Minutes of a meeting of the Community Council held at the Community Centre on 29.01.2020 (Subject to confirmation at the February, 2020 meeting).

**PRESENT** – Cllrs Paul Evans (Chair), Iona Pierce, Kevin Shenton, Wyn Roberts and Bryan Jones, together with the Clerk (John Roberts). **ALSO PRESENT** – Heather Battisson Howard for item no 4(c), Iola Quinn and Sandra Newell.

**1**. **APOLOGIES** – Cllrs Carys Jones, Huw Jones and Tony Killow. County Councillor Huw Williams.

**2.** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Cllr Paul Evans item 4(d), Personal interest being a director of Townsend Supplies Ltd.

**3**. **MINUTES** – The minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held on 27th Nov 2019 were submitted and confirmed as a correct record.

**4. MATTERS FROM THE MINUTES** – **(a)** **Telephone Kiosk at Hendrerwydd – Conversion to Information and Defibrillator Centre** – the final layout for the inside of the kiosk had now been agreed with Cadwyn Clwyd and it was anticipated that the conversion would be completed by the end of February 2020. Discussions regarding the installation of a defibrillator as part of the project were on going.

**(b)** **Highway Matters including Road Signs and Paths** – members were pleased to note that water drains and gullies from Cyffion past the Church as well as those along Hwylfa Fain had been cleaned and emptied. The need for both roads to be completely resurfaced was again highlighted.

During an ensuing discussion, reference was made to the damage being caused by water from springs in the roadside below Plas yn Llan Farm. There were no gullies along this part of the road to provide drainage and as a result the constant flow of water was contributing to the poor condition of the roadway. It was agreed to ask Highways for a site meeting to review drainage along this section of the road.

With regard to Moel Famau Country Park, concern was expressed regarding overgrown gorse bushes from the gate leading to Pentre Mountain and along the pathway towards Llety Mountain. It was agreed that this matter be referred to the Countryside Section for action.

**(c) Community Garden Project, Maes Hafal, Gellifor** – Heather Battisson Howard, Denbighshire Community Development Team was in attendance for this item. Heather reported that progress had been made regarding the project, with funding now having been promised by the Housing Section to cover ground works etc.

A draft questionnaire describing the scheme and asking for comments had been prepared and circulated with the agenda for the meeting. Subject to minor amendments it was agreed that the questionnaire be approved for distribution to local residents.

After a full discussion, it was agreed that information regarding the following be gathered for submission to the next meeting:- (i) The response received from residents to the questionnaire. (ii) Draft layout plans for the site. (iii) Requirements in respect of equipment, trees, shrubs, plants, garden furniture etc. (iv) Possible sources of funding/grant aid.

**(d) Community Christmas Tree, Grassed Area Outside the School** – it was reported that the Christmas Tree Project had been a great success. An evening had been arranged to switch on the lights, sing carols followed by drinks and mince pies in the community centre. A large number of residents had turned out on a very wet evening and £144.70 had been collected towards the cost of the tree and lights.

Cllrs Paul Evans and Kevin Shenton were thanked for their work in obtaining and erecting the tree and lights with special thanks being extended to Iola Quinn and Sandra Newell for all their work in arranging the evening.

With regard to costs, it was agreed that the following payments be approved:- (i) Townsend Supplies £180.45 + VAT – Christmas Tree, Galvanised Steel Sleeve, fittings etc. (ii) Denbighshire CC £740.65 + VAT – Feeder Pillar and Power Supply. (iii) Festive Lights Ltd £162.45 + VAT - Multi Coloured LED Lights and fittings. (iv) Morgans of Ruthin £3.45 + VAT - Power Plug.

**(e) Dog Fouling, Gellifor** – it was reported that the dog bag dispenser plus bags had now been installed at a location near to the centre of the village. This facility was already being used by residents and it was agreed to investigate the need for more dispensers being ordered next financial year.

**(f)** **Brenig Wind Farm Development Fund** – an update on the latest round of applications for assistance from the above fund was submitted. As reported at the last meeting, a letter had been sent to Cadwyn Clwyd inviting a representative to attend a future meeting of the Council to provide information on the operation of this new Funding Scheme. A reply had not yet been received and it was agreed to contact Cadwyn Clwyd again.

**(g) Grass Cutting at the approaches to Gellifor, Hendrerwydd, Llangynhafal and Llanychan** - it was reported that obtaining information on persons/contractors prepared to provide a quotation in respect of carrying out the above work was ongoing.

