” driveway but the driveway had been altered to a single entrance / exit and the garage had been converted into a residential area. Councillors decided that if the proposed garage was just for a garage and storage area there were no objections but the plans seem to suggest that the area above the garage could be converted into a residential area / annex at a later date? Councillors felt that if the purpose now or in the future was too use the space for residential / annex then a full Planning Application should be submitted clearly showing this at this stage for the Councillors and Powys to deliberate on.

Resolution : - If the application is purely intended as a garage area, Councillors had no objections, however if its future purpose was for other uses then a suitable Planning Application should be submitted for consideration. Clerk to notify Powys Planning.

MATTERS ARISING

048/2020 County Councillor Lucy Roberts informed the Community Council that a local resident had contacted her raising concerns about the speed of traffic passing through Bryn Hafren citing that they had witnessed “near misses” with children and pedestrians and with cars reversing out onto the road. The resident asked whether the speed limit could be reduced to a 30mph as it was a residential zone. County Cllr asked the Community Councillors for their view. Councillors discussed this and were generally in favour of reducing the speed limit to 30mph and were surprised that as it is residential that the speed limit was not already 30mph. County Cllr Roberts explained that Powys had informed her that as the housing was only on one side of the road – not both sides that this was not an automatic procedure. Powys had suggested that if supported by residents and the Community Council then it may be possible to reduce the speed limit to 30mph and have signs put up to indicate this. There was also mention that perhaps residents could assist by reversing into their parking spaces – rather than driving nose in, and then being able to drive out with better vision to assist with safety.

Resolution : - Clerk to contact Chris Lloyd, Powys Highways to ask that the matter be looked into and that a speed reduction was endorsed by the Community Council.

049/2020 Additionally, a different resident had raised the issue of a tractor being parked on the pavement along Bryn Hafren. Apparently, this vehicle was blocking the entire footway & was close to an area of drains etc that had been the subject of blockage and flooding nearby houses in 2019. Furthermore, as the vehicle was so large & was on both the pavement and road it was felt this may obstruct the view of motorists / pedestrians as raised above. County Councillor Roberts stated that she believed this matter had come to the notice of Powys Highways but would make enquiries.
Resolution : - County Cllr Roberts to liaise with Highways.

FINANCES

050/2020 The Clerk explained that the year End accounts 2019 – 2020 had not yet been completed and signed off by the Internal Auditor. These accounts are hoped to be finalised within the next 14 days for the Councillors to view.

051/2020 The Bank Reconciliation to 30th June 2020 and the Budget for 2020 – 2021 were reviewed and agreed by the Councillors.

Resolution : - Proposed by A Lloyd, seconded by S Morris. Documents including copies of bank Statements, to be posted to and signed by Chairman D Jones as a true record.

052/2020 The Clerk explained that there was an ongoing Standing Order to HMRC for PAYE that needed to be cancelled as payments were made by cheque for the exact amount. It transpired that HMRC had received additional payments which would be recouped in the near future. Also, it would assist the RFO / clerk to have the facility to view the Bank Account online to ensure accurate monitoring of the balances, and the list of signatories to the account needed to be checked and verified. All of these actions could only be undertaken by a current signatory (Councillor). Councillors agreed to cancel the HMRC Standing Order, allow the Clerk / RFO to have View only access to the Bank Account to assist with his duties and clarify who was listed as a signatory.

Resolution : - Proposed by S Morris, seconded by D Jones. Cllr L Burrowes offered to attend Lloyds Bank and deal with these issues.

053/2020 At the last Council meeting on 8th June 2020 it had been agreed that the Financial Scrutiny Committee formed in mid-2019 would have accessed and reviewed all financial documents prior to the next Council meeting originally scheduled for 17th August 2020. As a planning application had been received and needed to be dealt with before this date and the Finances were still being assessed by the Internal Auditor the FSC had not had the opportunity to review the finances. Councillors discussed the FSC and the issues in getting the finances reviewed in time for meetings and the complications caused by COVID 19. It was suggested that as long as the financial documents were produced at future meetings where Councillors could review invoices, cheques made out against bank statements and other relevant financial documents etc then was there a need for a FSC at this time? The decision was made that Councillors themselves would review the finances at each future meeting and the role of the FSC was no longer necessary, with many thanks to Jane Shaw for offering her valuable time on a voluntary basis originally.

Resolution : - Proposed by S Morris, seconded by D Jones. Chairman D Jones to write to Jane Shaw thanking her for all her time & assistance, explain the situation and request a handover.

054/2020 RFO explained that the Annual Grant cheque to St Michaels Churchyard Criggion had been delayed as the cheque book had been emptied at the last meeting! However, a new Cheque book had been received and a cheque made out to the beneficiary, it just required signing by 2 councillors as per Standing Orders and would be undertaken in the next few days. – Cheque No.626 refers.

055/2020 The Clerk / RFO's Salary for June 2020 was calculated as £309.90. Time sheets and salary statements were reviewed and agreed – noting the increase in hours due to RFO dealing with Year End accounts and payment authorised – Cheque No.627 refers

Resolution : - Proposed L Burrowes, seconded A Lloyd.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next Community Council meeting scheduled for 20th July 2020 as a new Planning Application had just been received and required deliberation before 24th July 2020.