**LLANTYSILIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD 6TH FEBRUARY 2023**

 **AT THE CONQUERING HERO COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT**

Chairman: Mrs M. Smith

Councillors: J. Pickett, A. Jones, D. Walton, P. Davies, S. V. Evans, R. Cragg, , County Cllrs. Karen Edwards and Paul Keddie, Philip Burrows and the Clerk.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from councillors Mrs J. Evans and R. Hughes.

**23/4018 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**23/4019 PHILIP BURROWS, DCC DIGITAL OFFICER.**

Mr Burrows had been invited to attend the meeting to provide the Council with an update on the situation regarding Superfast Broadband. He provided a full report which is as follows: -

Openreach have upgraded the Llangollen exchange to digital/fibre and they have classed the area that it serves as an upgrade area. This means by December 2026 they will have upgraded a minimum of 75% of the premises that the exchange connects to, to fibre. Llantysilio is within this exchange upgrade area.

Openreach have stated they will not allow Fibre Community Partnership applications in exchange upgrade areas. This means until they have completed their work, there is nothing we can do to bring more fibre into the area.

Once they have completed their work in the Llangollen exchange area, up to 25% of the properties served by that exchange will not have been upgraded. Ergo, they will not install fibre to the truly rural premises.

The Welsh Government funded fibre programme will be finishing at the end of this month (February). 179 properties in the Llantysilio Community Council area should have been installed with fibre. I will hopefully receive confirmation by the end of March.

Therefore, there should be approximately 72 premises in the Llantysilio Community Council area that are left without fibre. Hopefully after receiving the information in March, I will be able to map these out for you.

The UK Government scheme called ‘Project Gigabit’ has put forward properties in the Llantysilio Community Council area for tender. The tender goes out to all telephone and internet provider/installers. It is hoped that Openreach will submit a quote for some of the 72 premises in the area that do not have fibre.

The North Wales Economic Ambition Board have a pot of money to install fibre into premises in North Wales. They do not yet know the scope of their project or which premises they will choose. They are having to wait until Project Gigabit announces which premises they will be installing.

The Openreach copper cable exchanges are being turned off by December 2025 and all telephone exchanges will be digital. Premises that have not been upgraded to fibre will continue to use their copper cables for telephone/internet, their signals will be converted to fibre based Internet traffic at the roadside box.

Premises with digital telephone, called Voice Over IP (VOIP) will lose their telephone service during a power cut. If their router does not have power, it cannot relay your phone calls. This is worrying for areas with no 4g coverage.

**23/4020 COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

Cittaslow Llangollen

Cllr. Keddie asked if the Council had been contacted by the Town Clerk regarding a Cittaslow project which could involve Llantysilio? The Council confirmed that it has not been contacted by the Llangollen Town Council. Paul said he would chase this up and contact Sandra.

Flooding in the area of Llidiart Annie playground

Karen said that this matter has now been dealt with.

LDP Candidate Sites in Denbighshire

Karen gave a brief account of this and asked members who are interested to look it up on the internet.

Affordable housing for Pentredwr.

Following some discussion, the Clerk said that she would look up all the information she had on this and organise a meeting with Cllr. Edwards and Cllr. Keddie to see if it was still a viable project before putting it to the full Council for approval.

Salt bins in Eglwyseg

Cllr. Mrs Smith reported that the lack of proper salting facilities in the area of Eglwyseg is dangerous. During the recent spell of icy weather a number of vehicles had ended up in the ditch. Salt-bins placed at 50 yard intervals on a narrow and steep stretch of road is unacceptable. She asked if DCC could look into this with some urgency.

Clllr. Cragg said that DCC had promised to consult with the Community Council on the siting of salt bins in the area but this has not happened.

Roadworks Programme for 2023

Karen said that this has now been finalised and the Community Council should get a copy within the next few weeks.

Abbey Dingle footpath

Cllr. Evans asked if the Community and County Council could look into resurrecting the project to make safe the footpath from Vale Crucis Abbey to the Abbey Dingle nursing home. The Clerk said that she would look up the information and liaise with Cllr. Edwards.

**23/4021 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes were approved as a correct record.

Proposed by Cllr P. Davies.

Seconded by Cllr. R. Cragg.

**23/4022 MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM**

There were no matters arising.

**23/4023 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1. Accounts for payment.

The Accounts were paid as on the schedule attached to these Minutes.

1. Monthly Budget

The Budget was approved as a correct record.

1. To review the Cemetery fees.

It was resolved to raise the fees for non-residents as follows: -

Purchase of grave for first interment from £495.00 to £650.00

Second and third interment from £314.00 to £400.00

Interment of urn in existing grave from £195.00 to £250.00

Area allotted for the burial of ashes: -

Local residents from £110.00 to £140.00

Other persons form £185.00 to £220.00

1. Review of garage rent

It was resolved to raise the annual rent from £200.00 to £300.00

1. Other financial matters

None

**23/4024 NATIONAL PARK**

Cllr. Cragg gave a report on an AONB meeting that he had attended where, among other topics, was the issue of the proposed National Park. The powers that be are liaising with farmers before discussing the matter with NRW and NFU. This is just the beginning of the proposal which will take a long time to implement.

**23/4025 PLANNING MATTERS**

1. Planning Application 27/2022/1009 - Maes y Llyn, Llantysilio

Construction of an above ground slurry storage tank and associated works.

The Council expressed concern that this might smell.

1. Certificate of Lawfulness 27/2022/1064 – Abbey Farm Caravan Park.

Lawful Development Certificate of existing use of land for the purposes of camping, touring caravans and motorhomes in excess of 10 years.

There were no objections to the above.

**23/4026 SUPERFAST BROADBAND**

Addressed in Agenda Item 23/4019

**23/4027 CEMETERY**

Cllr. Mrs Smith said that Harry has still not repaired the fence, but this wasn’t urgent.

**23/4027 AONB CHAMPION FORUM**

 Cllr. Cragg was unanimously elected to represent the Council on this committee.

**23/4028 COMMUNITY PROBLEMS**

The Clerk was asked to chase up the broken railings at Pentredŵr.

**23/4029 COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**23/4030 CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk said that Graham Berry, DCC Moorland Officer would be attending the March Meeting of the Council.

**23/4031 MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Graham Berry, DCC Moorland Officer

**There being no other business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.**