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## **Llanhennock Community Council Meeting Held on 03 June 2019**

<b>Present</b>	Chairman Waters, Cllr Chivers, Cllr Heath, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Thomas, County Cllr Clarke and Clerk Davies.
<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr Young , Cllr McLeod, Cllr Williams
<b>Declarations of interest</b>	County Cllr Clarke – Declared no interest in planning applications
<b>Members of the public present</b>	Mrs Caroline Thomas and PC Louise Thorpe
<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b>	Approved : Cllr Thomas Seconded : Cllr Chivers

**1207/19 PC Louise Thorpe:** spoke about her role in the newly formed Rural Crime Team. She explained the need to engage with rural communities and their focus is on prevention, advice and reassurance on rural crime issues, welfare and mental health issues. She listened to Cllrs concerns regarding fly tipping and drug abuse. Information leaflets will be forwarded soon to display on notice boards.

**1208/19 Mrs Caroline Thomas - Woodbank planning application.:** There were several Highways concerns raised by residents and she felt that many of these had not been addressed or answered. A traffic counter had been in place on the Glen Usk road, although no guests were using the Woodbank holiday let during the week it was in place. Cllr Chivers reassured Mrs Thomas that the Highways officers would be aware of how to analyse such data appropriately. Cllr Waters had spoken to planning dept and, as there had been more than 6 objections, this case would go to committee. He said the council would email and ask for an update on the application process in order to reassure concerned residents.

### **Matters Arising - Action Log Review**

#### **1209/19 Potholes and water leaks in Gatlas Lane:**

This continues to be a problem. Mark Watkins from MCC has been contacted re. worsening road condition which has been photographed and he is now liaising with WWA. Clerk to email WWA to confirm whether work is scheduled to take place soon.

#### **1210/19 Broadband in Llangattock Nigh Caerleon:**

Cllr Williams has liaised with Michael Powell Rural Programs Manager from MCC. A small survey of residents has been undertaken by the Clerk to determine download speeds, which vary greatly from 1-71Mbps depending on distance from box. Fibre optic cable has been installed to the water station on Llanhennock Hill, but there is no cable in the new ducting installed in Llangattock NC, where data speed is slowest. Cllr Waters

suggested inviting M Powell to our next meeting to discuss the way forward. Clerk to also email Lee Waters AM re. available government funding.

**1211/19 “No HGV” signs:**

MCC have done a site visit and agree that the signs are needed. MCC are checking on costings, but said that LCC will not be asked to contribute. Clerk to email for an update later this month.

**1212/19 Speed Indicator signs :**

Still awaiting a costings decision. Clerk to email for an update.

**Correspondence**

**1213/19 Emails :**

Due to the increased volume of emails the Clerk has been asked only to forward emails to Cllrs which directly affect our ward, training sessions, planning applications and some local events (at her discretion)

**1214/19 One Voice Wales :**

It was decided not to subscribe to the newsletter. Chairman Waters had already completed the online survey they requested, but most questions did not apply to our ward. It was felt that membership to the company would nevertheless be useful when needing advice, such as salary scales, audits etc

**1215/19 Tree survey :**

It was felt this was not applicable

**Reports**

No Reports

**Finance**

**Balance in account £5234.83**

**1216/19 Building Society:**

Cllrs eligible to sign cheques completed forms for Mon B. Soc. in order to allow Clerk Davies to raise future cheques.

**1217/19 Cheques raised:**

Chairman and Councillors reviewed and approved paperwork for the following cheques to be raised.

Cheque to the value of £115 to Megan Waters for leaving gifts for Clerk Thomas

Cheque to the value of £92 in respect of Clerk fees for May 2019.

Cheque to the value of £26.45 for stationery expenses

Cllrs agreed not to pay £24 invoice from accountants charged for sending a pension letter to the new clerk, which was not requested, as they charge should have been quoted by email initially.

**1218/19 Clerk Salary:**

Salary scales for Clerks from the National Association of Local Councils for 2019—20 were discussed. The councillors considered the relative scales and agreed that the new salary should now be on the LC1(5-6) Scale range, as we are a small council and this is the lowest hourly rate at £9.77. It was agreed that the Clerk would

be paid for 16 hours per month. Cllr Thomas suggested that the clerk use an “Hourtracker” app to monitor hours of work so that this can be reviewed later in the year.

### **1219/19 Internal Audit:**

Mrs Hannah McGowan, a Chartered Audit Accountant, has completed the internal audit and passed it on all counts. Her analysis was very thorough and her comments were read out; councillors approved and the chairman signed off the form. Clerk to send to external auditor. It was agreed to pay Mrs McGowan £100 for her excellent work.

### **Planning**

#### **1220/19- DM/2019/00530 Pant Farm:**

Councillors were concerned that this planning application was Fast Tracked without their knowledge. By the time of the previous meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> May it seems the plans had already been passed. The councillors were not happy that the plans were in keeping with the area and in particular that there was no site location on the block plan and it was not possible to relate the size of the proposed building in relation to the existing house and agricultural barns. Cllr Williams has emailed MCC to ask if planning applications could please indicate whether they are being fast tracked, in this case there was no indication on the application letter for Pant Farm that it was fast tracked. Clerk to email MCC their concerns.

It was felt that if councillors have an interest in planning applications, they should in fact leave the room whilst it is being discussed as a general rule. In particular fast tracking ought not to be allowed if any councillors declare an interest.

If applications are sent soon after a meeting, the clerk must ensure that MCC planning dept are notified in order to get an extension to the 21day period allowed.

#### **1221/19 -DM/2019/00694 Ashbrook House:**

Cllrs approved the plans as they stand. However, they have reservations about the garage section of the building being developed further in the future without necessary requirement of planning. As it is a physically separate building to the house, they recommended that an order be placed which could prevent any division of the garage building from the main house in future, so that it must remain part of the curtilage of dwelling.

#### **1222/19 -DM/2019/00657 Croes LLwarch House:**

Councillors were happy that this application would be an improvement to the property visually and to the access from the road. They had no objections to the planning application.

#### **1223/19 -DM/2019/00780 and 00779 Rich Hill Farm:**

The previous planning application 18 months ago on this site was for a temporary track to undertake drainage on the land. The current application seeks to extend the compliance period when no attempt has been made to undertake any drainage to date.

The second application is to raise the land for 'agricultural improvement'. No other details have been submitted such as a topographical survey; details of the fill material and quantity; a land analysis showing the water table; detailed mapping; a licence to tip; details of traffic and details of length of time the land raising exercise will take. Also the previous track application has resulted in localised flooding of neighbouring land because the drains have been removed. Clerk to raise concerns with MCC

#### **1224/19 -DM/2019/00090 Court Farm Reservoir:**

Cllrs felt that since there was no public access to this site, and hence not visible, this proposal was acceptable; especially as it was environmentally friendly.

## **Local Matters**

### **1225/19 Water leak Llanhennock Hill :**

Residents have complained to WWA about this leak which is apparently a broken stop tap. Clerk to register complaint.

### **1226/19 Welsh Water tankers:**

These have been photographed driving through Roughton Lane despite the” No HGV” signs. Clerk has informed WWA.

## **Any Other Business**

### **1227/19 Road sign theft:**

Cllr Heath pointed out that the old aluminium sign near the Tredunnock crossroads appears to have been stolen.

## **Date of next meeting**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 – 7 pm in Llanhennock Village Hall.