

Draft Minutes of Llangors Community Council Annual General Meeting
Held Remotely on Tuesday 11th May 2021 7.00pm

Members Present by Video Link: Cllr Mr S Bailey (Chair), Cllr Mrs L Griffin, Cllr Mr T Evans, Cllr Mrs C Owen, Cllr Mr M Scruby, Cllr Mr D Jones, Cllr Ven. A Jevons, Cllr Mr R East, Cllr Mr C Preece
In attendance by video link: Judith Phillips (Clerk), Mr Alan Williams (Internal Auditor)
Present by Telephone Link: Cllr Mr D James

1. Apologies for absence: None

2. Appointment of Chairperson for the ensuing year & declaration of acceptance of office.

Cllr Bailey confirmed his willingness to be re-elected to the position of Chair. There were no other nominations for chairperson for the forthcoming year. Cllr East proposed Cllr Bailey as Chairperson for the forthcoming year, seconded by Cllr Preece. There being no other nominations Cllr Bailey agreed to take the role and was duly elected. A declaration of acceptance of office was completed.

3. Appointment of Vice Chairperson for the ensuing year

Cllr Owen proposed Cllr Griffin, seconded by Cllr Jones. Cllr Griffin agreed to continue as Vice Chair. There being no other nominations Cllr Griffin was duly elected, unanimously.

4. Minutes of last AGM on 12th May 2020 (approved on 9/6/20)

The minutes of the last AGM had already been approved and were noted.

5. Annual report for 2020/21 from Chairperson for that year – Cllr Bailey

Cllr Bailey presented his report as attached at the end of these minutes.

6. Annual Financial Report and approval of Annual Accounts

The Annual Accounts for the Council had been prepared and distributed. The Clerk reported that the accounts showed payments had exceeded receipts. Income from the churchyard had been higher year on year. An analysis of expenditure year on year and against budget was discussed. The number of clerk hours had been more than contracted due to extra unforeseen work arising, but all hours had been formerly approved. Expenses had increased with the introduction of Zoom meetings and remote working due to Covid-19, rising employment costs, professional fees and planned repairs and renewals of assets. Budgets set in January for the new financial year appeared adequate.

The accounts had been internally audited and met with the approval of the internal auditor who had submitted a written letter to the Cllr Bailey which had been circulated to all Councillors.

It was resolved unanimously that the accounts be approved, proposed by Cllr Owen and seconded by Cllr Griffin. The official copy of the accounts was duly signed by the Chair. The Clerk and Internal Auditor had previously signed it due to the meeting being held remotely.

7. Appointment of Internal auditor for the ensuing year

Alan Williams was thanked for his work in the past year which had been done on a voluntary basis. He confirmed his willingness to continue and it was resolved unanimously that he be appointed to the role for the current year. This was proposed by Cllr Preece, seconded by Cllr Scruby. A letter of engagement was agreed and signed by the Clerk who was to send to Alan confirming arrangements for the next year.

8. Appointment of representatives to serve on the following committees & external bodies:**a) Llangors CIW Primary School Governor**

Cllr Griffin was thanked for her work as a school governor over recent years. The position had become vacant following Cllr Griffin's resignation from the role on 15th March 2021. It was resolved that the role remains vacant.

b) Llangors Lake Advisory Group Committee

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Scruby continues to represent the Community Council on the Llangors Lake Advisory Group. Proposed Cllr Evans, seconded Cllr Preece.

c) Discover Llangors & Bwlch Group

It was proposed that Cllr Griffin take over the role from Cllr Owen. It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Griffin represents the Community Council on the Discover Llangors & Bwlch Group. Proposed Cllr Scruby and seconded Cllr Preece.

d) Llangors Community Shop Committee

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Owen continues to represent the Community Council on the Shop Committee. Proposed by Cllr Scruby and seconded by Cllr Evans.

e) Llanfihangel Talylyn & Llanywern Village Hall Committee as Custodial Trustees

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Jones represents the Community Council on the Village Hall Committee. Proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded Cllr East.

f) Brecon to Hay Greenway Steering Group

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Bailey continues to represent the Community Council on the Group. Proposed Cllr Griffin, seconded Cllr Jones.

