Llangattock Community Council - *CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANGATWG*

The following are the minutes of an ordinary meeting of Llangattock Community Council, held online on Tuesday 17th October 2023 7pm.

Attendance: Cllr R Jones, Cllr T Jones, Cllr G Jones, Cllr G Dobbs, Cllr J Rees, Cllr A Williams, Cllr S Ady, Cllr H Burns, Cllr A Stubbs, Cllr K Inglis

Public Participation: None

61/23	**Apologies for absence:** None
62/23	**Members' declarations of Interest:** None
63/23	**Minutes to approve from meeting of the 19th September 2023 and any matters arising:** **Proposed:** Cllr G Jones **Seconded:** Cllr T Jones **Resolved: t**he full council accept that the minutes are a true and accurate record **Matters arising:** ● Buddhafields has withdrawn their application Noted
64/23	**County Councillors Report (for information only)** 1. **County Councillor Surgery –** This continues to be very successful at the Repair Café and spend much longer than the allotted 2 hours speaking to people and gaining information. This month talked about LGV project, picked up on the Buddhafield Event which had been bought to my notice from Llanenlly Hill (see below). Had a request to put up a British Horse Society Sign on the bottom road of The Dardy, hope to get that done. Got some interesting information about motor bike speeding between Abergavenny and Llandovery which has been shared with the Community Safety Partnership in Powys. 2. **Afternoon Bus from Brecon & Abergavenny** – This is really Llangynidr but thought you might be interested. At long last making some headway on the buses. Looking to put on an extra bus from Brecon to Llangynidr at around 5 o'clock and agreed the 17.05 from Abergavenny arriving in Llangynidr at 17.40 which passes through Crickhowell. This might also get to Llangattock but need to find out more. Been liaising with Kate on local bus development and hoping to include in the Transport Review which will take place in January. 3. **Powys Car Park Review** – This will start with a cross party and stakeholders working group on 26th October. 4. **SpeedWatch and GoSafe Van –** Speed Watch will be taking a break until new legislation on 20 mph has been embedded and new risk assessments have been completed by GoSafe. I am asking the British Horse Society to do some Awareness Training in Llangynidr if anyone is interested then just let me know. 5. **Beaufort Estate and Common** – Have asked to be kept informed but no feedback to date. 6. **Buddhafield Events –** It has been confirmed that the licence for any event has been withdrawn for Ty Uchaf Farm, Llanelly Church Road, NP7 0HG which impacted on roads leading to and from Llangattock.

7. **Bus Shelter –** Still awaiting a response from Highways and hope to press more when I get back from holiday on 20th October. I note it is down for discussion at the meeting on 17th October.
8. **Work on Fence Clos Ciliau Car Park –** Work has now been completed on the fence and looking good.
9. **Yellow Lines in Village –** Time to get heavy on the Yellow Lines in the village and together with Bus Shelter hope to get some movement on that when I return.
10. **County Councillor Surgery Llangynidr** – Next Surgery planned for October, there was no Surgery in August in Llangattock so I did an extra one in Llangynidr. I will be in Llangattock on 30th September with the Repair Café if you have anything for repair and would like a chat with me at the same time, do come along on 30th September.

NEWS FROM POWYS

Powys County of Sanctuary

Powys is proudly moving forward as a Council of Sanctuary. This will help to raise awareness of issues which often frighten people but will also give us the opportunity to be proactive should the call come from the Home Office that we need to provide sanctuary. We have welcomed many people over the years and during 2022 we recognised the importance of being open and welcoming to many families from the Ukraine.

Temporary Closure of Brecon Household Waste & Recycling Site

The Brecon Household Waste Recycling Centre in the Ffrwdgrech Industrial Estate will be closing temporarily on Thursday 16 November to undergo important safety upgrades and improve the site us experience.

The refurbishment to the recycling centre will include new, safer hardstanding across the site, upgrad drainage, an improved one-way system with easier access and safer parking area, and a dedicated are leaving items for re-use. Due to begin on Thursday 16 November, the work will take approximately three-months to complete.

Although many of the improvements to the site will not be noticeable to visitors, they are essential to make sure the facility complies with legal requirements, operates safely, and remains easy for visitors access and use.

