**Minutes of the Hybrid Ordinary Meeting of Laugharne Township Community Council**

**held on Thursday 14thOctober 2021 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** The Mayor D. Avery

Cllrs., D.M Lewis, R. Stevens, J. Bradshaw, L. Brown, JDR. Thomas, P. Jones and A. Thomas

**On ZOOM** J. Hill, I. John, R. Treacy, C. Cllr. J. Tremlett

Clerk Chris Delaney

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| 1  2 | **Apologies**  None  **Disclosures of personal interest**  Cllrs. D. Avery Christmas lights; A. Thomas holiday accommodation in residence; J. Bradshaw, family member with holiday/second home in Laugharne. | | | |
| 3 | **Mayor’s invitation to the public to address the meeting**  No members of the public were present | | |
| 4 | a) | | **Approval of the Minutes** of the last virtual Ordinary Meeting – 09/09/2021  The minutes were accepted and approved as a true record. |
|  | b) | Matters Arising from the Minutes  13/06/21  3) Mayor’s Invitation  The clerk would organise a site meeting to look at tree planting on King Street, and street lighting.  07/07/2021  7d) Parking Charges  Members were informed that the parking meter had to date generated an income of just over £6000  09/09/2021  7a) Planning  PL/02435 New application with amendments for the retention of balcony 18 Gosport Street. The clerk reported that this had also been refused planning.  7b) The clerk had written to CCC regarding the opening of the car boot in another location. There had been no response, but he understood that there were concerns with environmental issues if the car boot was located on the Green Banks. It was agreed to keep monitoring the situation and the need for visitor parking.  7c) The clerk informed members that he had ordered a further 3 defibrillators.  8C) The issue of parking on pavements including Victoria Street and also Gosport Street had been passed on to the enforcement team.  Correspondence from NRW was read out regarding the Corran at the Cors play area. There is a vegetation maintenance programme in place four times per year, but not a silt management programme. NRW have accepted that they need to look at this in the next financial year. | |

**5. County Councillor’s Report**

Cllr. Tremlett updated members on meetings she had attended regarding the Ten Towns initiative.

Cllr. Tremlett had contacted CCC Highways to look at monitoring traffic pollution. Officers would make an initial visit and then place equipment in place for a 12-month period.

Concerns were expressed about the state of the pebbled lane by the church which had not yet been repaired and also Market Lane where the surface was in a terrible state following work by utilities. There was still an issue with the inspection cover on Gosport Street close to its junction with Sir Johns Hill Road. The state of Sir Johns Hill Road was still an issue. Cllr. Tremlett would contact CCC Highways.

6. **Accounts for payment and a note of income received.**

Payments

Cheque 2853 CJD Salary September 400.03

Cheque 2854 CJD Salary September 40.00

Cheque 2855 HMRC 100.00

Cheque 2856 CJD for Colourfast Graphics 290.00

Cheque 2857 SSE 100.33

Cheque 2858 P. Brace 150.00

Cheque 2860 P.Brace 440.00

Cheque 2861 R. Thomas 720.00

Cheque 2863 Heritage Screen Print 8044.80

**Total £10285.16**

**Income**

Parking 2215.00

**Total Income £2215.00**

**Accounts on 31/08/2021**

Current 27436.75

Deposit 1 666.16

Deposit 2 1694.48

**Total funds available £29797.39**

**7 Policy Issues**

1. **Planning**

PL/02820; This application was for the erection of a large garden shed in the grounds of Swn y Môr, Llansadwrnen. Members had some concerns about the size of the shed, which would lend itself to future conversion and use as ancillary or holiday accommodation. The clerk was asked to convey these concerns to CCC.

1. **Christmas Arrangements**

It was agreed that the Christmas arrangements that had been in place pre-COVID would be the core of the arrangements for 2021. Cllr. Avery had declared an interest and left the meeting at this point. Members agreed to accept a tender for the putting up and taking down of the Christmas lights. The cost had not changed in four years. It was agreed to accept the quote provided. The clerk was asked to order Christmas trees as in previous years but with some changes in the sizes. The lights would be switched on by the Mayor on Saturday 4th December. Father Christmas would be present to distribute selection boxes and there would be fireworks.

1. **Moorings**

Following a brief discussion on issues with the current arrangements, it was agreed that the Scrutiny Committee should meet on site and then report back to full council.

1. **Second/Holiday Homes & Holiday Lets**

The sub-committee set up to look at the housing issue in Laugharne had compiled a list of residences in Laugharne that were holiday/second homes, holiday lets or empty. Members were asked to verify this list prior to the November meeting. Initial findings were that 18% of the housing stock in Laugharne were in these categories. It was pointed out that the percentage in the historic core/Conservation Area was much higher. This contrasted with the rest of Carmarthenshire where the average was 1.58%. It was agreed that following the November meeting the findings would be presented to CCC and, if members agreed, the county would be asked to consider implementing some of the actions recommended in the Brooks’ report. Members were asked to look at the Brook’ report and the approach WG were considering. There was a consultation on-line and it was agreed that the community council would develop a response at the November meeting.

1. **Laugharne Surgery**

The clerk read out correspondence from the practice. This confirmed that the surgery was not for sale and would be used only for clinics until the pandemic was no longer a major issue. The practice would continue to centralise and manage the GP provision as at present to minimise any COVID impact.

However, members still felt that it would be possible to provide a safe GP provision from Laugharne even in the present circumstances and the clerk was asked to respond to the surgery along these lines.

**8. For information**

**a)** **Reports from Groups and Meetings**

Members were provided with feedback from those that had attended the various 10 towns regeneration meetings. Some funding was available, and it was agreed that extra parking was a key requirement for funding and the digital screen idea should be taken forward. The clerk was asked to make enquiries regarding land that might be available for parking.

1. **Clerk’s Report**

It was agreed that the clerk could purchase some bollards for the area in front of the parking ticket machine and a lockable bollard for the ford to replace the damaged one.

The hunt had written regarding the next meeting and the car park. It was agreed that the hunt could use the car park as in previous years following the same agreed actions. In addition, the clerk would request a donation for the use of the car park.

**c) Other matters**

The clerk was asked to contact the planners regarding the replacement of the boundary wall of 1 Newbridge Road.

Members raised the state of the Ferry House site and the ongoing closure of the public right of way. It was understood that CCC was in contact with the holiday complex who owned the site, which was both an eyesore and a danger.

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**9. The meeting closed at 9.20**