**CEIRIOG UCHAF COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

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| **COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**  **4th June 2024** | **Present:**  **Cllr K Benning (Chair),**  **Cllr S Berriman**  **Cllr G Jones**  **Cllr E Morris**  **Cllr F Swogger**  **County Cllr T Bates**  **Clerk: Miles Matile** |

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| **1** | **APOLOGIES** | **Cllr D Berriman**  **Cllr J Claybrook**  **Cllr A Jones**  **PCSOs** |  |
| **2** | **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS RELATED TO ANY AGENDA ITEM** | **NONE RECORDED** |  |

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| **No** | **AGENDA ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **ACTION**  **WHO/WHEN** |
| **3** | **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**  **9th April 2024** | **PROPOSED** : Cllr Swogger  **SECONDED**: Cllr G Jones |  |
| **4** | **MATTERS ARISING** |  |  |
| **4 (i)** | **NATIONAL PARK UPDATE** | The Clerk confirmed that he had been in recent contact with the project manager for the National Park development and he provided the following headlines as to the progress:   * The Senedd is reviewing spending priorities and at this stage there is no indication that the National Park is to be removed despite the cost. * The appointed consultancy firm will complete their review by summer 2025 and there will be a series of meetings for Councillors in August 2025. * This will be followed by a public consultation in September 2025 with a recommendation to the Senedd. * A decision will be taken in 2026. |  |
| **4 (ii)** | **THREE COUNCILS MEETING.** | * The Clerk confirmed that regular joint-Council meetings will resume with the inaugural one taking place on the 12/06/2024. Glyn Ceiriog CC are leading on the first meeting. Invites and Agenda to be sent out when received from the Clerk of GC. * The Council endorsed the view that we would want to invite Chirk Town Council to future meetings. |  |
| **5** | **REPORTS** |  |  |
| **5 (i)** | **NORTH WALES POLICE** | Apologies received and the Clerk confirmed that NWP will be present at the 3-Council meeting on the 12/06/2024 to present a Valley-wide report. |  |
| **5 (ii)** | **WREXHAM CBC** | * Cllr Bates informed the Council of a recent meeting he attended which looked at recycling. WCBC is struggling to meet current targets and if they fail then there will be a financial penalty payable to the Wales Senedd. * He circulated dates and locations for the next CAB surgeries. A location at this end of the valley has yet to be identified. |  |
| **5(iii)** | **OFF-ROADING** | * Cllr Bates confirmed that a temporary TRO has been located on the top road however the signage information was incorrect in its information and will need amendment. * The Clerk confirmed that he had asked for off-roading to be included on the agenda of the 3-Council meeting given that this represents a challenge for the whole valley. |  |
| **6** | **GRAVEYARD AND CEMETERY** |  |  |
| **6(i)** | **PUBLIC MEETING** | The Council reaffirmed its decision of the 09/01/2024 to approve the convening of a public meeting and the establishment of a sub-committee subject to Council oversight. | New Church Warden to be included in the planning meeting with Cllr Swogger and Clerk. |
| **7** | **POT HOLES** |  |  |
|  |  | A further request that the location of all potholes are recorded by camera and sent to WCBC via its reporting portal. | Cllr Swogger to update social media. |
| **8** | **FINANCES** |  |  |
| **8 (i)** | **UNITY TRUST BANK TRANSFER** | * The Chair and Clerk confirmed that the transfer from HSBC to Unity Trust has been confirmed and will become effective from the 06/06/2024. * The Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk are signatories, and it will be 2 from 3 to approve future payments. * The position of RFO will now be transferred to the Clerk. |  |
| **8 (ii)** | **PAYMENTS IN APRIL AND MAY 2024 AND BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS** | * The Clerk provided details of payments made in April and May 2024.   **Expenditure**  Bank Charge (x2) £ 10.00  **\***Council insurance £ 568.31  CCTV repair £128.89  Web-site £ 120.00  (\* 2023 - £490.25 -Budgeted £650.00)  **All expenditure approved by Council.**   * **Creditors. Outstanding payments from 2023/2024 to be made:**   Village Hall – Concert £100  Village Hall Hall Hire £210 (7 sessions)  Audit Wales £256 – awaiting clarification.   * **Bank Account**   **Balance £9,563.85 which includes:**   * **WCBC** part precept payment of £3,333.33 paid on the 05/04/2024 * **CUCC Election Expenses** of £2,000 has been ring-fenced and will be transferred to the savings account with Unity Bank. * **Additional Matters** * The Clerk confirmed he was still waiting for a refund from Vision ICT and this has been progressed again 03/06/2024. * Centenary printing – still no invoice received – this will remain a potential creditor. * The audit of the 2023/2024 accounts remain pending. |  |
| **8 (iii)** | **AUDIT WALES UPDATE** | * The Clerk informed the Council that it had now received a ‘qualified‘ audit for 2022/2023. In making this judgement Audit Wales was satisfied about the financial probity of CUCC but marked us down on 4 matters of governance:  1. Not all expenditure in that year had been referred to in Council Minutes. 2. One invoice (£50) was not submitted. 3. Advised that the Chair should not be the RFO. 4. The Council could not demonstrate Efficiency, Effectiveness or Economy in its expenses | Clerk to place outcome of audit on Council website. |
| **8 (iv)** | **ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS** | The Clerk confirmed that the Council had received a request for £96.91 from Rosie Davies for plants and fixtures under the new grants application scheme. **This was approved.**  It was noted that there are further applications pending.  An application form can be down-loaded from the Council website. | Clerk to liaise with RD and  obtain receipts upon purchase |
| **8 (v)** | **CHIRK VALLEY PROMOTIONAL LEAFLET** | Rob Davies had submitted a request for financial assistance for the reprinting of the Chirk and Ceiriog Valley Partnership leaflet. A re-print of 10,000 would cost £902 + VAT. It was proposed that CUCC could contribute together with the other Councils along the valley.  After discussion it was concluded that 10,000 leaflets may last in excess of 5 years and they may become out-dated if the National Park is approved in 2026. Rob Davies to be asked to seek a further quote for a lesser number for the Council to consider | Clerk to liaise with Rob Davies |
| **9** | **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** |  |  |
| **9 (i)** | **ANNUAL MEETING 2024** | This year the Annual Meeting attempted to allow consultation between members of the public and Councillors rather than proceed to a business meeting. The following issues were discussed:   1. **West Arms - perimeter fencing.** This now represents an eye-sore and does not appear to be serving a health and safety function. Given the number of anticipated visitors to Llanarmon, the Council believes it should be removed. 2. **Whitegate Cottage – skip.** It is recognised that this is on private land, however itis seen as a ‘blot’ to the environs and a request be made to the owner to disguise it. | Clerk to write to managing agents/owners.  Clerk to write to owner. |
| **10** | **NEXT MEETING** | **TUESDAY 2ND JULY 7.00PM** |  |