Whilst the recycling centre is closed, residents wishing to recycle items not collected at the kerbside, be able to visit one of the other four centres in the county, the closest of which are in **Llandrindod W** (open Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat and Sun) and **Lower Cwmtwrch** (open Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat and Sun).

Cardboard can still be taken to one of the following local community recycling sites:

Please check online for details and opening days and times of all Powys Household Waste Recycling Centres: https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/725/Household-Waste-Recycling-Centres

Interim Directors Taking on New Roles in Powys

Nigel Brinn who was Executive Director for Economic Development as well as many front line services, recently announced his departure from Powys CC to become CEO of Forest of Dean. He will be sadly missed but two existing Heads of Service will be stepping up in the interim to cover the role. This is a good decision and financially sound.

Matt Perry will join the team as interim Director of the Environment and Diane Reynolds as Interim Director of Economy and Community Services. Both appointments are effective from October 30.

	Matt will be responsible for both the Highways Transport and Recycling and the Property, Planning and Public Protection service areas. Diane will be responsible for Economic Development and Community Services. Noting that the Community Services team includes Leisure, Library, Culture, Catering and Cleaning. In addition, Diane will lead on some key regional working projects such as the Corporate Joint Committee, the Regional Skills Partnership, Growing Mid Wales and the Marches Forward Partnership. Cllr T Jones requested that the Council potentially take a view on the Recycling Centre closure over the Christmas period. He drew the Council's attention to the distances involved in the closure. Discussions included requesting Powys discuss with Monmouthshire and also other sites if this was not possible (the old army camp for example). **Motion:** that the full council write to the County Councillor in relation to coverage for the Village and surrounding areas over the closure period **Proposed:** Cllr G Jones **Seconded:** Cllr K Inglis **Resolved:** that the Clerk write to the County Councillor requesting better coverage
65/23	**Report from the Planning and Environment Committee for Full Council agreement (Cllr K Inglis) and any Motions for the Full Council to Consider** 1. **THINK project Update** - A first meeting with the THINK team from Aberystwyth has been held and the support that is on offer was discussed. THINK has a network of 170 members and can connect us with similar projects. A £2k grant has been approved, however this has to be claimed back from them as and when we spend it. The Clerk has confirmed that LCC can manage this. Cllr Inglis has now been put in touch with various support networks, The Community Transport association, Dial-a-Ride Brecon & Bournemouth University. 2. **Slow the Flow** project update – Wye & Usk Foundation hydrological maps are shared on the LCC Drive. Ongoing project. New Scimap that covers a wider area including the Nant Wenllan. 3. **Together for our Planet** funds – Reminded the committee that some of these funds are still being used for the Website work. After this is complete, there will some funds left over, which could be donated to the Repair Café's ongoing work. The remainder of the fund has to be used for a project from the original application. 4. **Website update** – information uploaded now, with the developer Dan to format. Council will be able to check a "ghost" site and see the new sections as they will finally appear on the website. 5. **PCC Quarterly flood meeting** – Cllr K Inglis (KI) & Cllr G Jones (GJ) attended on 18th Sept. Very useful forum. New attendees from NRW and the Crickhowell Fire Station Commander – Simon Prince. Crickhowell Fire Station has a recruitment problem currently and are running at 50% capacity. Also becoming a Wading Station, water first responder by Christmas. 6. **Consultation on Substation** - Green GEN Cymru in the Powys Uplands and overhead lines through the Vyrnwy Valley, connecting to electricity network near Frankton in Shropshire. Email on LCC Drive. 7. **Buddhafield licence application** – withdrawn prior to the meeting. Discussion of letters received from residents. Situation will be monitored for future changes. 8. **LGV support letter** – letter approved in support of LGVs application to PAVO for feasibility work for a new community Energy Park.