g) One Voice Wales

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr East continues to represent the Community Council on the One Voice Wales District Committee. Proposed Cllr Jevons, seconded Cllr Jones.

h) St. Paulinus Churchyard Burial Board

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Evans continues to operate the Churchyard Burial Board. Proposed Cllr Jevons, seconded Cllr East. It was agreed that Cllr Preece continues to assist Cllr Evans with this role.

i) LCC Planning Committee

It was resolved unanimously that all Llangors Community Councillors continue to represent the Community Council on its planning committee.

j) LCC Glebe Community Field Working Party

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Scruby, Cllr Bailey, Cllr James, Cllr Owen and Cllr Jones represent the Community Council on the Glebe Community Field working party. Proposed Cllr East, seconded Cllr Preece.

k) LCC Llangors Playing Field Working Party

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Jevons, Cllr East, Cllr Preece, Cllr Griffin and Cllr Evans represent the Community Council on the Llangors Playing Field working party. Proposed Cllr Scruby seconded Cllr Owen.

l) LCC/Llangors School Governors Liaison Group/Working Party

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Bailey, Cllr Preece, Cllr Scruby, Cllr East, Cllr Evans, Cllr Griffin and Cllr Jevons will represent LCC on the liaison group with School Governors to discuss and oversee practical matters regarding Community use of Llangors Playing field, next to the school. Proposed Cllr Jones seconded Cllr James.

9. Confirmation of Councillors with designated responsibilities within LCC**a) To sign Bank Reconciliations quarterly**

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Owen is to carry out this task for the Community Council. Proposed Cllr Scruby, seconded Cllr Griffin.

b) Asset Inspections: Llangors Ward & Llanfihangel Talyllyn Ward

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Preece continues to carry out this task in the Llangors Ward and Cllr Owen to carry out this task in the Llanfihangel Talyllyn Ward. Proposed Cllr Evans, seconded Cllr Jevons.

Cllr Griffin confirmed she was happy to continue filling the bird feeders at Llangors Triangle and monitoring Llangors noticeboards.

c) Health & Safety Inspections Glebe Community Field

It was resolved unanimously that Cllr Scruby continues to carry out this task for the Community Council. Proposed Cllr Owen, seconded Cllr Jones.

10. Agree Burial Board charges for St. Paulinus Churchyard

Fees for the churchyard are currently charged in line with those of the Church in Wales. These had been circulated to members and were unanimously approved. Proposed by Cllr East, seconded by Cllr Scruby.

11. Agree meeting schedule – continue bi-monthly or change to monthly.

Bi-monthly dates: 13/7/21, 14/9/21, 9/11/21, 11/1/22, 8/3/22, 10/5/22.

It was agreed to continue bi monthly, but hold an extra meeting in between planned dates should the need arise.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7:21pm.

LCC Chair Annual Report for AGM May 2021

In my first year as Chair of Llangors Community Council (LCC), I am pleased to report that despite the difficulties faced by everyone in the Community as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, LCC have managed to meet as regularly as ever to ensure matters that fall under our responsibility were dealt with on behalf of the Community. In accordance with Welsh Government legislation, we have been using Zoom and will continue to do so until it is deemed safe to meet in person.

LCC have met “virtually” on 19 occasions in total during the last year not only for our regular Bi-monthly meetings, but to consider many planning applications, as well as various working party meetings relating to items such as flooding issues, highway matters and community use of Llangors C in W School playing fields.

During the pandemic, our Community Council has supported where possible the efforts of a wonderful team of volunteers from around the community known as Llangors Together. At the peak of the pandemic, the group provided assistance to people who were “shielding” or self isolating by collecting shopping or prescriptions as well as organising a Secret Santa for the community and decorating trees around the lake with the help of residents of Brookside Residential Home in Llangors. The group is still in existence, essentially operating in “stand-by” mode until such time as it is no longer needed.

In the last 12 months we were pleased to be able to launch our new webpage - www.llangors.org.uk where our Community Councillor and Clerk contact details can be found as well as information relating to our projects in the Community.

