

LLANVACHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LLANVACHES CHURCH HALL
TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2013

Present	Councillors	Tony Rex Clive Bevan Liz Williams Kay James Lyndon Jones
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Public Attendance	5
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2245 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Clerk announced that Cllr Peter Challenger had resigned, with immediate effect, from the roles of Chairman and Councillor. The Clerk added that without a Vice Chairman, a Cllr would have to be nominated to chair this meeting through the process of electing a new Chairman and One Voice Wales had indicated the protocol was for a former Chairman (if available) to take the chair. Consequently Cllr Tony Rex became interim Chairman and called for nominations for Chairman of Council. Cllr Clive Bevan proposed Cllr Rex; this was seconded by Cllr Lyndon Jones and agreed. Cllr Rex noted that the tenure of office for the Chairman and the other roles to be elected later in the Agenda was until the AGM in May.

2246 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

2247 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

2248 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (29 January 2013)

Cllr Rex proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Bevan and agreed unanimously by those present at the meeting.

2249 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

2240 (ii) Website : Cllr Williams asked for information on the website update. The Clerk said that she had forwarded the documents for inclusion to Mr Andy Harcombe and would check on progress.

2243 (i) Public Participation : Cllr Rex said that the view aired at the last meeting was counter to Standing Orders and the item will, in future, be on the Agenda immediately before 'Matters of Local Interest'.

2244 Date of Next Meeting : Cllr Rex noted that despite some extra meetings between those scheduled, Cllrs were faced with long agendas and durations of 2.5 to 3 hrs. He proposed that Council return to a monthly meeting pattern with each meeting on the third Tuesday of the month. Agreement was unanimous.

2250 ELECTION OF OFFICE HOLDERS

Cllr Rex said that the three offices within Council were vacant and ought to be filled. He called for nominations.

(i) Vice Chairman of Council : Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Liz Williams, proposed that Cllr Bevan be Vice Chairman. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

(ii) Chairman of Planning Committee : Cllr Kay James proposed Cllr Jones. The motion was seconded by Cllr Bevan and agreed unanimously.

(iii) Chairman of Play Equipment Committee : Cllr Rex said that this role was generated to address the upgrade of play equipment and the general facilities in the community. After short debate on these Terms of Reference, Cllr Bevan proposed Cllr Williams. There was unanimous agreement for this motion seconded by Cllr James. Cllr Williams suggested that the residents' expertise be called upon. It was agreed that Cllr Williams form a Working Party to investigate views on facilities and include residents from across the community. Cllr Rex reminded Cllrs that through past Budgets, Precepts and Parish Meetings, Council has an obligation to youngsters and their parents to spend about £10,000 on replacement of the Climbing Frame. Whether this be spent on a direct replacement or some other key equipment, the undertaking has been given.

2251 COUNCIL MANAGEMENT MATTERS

(i) Presentation of Standing Orders/Procedures : Cllr Williams had previously distributed the modified Standing Orders and Procedures to Cllrs. She explained that the Model Orders Part 2 had been revised to give a set of rules and guidance specific to Llanvaches Community Council and that the existing Standard Procedures had been merged into the revised model. Cllr Rex said that Cllr Williams had done a first class job on this initial draft and justice would not be done unless Cllrs examined it carefully. He suggested that e-mails should be exchanged to highlight questions, agreement and differences. Formal Agreement on part or the entire document will be tabled at the next meeting.

(ii) Local Survey : Cllr Williams had prepared a survey to send out to all residents asking them for their opinions on certain matters of Council . It was felt that due to the number of residents that attended the LCC meetings, only a minority of people were being involved. Cllr Rex said that there was no agreement to use the survey approach and the minutes recorded that a letter would be sent to all residents inviting them to attend a Parish Meeting to discuss playground equipment and general facilities, at the appropriate time.