	9. **Bus Shelter fund** - Concerns aired over the future of our existing bus service, considering the cut-backs everywhere. Committee voted to pass £500 of the P&E budget to go towards the Bus Shelter fund. 10. **Speeding over the Llangattock Mountain** Discussion around GoSafe and the results from the visiting officer. No major cases of speeding were reported, but it was felt by Councillors that the Officer attended at the wrong time. **Clerk to reply to Gemma Philips** and request that the officer returns and monitors on a weekday, ideally at 8am or at school pick-up time of 3.30/4pm. **PLANNING:** **23/22247/LBC – Ty'r Philip-Evan Farm, Hillside –** Farmhouse roofing repairs and thermal upgrades to Grade II listed building. **No comment from Committee**, happy that the plans are very well thought out and detailed, making the building more energy efficient and sound for the future. Planning Authority will handle under Grade II listing restrictions. **22/20716/FUL – Llangattock Community Woodlands –** Retrospective Planning permission for structures essential to forestry activities. No comment on the application. But discussion around writing a letter to the Woodland Group concerning following the proper procedures in future. While LCC supports the work of the Woodland Group, we are saddened by their approach to planning matters. **Clerk to write letter.** **Pl9897 & 23/22248/FUL – Winneba –** New application for circular window, larch cladding and windows openings to SW elevation. Possible discrepancy between these two planning applications. **Letter to be sent to the Planning Officer detailing our specific concerns.** **21/199927/FUL TImbercraft Park** - Consent notice with long list of conditions **23/22098/TPO** - Oaklands House, Hillside Road - Consent notice ● **Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 7th November at 7pm, 2023.** **The full council accepted and noted this report.** **This application was bought to full council due to it falling outside of the 21 days before the next Planning and Environment meeting:** ● Planning Application Consultation Letter 23/21866/FUL Proposal: "Loft conversion with installation of roof lights" Address: 4 Church View , Llangattock, Crickhowell Powys NP8 1PQ The application was shared on screen and discussed. Cllr T Jones referred back to the Design Statement and various other Councillors commented on the difference in design to other roof lights in the area. It was noted that the Heritage Office has questioned the window design. **Proposed:** Cllr T Jones **Seconded:** Cllr A Williams **Resolved:** that the full Council will respond with concerns in relation to the design of the window and request an extension to the next Planning and Environment committee
66/23	**Report from the Central Services for Full Council agreement and any Motions for the Full Council to Consider (Cllr G Jones)**

	The Committee last met on Thursday 28th September, we shall keep it to the 4th Thursday of the month to relieve the burden of admin on The Clerk on the days around Full Council so the next Committee meeting will be next week on Thursday 26th October. **Maintenance update** Central meetings are also quite long with maintenance/jobs taking up a lot of time which puts the squeeze on other matters on the agenda. We propose to try and resolve some of these via a What's App chat group. For eg, vandalism in the Recreation Ground was debated at the time of discovery on Friday 13th. One of the new signs at the Beechwood gate had been pulled out of the concrete and thrown behind the kicking wall, the compost corner had been completely removed, the Green Flag Award banner hanging on the white birch tree by the outdoor tap is missing and green waste cuttings discarded by the wall next to the Monkey Puzzle tree – which have been cleared away. The Tree Survey has been forwarded to BB for comments on recommended tree works. Gwyn and Julian have agreed to remove the dead white birch in due course (which the banner had been hanging on). The Clerk has obtained a quote from PHS for regular maintenance of the gents urinal which will be discussed at Committee next week. The Clerk has requested OTM strim the Memorial Garden and wildflower areas on their next visit to the Recreation Ground. DragonPlay have been invited to quote for regular maintenance inspections of the zipwire. **Governance and Insurance Update** The Clerk has been having sessions with Peninsula Services who will take over some HR matters, as well as Health & Safety and Sam is comparing their documentation is aligned with our policies and standing orders. The Clerk gave a small update on the Peninsula system and informed that Council that once the initial set up has been completed there would be a roll out of the live "hazzard" reporting system to Councillors. **Finance Update** Last month motion carried to support a grant application for a hedge-laying project. This is now on hold as timing outside of the nesting season is critical, hedge-layers are already fully booked, the grant would have to be spent by March and actually it's a big project to organise and promote and we don't have spare capacity to deal with another project right now. The BB Nature Recovery Project have been advised and will contact us when the next round of funding happens next year. **Pop Ups in the Park** Committee agreed that the events had been successful and would like to continue with them on an occasional basis as they depend on a few councillors being available to allow access to the park and Clerk to manage the necessary paperwork including risk assessments. An Events Booking Form will be designed for future use. The Jacket Potato lady had requested a slot and Cllr G Jones responded to her with the above decision. **Council Toolkit Update**