Following correspondence with Powys County Council in May 2020 formally withdrawing the license for open public access to Llangors School field outside of school hours, LCC sought independent legal advice. In an attempt to seek a resolution to this ongoing matter, representatives from LCC met with members of the Governing Body of Llangors C in W School in October 2020. Progress has been slow to date however a subsequent meeting between LCC and Play Wales in early 2021 may lead to a pilot scheme being set up across Powys, to include Llangorse C in W School, where wider use of the school playing fields may be achieved on a regular basis. This has been somewhat delayed due to Covid-19. LCC is hopeful however that progress will be made in the coming months and will assist where possible in this matter.

Following horrendous weather and terrible flooding issues in our area in the Winter of 2019/2020, the Community Council have been in regular communication at the highest appropriate level of Powys County Council to endeavor to ensure that measures were taken to prevent similar occurrences in the future. Key people in PCC have worked closely with LCC together with County Councillor Durrant and improvements to drainage and infrastructure appear to have been successful during our more recent periods of prolonged heavy rain.

Llanfihangel Talylyn has recently benefited from the complete renewal of the street lighting system including all underground cabling. This was carried out by PCC following consultation with several LCC Councillors and County Councillor Durrant. Subsequently, several minor modifications were needed and members of the community were able to successfully channel their feedback through LCC and Councillor Durrant. The bench at the top of the village has also been replaced by the PCC street lighting contractors, for which we are extremely grateful and the memorial plaque from the old bench has been successfully transferred.

LCC are delighted to announce that we have recently completed the renewal of the lease with the Church in Wales of the Glebe Playing field in Llanfihangel Talylyn. The previous lease has run for 10 years and the facility has been invaluable to the community during that time. There will be a minor alteration to the fence line to

improve access for our grass cutting contractors which results in less impact on the agricultural use of the neighbouring field. The new lease will run for 15 years and I'm sure will serve the village and surrounding community well for many years to come.

The recent increase in concerns expressed by the members of the community regarding dog mess have been addressed by LCC in an innovative way. Several volunteers have been out and about with stencils and bright pink spray chalk paint, creating temporary but effective messages to dog owners encouraging them to "bag it & bin it" and to take these bags home to be disposed of properly. There has been a very positive response and hopefully the situation will continue to improve with regular renewal of the stencils following the rain which washes the messages away.

Following concerns about the lack of significant burial space at St. Paulinus Church in Llangors, LCC consulted with the community to ascertain their feelings and needs in this matter.

As a result of very few responses being received, possibly due to reduced social contact during the pandemic, and the fact that no landowners had come forward to offer land, LCC has replied to those who responded to say that LCC will keep the file open but put the matter on hold until such time as land for a potential Cemetery becomes available.

Several Community Councillors have worked with Keep Wales Tidy to implement a "Local Places for Nature" scheme at Llangors Triangle. This Welsh Government funded scheme has provided our Community with a Butterfly Garden Pack, which included wildflower seeds and plants to encourage butterflies and bumble bees, as well as topsoil, a raised bed kit and a wild bird feeder. Our volunteers have worked hard to install this scheme. LCC have also replaced the bench near Penybrenin after many years of service providing a restful stop. The new bench is made of recycled materials and has a plaque commemorating VE Day in 1945. Unfortunately, our plans to hold a brief service to remember those who gave their lives in WW2 were cancelled due to Covid-19.

LCC have campaigned for regular speed monitoring and raised concerns due the high volumes of traffic through Llangors following the prolonged closure of the A479 at Pengefnordd. The condition of the road has deteriorated due to increased use and has been noted. The situation is far from satisfactory but our communication has been at the highest level possible including with the WAG Transport Division and Kirsty Williams MS.

LCC are very grateful to several members of the community who have been working very hard despite the pandemic to make progress with Llangors Community Shop which we hope to see operational later this year.

LCC are hopeful that the work done by a small group of volunteers including some Community Councillors to coordinate a Community Fibre Broadband scheme in conjunction with a local telecoms company Beacons Telecom will successfully bring Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) to the majority of homes and businesses in our area. The application for funding was submitted before the closure of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport / Welsh Assembly Government voucher scheme on 31st March, however due to the Senedd elections in early May and a deluge of applications before the deadline, there has been a slight delay in approval of the scheme. We are looking forward to some good news from the Community Fibre Broadband group in the near future.

Simon Bailey
Chair LCC
May 2020 to May 2021