Minutes - Castle Caereinion Community Council

Agenda	Date: Jan 22nd, 2025 - 7.30pm Venue: Castle Caereinion Community Centre	
Participants		**Apologies**
Chairman: Cllr Nigel Bowen (NB) **Clerk**: Lucy Mason (LM)	Cllr Clive Jones (CJ); Cllr Gary Human (GH); Cllr Paul Roberts (PR); Cllr Kate Hamer (KH); Cllr Robert Nash (RN); Cllr Adrian Jones (AJ)	Cllr Carys Evans (CE)

Agenda 105: Ten minutes for members of the public: Several members of the Community attended the meeting to establish the Council's view to future possible Planning applications. Their concern is that good quality farmland is being sold for developments, often large-scale homes, which in some instances are beyond the means of the local people, remaining unsold for some time. The lack of amenities and the poor bus service to local towns is also a concern, with the future of the Village looking to be a concrete jungle. The sewerage works is at near capacity, how will it cope with more and more homes.

The Council explained that each Planning Application is considered on its merits taking account of the impact of the development proposed on planning grounds. The Council could not take account of matters such as the marketability of properties which was a commercial consideration for the developer. It was also emphasised that where land was included in the Powys Development Plan as a prospective site for development, the Community Council would not be able to object to the principle of development but could raise concerns on matters such as the design and disposition of dwellings, access, drainage and the environmental impact.

Agenda 106: Declarations of interest: None declared.

Agenda 107: Minutes of previous meeting: Agreed as a true record of the meeting, proposed Cllr CJ, seconded Cllr PR with all in favour.

Agenda 108: Matters arising

1. Defibrillator – Clerk confirms that the site checks are up to date.
2. Phone Box and bench – Cllr NB has been in touch with someone regarding the existing line.
3. Unkept area at Swallows Field – Ongoing plans with Gareth from Jerman's.
4. Multi Location meetings – Clerk confirms that the equipment has been purchased, and a test meeting will take place next.
5. Parking at new development – Despite multiple requests to park within the curtilage of the site, parking continues. Therefore, a Planning enforcement has been raised with PCC.
6. Dog Fouling within the Village – Clerk has posted onto social media the dangers of allowing fouling to occur, the post generated some feedback and frustration from the public and the problem will be monitored.
7. Councillor vacancy – Clerk has received a response from Electoral Services confirming that no request for an election has been received. Therefore, the Council can now go ahead and advertise the Notice of Co-option. Clerk to proceed.

Agenda 109: Playground

GLM has informed the Clerk that the missing handle ball and bolt have been replaced.

Agenda 110: Finance

1. Balance Treasurers Account £11400.16, Balance of Playground £1097.09
2. Expenditure for Approval from Treasurers Account:
   Clerk wages Dec 2024 £300 and Jan 2025 £300.00
   HMRC Dec and Jan 25 £150.00
   Pre-approved bank payments due to no meeting in Dec:
   D6 Designs £106.80 (Paid 3/1/25)
   Audit Wales £200.00 (Paid 3/1/25)
   Clerk Expenses – Speaker for Multi location meetings £86.20 + External hard drive £26.00. Total £112.20
   Bank balance after all expenditure debited £10231.16.
   All requests for payment approved, proposed Cllr RN, seconded Cllr PR, with all in favour.

Agenda 110: Finance

3. Model Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment – Clerk to continue working on this with the help and assistance from Cllr RN.

Agenda 111: Highway Matters

To discuss any update of the following reported issues:

1. Highway Drains/Flooding at Chapel House – Email received from Diane Reynolds the PCC Case Officer for Castle Caereinion. The Highways Team are seeking quotes for works to be undertaken, with delays because part of the drainage is within private properties and the landowners having riparian ownership responsibilities in clearing out the drainage channel within the drains.
   Gully and Jetting works is still to be undertaken but the main road is priority and still to be finished.
2. Manhole Cover in between traffic calming – Clerk to chase again.
3. Culvert at Cefn Crin – Jake Evans from PCC has said the job is moving up the list.
4. Hedges and Verges coming into village from Railway – Job Completed.
5. Gelli Lane Sign – No reply from Graham Astley, Clerk to chase.

Agenda 112: PCC planning notices

To discuss the following applications received:

Application Reference: 24/0003/VAR Grid Reference: E:314767 N: 308092 Proposal: Application to discharge S106 agreement attached to permission M19169 in respect to occupancy restriction Site Address: Rhiw Las, Cyfronydd, Welshpool, Powys SY21 9EP

The council discussed this application and decided to support it.

Application Reference: 24/1893/FUL Grid Reference: E:316489 N: 305467 Proposal: Erection of 2 new dwellings, new access and associated works Site Address: Land South At Cwm Lane, Cwm Lane, Castle Caereinion, Welshpool Powys

The Council discussed this and decided to delay in making a decision as the application is waiting for a response from HDCymru regarding drainage and flooding issues.