	Sam has been making great progress on ensuring compliance with the Council Toolkit (and will bring a motion to Central next week and will then take it to Full in December. **The full council accepted and noted this report.**
67/23	**Place Plan Steering Group Report for Full Council agreement and any Motions required (Cllr T Jones)** Phase 1 of the consultation is almost complete, having held a survey (153 answers) 13 pop-ups and small area walkabouts and meetings, responded to around 30 individual emails and messages from residents, had dozens of individual conversations, set up a data group to look at ONS censuses and other information sources. Other working groups have looked at present and future policies affecting Llangattock. But the consultation is not finished. There are still hard-to-reach groups, including young people to reach. The Data Group has revealed the following: ● The population of Llangattock is ageing rapidly. Between the 2011 and 2021 censuses, the median age rose from 50-56. 35% are over 65 and 73% live alone or as a couple with no children at home (though they could be grandparents of children at the school. Most of these live in 3/4 bed properties because there are no smaller properties to downsize to. ● Almost half the mainly smaller properties in the 'old' part of Llangattock are second homes or holiday lets. ● In 2022, Llangattock was the most expensive place to live in Powys, with an average earnings/average house price/mortgage ratio of 1/11.4, higher than the UK average of 1.9. ● There is very little private rented property available. In August 2023, 18 people with local connections were on the housing waiting list. ● The number of households without a car has has fallen significantly and the number of multi-vehicle households has risen to well above the Wales average. ● From the surveys, we have been able to identify parking 'hot-spots' and causes. The Place Plan team have also been consulting stakeholders in Brecon Beacons National Park and Powys County Council Highways, Housing and Transport Departments (thanks to Cllr Jackie Charlton for facilitating the latter). We are also talking to both schools. We now have a much clearer idea about what is permissible in terms of affordable housing, car parks and residents' parking schemes (see separate briefing notes and Q+A in folder). These all seem more possible than previously thought though residents' commitment to these still need to be tested through working groups and the Place Plan process. We are gathering information to send to appropriate authorities where issues require urgent consideration. It is clear that the car park opposite St Catwgs Church is one of these and as owners, we are going to need to consider in the very near future a response to residents who say it is oversubscribed. Any scheme, however, needs to be seen in the context of any likely impact on the rest of the village. A presentation has been prepared and is being circulated with residents who have worked on the data and policy groups (I intend to bring this to committee for endorsement as the residents'

	steering group). The presentation will then be delivered to a public meeting or meetings in November. I have discussed with Richard who agrees that Cllrs should be given an opportunity to be briefed on this presentation as soon as possible and he has suggested a workshop in the committee room at Llangattock Community Hall. It is much too detailed to discuss properly in Council. Can we please agree on a date in the near future when this might happen? A date of the 24th October was agreed in the evening. **The full council accepted and noted this report.**
68/23	**Report from the Finance Committee for Full Council agreement and any associated Motions for the Full Council (Cllr S Ady & RFO)** The Finance Committee hasn't met since our last Ordinary meeting in September so nothing to report back to you. I would however like to advise everyone that it's that time of year again where we will start to look at our budget for 24/25 in readiness for our Precept submission in the new year. Following a meeting next week with all committee chairs next week where we are looking to review our priorities for the next 12 – 18 months, I will write out to you all asking for your input. Ideally I would like to start the discussions around our budget in November's ordinary meeting. **The full council accepted and noted this report.** **Committee report followed by:** ● **Motion:** for full council to accept the payments and receipts made and instruct the Clerk to pay the invoices listed (October) The payments list was shared on screen. It was noted that the Land and Stone payment is under contract to pay when the work starts, Cllr R Jones will confirm when this has occurred and payment will then be paid. **Proposed:** Cllr K Inglis **Seconded:** Cllr T Jones **Resolved:** that the full council agreed that all payments/invoices presented be paid by the RFO/Clerk ● **Motion:** for the full council to accept the reconciliation report for September 2023 The full council noted the reconcile report **Report from RFO in relation to the Bus Stop/Shelter and budget headings.** The RFO shared her report so far with the potential of VIRE money from the Council's budget headings she reminded the Council that this is for information only at this stage. Cllr T Jones stated that the Community Committee had not met but they may require the money for the Place Plan and could this be bought forward.