(iii) Public Involvement : Cllr James queried why residents did not attend LCC meetings. Mr Philip Bishop said that the voice of the residents must be heard and if they did not attend meetings Council should send out a questionnaire to find out why. Cllr Bevan said we need to look at how we operate and develop a structure understood by Cllrs and residents. Cllr Rex said that LCC gave a wider opportunity for people to participate and had a better public attendance than other Community Councils in the Newport area. He added that the Local Government Act forbade the level of involvement that some appeared to want and that that level could only be obtained if Parish Meetings replaced the Community Council. Resident Mrs Monica Randall commented that some meetings went on a bit, good ideas were raised but no answers were forthcoming. She felt that if a survey was sent out to all the community, we could reach out to the elderly and to mothers and we would then get a better response.

2252 MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN

(i) Tabernacle Road Gritting : Ward Cllr Mogford is due to update Council on this matter.

(ii) Grass Cutting Contract : The Clerk said that she had received a quote from NCC and would obtain another two quotes as soon as possible to present to Council.

(iii) Summer Sports Event – Use of Field : A request for the use of the Playing Field to hold a Sports/Fun Day in June or July has been received from the Llanvaches Residents Social Group. Council agreed by acclaim. Cllr Rex said that to satisfy LCC's insurers, the permission was dependent on the Social Group arranging adequate 3rd Party Insurance for the event. Cllr Rex added that for a previous similar event the insurers had required that the organisers also seek and take advice from (say) RoSPA on Public Address facilities and the number of Marshalls and First Aiders needed. The Clerk will reply to the Group.

(iv) Flooding on Tabernacle Road : Ward Cllr Mogford agreed to ask Highways to attend to the drains and soakaway. His comments are awaited.

(v) Jubilee Tree : The Clerk will present to the next meeting, the cost and recommended choice of tree by Chepstow Garden Centre for planting on the Village Green.

2253 PLANNING MATTERS

12/0827 Brook Farm- Additional Equine Workers House : not yet determined

12/10156 Stable 7 Tack Room Block near Shepherd's Cottage : NCC noted our concerns but found they were not sufficient for rejection of the proposal. Consequently a conditional acceptance was given.

12/1070 Ty Bach Millbrook Lane, Llanvaches – Living Room Extension + new Bedroom : Cllrs were reminded that LCC recorded no objection. However, the Planners rejected the application – mainly on the grounds of the visual impact of the extension.

Update : 12/0656 House adjacent to Gwent Lea – ongoing

Barn Conversion nr Hillside Cottage – ongoing

Pike Road - ongoing

2254 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had not issued a Correspondence List to Councillors because very little correspondence had been received. After some queries, Cllr Rex asked the Clerk to issue the list, however small, to Cllrs before 6 March.

2255 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) Payment of Accounts – Payments Due and Payments Confirmed

The Clerk presented the following items for payment

	£
1 Clerks Salary February 2013 (by Standing Order)	143.10
2. Tax Due: re Clerks salary February 2013	35.77
3. Cooke & Arkwright (Football Field Rental > 01.02.14	60.00

TOTAL £ 238.87

Cllr Williams proposed that the above payments be approved, Cllr Bevan seconded the motion and it was agreed unanimously.

(ii) Draft Budget 2013-14

Cllr Rex said that there had been only minor changes since the Budget and Management Accounts were last discussed. A new set of Accounts will be presented at the next meeting and the Budget should be agreed then (except for final Year End data).

2256 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Resignations : Cllr Williams stated that the resignations of Cllrs Mogford, Bishop and Morgan had not been minuted clearly. Cllr Rex said that it must have been an oversight.

(ii) Mud on Llanvaches Lane : Cllr James raised concerns on the amount of mud on the lane left by farm machinery after ploughing of fields. Cllr Rex said that it was the responsibility of the farmer to clean the lane and the matter had been reported to Street Scene - he encouraged other residents to contact Newport 656656.

(iii) Cheque Signatories : With the resignation of Cllr Challenger, Council needs a third cheque signatory. Cllr Rex proposed that Cllr Jones be the third signatory. This was seconded by Cllr Bevan and agreed unanimously.

2257 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 19 March 2013 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.