The following applications were received and would have reached their deadline date, therefore the Council discussed via email:

Application Reference: 24/1811/HH Grid Reference: E:315305 N: 308251 Proposal: Erection of garage outbuilding Site Address: Gelli Uchaf, Welshpool, SY21 9BB.

The Council discussed this and decided to support it.

Application Reference: 24/1744/FUL Grid Reference: E:317915 N: 305479 Proposal: Proposed cover over existing manure store and associated works Site Address: Cwm Farm, Cwm Lane, Castle Caereinion, Welshpool SY21 9AR

The Council discussed this and decided to support it.

Agenda 113: **Correspondence (emailed to Councillors)**

1. Powys Planning Decision Notices – None received.
2. One Voice Wales - News Bulletins, training sessions and updates – Free Training places available
3. Play Wales - e-bulletins.
4. Powys CHC newsletter & updates
5. NHS updates - bulletins
6. Corporate communications – Powys County council
7. PCC notice of meetings: Quarterly PCC & Towns Council meeting – Last meeting replaced by Sustainable Powys meeting
8. Citizens Advice Powys update
9. Dyfed-Powys Police –
10. Local PCSO Monthly Check in – Speeding through Village reported.
11. Russell George Newsletter
12. Shrewsbury & Telford hospitals
13. Powys Training Health Board
14. Welshpool, Montgomery & Llanfair Caereinion Locality Network Meeting – Wed's 12th Mar 10.30-12pm online

Agenda 114: Attendance at Meetings

Cllr CJ and Cllr GH attended the PCC Sustainable Powys meeting.
Present was a representative from the Powys Health Board explaining the shortfalls to maintain hospitals. In better news an investment in new digital X-Ray equipment, funded by the Welsh Government for 3 hospitals including Welshpool has been announced.
Diane Reynolds, PCC, is the case officer for our area and any concerns should be directed to her if we do not receive enough help from the departments.
Cllr PR has attended the latest Recreation Association meeting.
Sadly, in the cold weather, the Community Hall suffered a burst pipe, and a clear up operation was quickly put into action. Thanks, has been extended to those who gave up their spare time to help with this, especially to Clive Jones Electrical and Tim Humberstone Minerva plumbing and heating who attended swiftly on a Sunday morning, ensuring that the hall was back up and running the same day.

Agenda 115: Update from County Councillor

Cllr AJ updated the Council with news regarding Council Tax. PCC had announced proposals for a 13.5% increase to Council Tax, however the position has continued to be updated, and a new proposal of a balanced budget includes an 8.9% increase for 2025/26.

On 22 February 2024, the council's proposal to introduce the Household Waste and Recycling Centre booking system and charges for DIY waste disposal, were approved by PCC. These changes will be introduced from 1st April 2025. Details of the booking system and charges will be available on the website and promoted to residents prior to implementation.

Have your say on local Powys bus services!
A six-week consultation on changes to the local Powys bus services has begun and residents are invited to complete the consultation, which will provide residents an opportunity to share thoughts and have your say on the proposed new timetables and other aspects of bus travel, including fares.
To complete the consultation please visit: https://www.haveyoursaypowys.wales/powys-local-bus-network-consultation
The closing date to provide feedback is **13th February 2025.**

Agenda 116: **Any other business**

The Council would like to thank Joan at The Red Lion, Paul and Debbie Roberts, and Gwyn Charles for having the Christmas trees at their premises, donating their own electricity, throughout the Christmas period.

To discuss and agree the Precept for 2025/26

	2025/26
Insurance	400.00
Int Audit	150.00
Ext Audit	475.00
Play Area Inspection (PCC)	80.00
Bank Charges *£4.50 per month*	80.00
Monthly Playground Inspection	225.00
OVW Membership	120.00
Montgomery Cluster Membership	
Clerks Wages	4800.00
Clerks Expenses	100.00

Agenda 116: **Any other business**

Clerk/Cllr training	250.00
Cllr Expenses	800.00
Electoral cost UNCONTESTED	
Electoral cost - CONTESTED	
Legal Fees - Playground (money in account)	
Website	120.00
Sub Tot	**7600.00**
Grants	
Rec Assoc	1500.00
Churchyard	500.00
Castle news	300.00
Sub Tot	**2300.00**
Maintenance	
Play Area & Village Maintenance	5000.00
Contingency fund	
(Defib costs)	650.00
Sub Tot	**5650.00**
Capital Expenditure	
TOTAL	**0.00**
Precept	**15550.00**

Agenda 117: Date of next meeting

Next meeting Wednesday February 26th, 2025, at 7.30pm

Meeting closed: 20.45