	Cllr S Ady suggested that this be discussed in the priorities discussion on the 26th October. Cllr R Jones requested that this be brought forward to the next meeting as an agenda item. The RFO also reminded the Council and committees to look at their budgets in their November meetings ready for the November/December/January discussions.
69/23	**Reduction of hours of Neville Hall Hospital Minor Injuries Unit** Cllr R Jones confirmed that Brecon is open 24 hours, except for Friday when it is closed 8pm to 8am. Abergavenny 7am to 1am (proposed) Ebbw Vale is 8:30am to 7pm Merthyr Tydfil 24 hours The Grange is not listed as a minor injury unit currently but is a 24 hour for emergencies The Gwent is 24 hours There is a gap on a Friday from 1am to 8am between Brecon and Abergavenny. The Council discussed the numbers given by the Health Board and the coverage is sufficient for the Friday 1am to 8am when Merthyr Tydfil is available for minor injuries. Emergencies are covered as normal. The Full Council wished to make no comment.
70/23	**Correspondence & Other outside Committee feedback:** Cllr A Williams gave an update as **School Governor.** She welcomed the new head teacher. She updated that secure fencing and gates have been a County wide decision. They noted that there is a small intake at the very bottom of the school, which is of concern. She mentioned the Llanbedr school closure - she wished it to be noted that Llangattock School had tried to engage at the point of closure however this did not come to fruition and that the Governors had been open. Cllr T Jones spoken to the Governors earlier this evening, housing and drops off were mentioned. The shared footpath was mentioned and Powys' concerns. He confirmed that the Council will be sending them data of the Place Plan on joint matters. Cllr R Jones confirmed that he had not been able to attend the last meeting as he was called to an emergency. The Clerk confirmed correspondence with **LACAS** which she shared with the Council. This was a late piece however it requires the Council to agree to the bonfire in line with the lease. Cllr T Jones stated that in 2021 one of LACAS's members had objected to the holding of a bonfire and specifically to the burning of treated wood. This had taken up a lot of Council time dealing with the correspondence and he would like to see reassurances from the committee that this would not be repeated. Cllr R Jones confirmed that the National Grid has raised concerns as to the previous site of the bonfire. **Motion:** to write to LACAS asking for reassurances that wood burned would be in line with environmental legislation, that members had been consulted and that LACAS would be responsible for dealing with any complaint, and that the position of the bonfire is safe. Agreement will be

	dependent upon this. **Proposed:** Cllr A Williams **Seconded:** Cllr G Dobbs **Resolved:** that the Clerk to write to LACAS with the response above **27.09.23** - email - Powys Health Board - Crickhowell/Gilwern Surgery The Clerk confirmed that the correspondence has been passed to Cllr K Inglis in relation to the volunteer bus and car services. This was noted. **03.10.23** - email - Out There ITV location manager Filming took place again this month, including using the recreation ground with a further donation. This was noted. **05.10.23** - letter - resident in relation to parking in the village (passed to Cllr T Jones/Place Plan) Cllr T Jones will work with the Clerk on a response to this. This was noted. **06.10.23** - email - Air Ambulance Donation appeal Councillors felt that this was a valuable service. It was requested that this be brought to the next meeting to discuss a donation, amounts are dependent on the priorities discussion. **To resolve if this meeting should exclude the public and press as per the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the potential of personal/ confidential information being discussed:** **Resolved:** the full council resolved to exclude the public and press ● Item 1 is excluded as it involves an enforcement issue Redacted: Cllr T Jones confirmed that they had not been able to meet with The Horseshoe and they will report back in due course. The full Council resolved to include the public and press.
71/23	**Date of next committee meeting to be 21st November 2023** Noted Informal presentation meeting on the Place Plan next Tuesday at the Village hall for Councillors.