**(h) Training Events** – Cllr Bryan Jones submitted information on The Code of Conduct and it was agreed that the information be noted.

**(i)** **Fields in Trust, Protecting Community Spaces** – As reported at the last meeting further information had been received regarding the organisation ‘Fields in Trust’ but to date it had not been possible to make contact. Hopefully, more information would be available for the next meeting.

**5.** **FINANCIAL MATTERS** – consideration was given to the following matters:-

**(a) Draft Budget and Community Council Precept 2020/2021** – Consideration was given to the Council’s budget requirements and precept for 2020/2021. Members noted that for the current year, the balance at 31.12.2019 stood at £4243.00 but that by year end on 31.03.2020 the estimated balance would reduce to £1055.00.

Draft budget proposals for 2020/2021 were submitted which included funding for grass cutting and various other projects currently under consideration. A precept of £4000.00 plus current year balances would cover proposed expenditure as outlined in the draft budget leaving an estimated surplus at year end of £1000.00.

**Resolved** – (i) that the draft budget for 2020/2021 be approved. (ii) that the Community Council precepts upon Denbighshire CC, being the billing Authority, the sum of £4000.00 for 2020/2021.

**(b) Section 137 Expenditure Limit 2020/2021** – Correspondence from Welsh Government was submitted from which members noted that the appropriate sum for the purpose of the 1972 Act for Community Councils in Wales for 2020/2021 was £8.32 per elector.

**(c) Crime Prevention OWL Cymru** – Correspondence from the OWL Cymru crime and safety alert/watch scheme relating to future funding options was received and noted.

**6.** **DENBIGHSHIRE CC, ONE VOICE WALES AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE** – Consideration was given to new correspondence as follows:-

**(a) Natural Resources Wales and One Voice Wales.** Copies of the latest bulletins from the above organisations had been circulated to members with the agenda and it was agreed that the correspondence be noted. **(b)** **Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill** – a copy of One Voice Wales’ response to the provisions of the above Bill had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted that, amongst the numerous proposals, the Bill outlined measures to extend the right to vote to 16/17 year olds, changes to the voting system for principal councils and changes to electoral registration and the way elections are carried out. Following a brief discussion it was agreed that the comments submitted by One Voice Wales be supported**.**

 **(c)** **Denbighshire Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018 - 2033** – correspondence from Denbighshire regarding new consultation on Additional Candidate Sites had been circulated with the Agenda. The replacement LDP will provide up to date planning policies and site allocations for development (employment and housing) to address issues and needs in the County to cover the period 2018 – 2033.

Members were reminded that work on the new LDP had started in 2018 and that the first major consultation stage was the draft Preferred Strategy or Pre Deposit which took place during July and August 2019. This covered key issues facing the County including vision and objectives for the new LDP, growth levels for employment and housing, broad locations for growth and Candidate Sites Register.

During the draft Preferred Strategy consultation period, additional candidate sites had been submitted to the County Council. In their current letter, the County Council stated that it was important to note that no decisions had been made on any of the candidate sites and that they were not planning applications. The candidate sites were a reflection of what had been submitted, by land owners/those with an interest in land, to Denbighshire for consideration to potentially be included as allocations in Denbighshire’s replacement LDP.

The County Council was now consulting on these additional candidate sites, details of which could be found on the County Council website.

Details of the additional candidate sites relating to the Community of Llangynhafal were circulated at the meeting and it was agreed that these be considered further at the next meeting on 26th February. Members also requested that information be obtained on what was expected of Community Councils in relation to the Candidate Sites Register and that information regarding previously submitted candidate sites for the new LDP also be submitted to the next meeting, there being no record of having been asked to comment on these previously.

**(d)** **Charter Between Denbighshire CC, Towns and Community Councils** – correspondence from Denbighshire CC (copy circulated) was submitted and noted.

**(e)** **One Voice Wales, Conwy/Denbighshire Area Committee** – correspondence regarding the next meeting to be held on 29.01.2020 was received and noted.

**(f)** **Wales VE DAY 75 Celebrations 8/10th May 2020** – correspondence from Denbighshire CC giving the latest update on procedures to be followed in relation to the above celebrations was submitted and noted. Cllr Kevin Shenton agreed to look into whether a person or persons with links to the armed forces residing within the community would be prepared to lead an event or events relating to the celebrations.

7. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – **26th February, 2020.**