Minutes - Castle Caereinion Community Council

Agenda	Date: Nov 27th, 2024 - 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 Carys Evans (CE) ; Cllr Adrian Jones (AJ)

Agenda 92: Ten minutes for members of the public: None present

Agenda 93: Declarations of interest: None declared

Agenda 94: Minutes of previous meeting: Agreed as a true record of the meeting, proposed Cllr GH, seconded Cllr CJ with all in favour.

Agenda 95: Matters arising

1. Defibrillator – Clerk confims 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 and Digital health questionnaire – Clerk and Cllr KH have had some discussion regarding this, Clerk to look into the equipment required. Clerk has completed the questionnaire and OVW will be in touch with some feedback.
5. Drain cover at Swallows Meadow – Confirmation received from Graham Astley from PCC that improvements were undertaken on the watercourse system at Watery Lane which will have greatly helped matters.
6. Code of Conduct update – All Councillors have now read the update.
7. PCC Sustainability meeting at Welshpool Town Hall Dec 3rd 7-9pm – Cllr CJ and Cllr GH will attend, Clerk to book both Councillors in.

Agenda 96: Playground

Rospa report received and sent to GLM Services for investigation, only a few minor remarks to be investigated.

Agenda 97: Finance

1. Clerk provided the bank statements to verify the following account balances: Treasurers Account £7106.70, Balance of Playground £1096.25
2. Expenditure for Approval from Treasurers Account:
   Clerk wages Nov 2024 £300.00 Cheque 673
   HMRC Nov 2024 £75.00 Cheque 674
   Councillors Allowance – Cllr PR £156.00 Cheque 675 – All requests for payment approved, proposed Cllr CJ, seconded Cllr PR with all in favour.
3. Model Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment – Clerk to look into the Risk assessment and implement.
4. Banking Review – Clerk has received notification from Lloyds that a monthly charge of £4.25 will start from 14/1/25 and more importantly that each cheque will now be 0.50p per cheque, bank payments however will be free. Clerk will bring invoices and requests for payment to be signed by 2 Councillors for approval before any payments will be made.

Agenda 98: Highway Matters

To discuss any update of the following reported issues:

1. Highway Drains/Flooding at Chapel House – Clerk has received no replies to the emails asking for updates.
2. Manhole Cover in between traffic calming – Clerk to chase.
3. Culvert at Cefn Crin – No updates received. Cllr NB expressed his disappointment in the lack of response from PCC regarding the above 3 issues and asked the Clerk to continue to chase.
4. Hedges and Verges coming into village from Railway – The inside of the hedges have been cut (field side) but Clerk to chase when the Roadside will be completed.
5. Gelli Lane Sign – Dave Gardner from PCC will send an inspector to investigate with installation when resources become available.

Agenda 99: PCC planning notices

To discuss the following application received:
Application Ref: 24/1660/TRE Grid Ref: E: 316300 N: 305478 Proposal: Removal of a monkey puzzle tree within a Conservation Area Location: Ivy House, Castle Caereinion, Welshpool Powys SY21 9AL

The Councillors discussed this and decided to support the application.

Agenda 100: **Correspondence (emailed to Councillors)**

1. Powys Planning Decision Notices – Cllr NB pointed out that no notices have been received, likely due to lack of meetings taking place.
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 – Wed 11th Dec 6pm (Teams)
8. Citizens Advice Powys update
9. Dyfed-Powys Police – Police and Crime Bulletin/Neighbourhood watch
10. Local PCSO Monthly Check in
11. Russell George Newsletter
12. Shrewsbury & Telford hospitals
13. Powys Training Health Board
14. Wales Air Ambulance appeal for Council donation
15. Welshpool, Montgomery & Llanfair Caereinion Locality Network Meeting on 12 December 2024 at 10.30am-12pm at The Institute

Agenda 101: Attendance at Meetings

No meetings attended.

Agenda 102: Update from County Councillor

Apologies received.

Agenda 103: **Any other business**

1. The Clerk read out the following:

Auditor General's report and audit opinion I certify that I have completed the audit of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2024 of Castle Caereinion Community Council.
Audit opinion: Qualified Except for the matters reported below in my Basis for Qualification, on the basis of my audit, in my opinion no matters have come to my attention to give cause for concern that, in any material respect, the information reported in this Annual Return: • has not been prepared in accordance with proper practices; • that relevant legislative and regulatory requirements have not been met; • is not consistent with the Council's governance arrangements; and •

Agenda 103: **Any other business**

that the Council does not have proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. Basis of Qualification Arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in use of resources I am unable to conclude whether or not the Council has proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources • The Council failed to provide a copy of its Financial Regulations or was able to demonstrate when their standing orders were last updated and approved by the Council. Other matters and recommendations I draw the Council's attention to the following matters and recommendations which do not affect my audit opinion but should be addressed by the Council. Rounding error between accounting statements and bank reconciliation There is a £1 rounding difference between the reported closing balance at 31 March 2024 and the Council's bank balance. There are no further matters I wish to draw to the Council's attention.

Clerk to publish the findings on the website and will ensure that the audit report is viewable in the Notice Board for at least 14 days.

2. Parking at new development – Cllr NB requested the Clerk to chase the position regarding parking which is continuing to happen outside of the development.

3. Cllr RN raised the discussion regarding the 6 month rule. As there is no meeting in December the 6 month rule for 2 Councillors will come into place on 26th December 2024.

Cllr CE has been on leave due to personal circumstances, the Council unanimously agreed to accept the reason for the absence and that this can continue in the hope that Cllr CE will return.

Cllr DE has been absent, and the Clerk has received no communication from them. Under the 6 month rule they are disqualified from being a Councillor for the Castle Caereinion Community Council.

Clerk will inform the electoral services department of the vacancy.

Agenda 104: Date of next meeting

Next meeting Wednesday Jan 24th, 2025 at 7.30pm (meeting one week earlier due to Precept Planning)

Meeting closed: 19.55