

**Minutes of a Meeting of of Disserth & Trecoed Community Council on 14th
November 2017 commencing at 7.00pm in Iron Room, Cwmbach**

Present: Cllr G Price, H Harwood, M Pleszkan, S Richardson, P Deakin
Cty Cllr G Williams

Apologies: Cllr D Morgan

Absent: Cllr N Mills

TC77/17 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th October 2017 were approved and signed.

DT 78/17 Information from Minutes

a) Tree Chapel Road

The Chair confirmed that the tree had now been removed.

b) New Road

Cty Cllr Williams confirmed that New Road had now been swept

c) A483 Howey

The Chair confirmed that partial road sweeping had taken place within Howey, however the pavements remain covered in leaves. Cty Cllr Williams confirmed that PCC no longer have hand sweepers and hire one in, however this has recently broken down. He has received confirmation that this area will be cleared within 7 days.

DT 79/17 Correspondence

a) Cllr D Morgan – Connecting Path, Goylands Close

Enquiry from local resident as below:

“Our property is situated within the first cul-de-sac. On one side of the footpath it runs down the length of our property plus the length of the neighbouring property located behind our house, which is situated within the second cul-de-sac. On the other side of the footpath the entire length of it runs along our neighbours property, number 44.

The footpath has a tarmac surface and a narrow border either side which is a combination of earth and stone/gravel in places.

For many years I have undertaken some basic maintenance in the form of weed/vegetation control along the section of the footpath that runs the length of our property. I always do this task at least a couple of times per year, otherwise the weed growth is too great resulting in a narrowing of the footpath width. The consequence of this narrowing impacts on the community that use the footpath as the ease of access becomes increasingly limited, especially at certain times of the year.

In addition to the challenges of the vegetation growth is the condition of the tarmac surface. This year I have noticed a few cracks in the tarmac and one particular type of plant has been found growing up through the cracks, once its there and growing its creating further damage to the tarmac and is very difficult to remove. I've also noticed a significant increase in the amount of moss growth on the footpath in places which has taken a considerable amount of effort to try and remove.

My question or request to the Community Council is for your support in getting someone to spray the entire footpath with more of a 'commercial' type spray that will do the job of eradicating the unwanted vegetation in one go. I have purchased numerous normal garden type weed killer sprays which really don't last long due to the section length of the footpath that I work on, the amount of vegetation to spray and the need for repeat spraying. The result of my good intentions is, to be honest, a small and temporary fix before they're back again!. Hence the need for a more serious intervention than I alone can do.

I'm unsure if the footpath was ever adopted by the County Council, in all the years I've lived here I don't recall ever seeing anyone (Council or otherwise) undertaking maintenance work on the footpath, and with the increasing financial pressures on the County Council I thought I would approach the Community Council in the first instance."

Cty Cllr Williams confirmed he had written to Lyndon Price of PCC to ask him to clear the pathway referred to. The Clerk will also write with regard to this.

b) Powys County Council – Waste & Recycling Rounds

This letter promises a more efficient service by using new route optimising systems and saving money. However this will mean changes to the days on collection in many areas. Each household will be notified of this individually.

This was noted. Cllr Pleszkan was concerned that the early collections would require residents to put out their refuse the night before collection. He mentioned that in other areas residents are being fined for doing this.

c) Welsh Government – Review of Town & Community Council Sector

An Independent Review Panel has been set up to liaise with Town & Community Councils and will be focusing of the four questions:

1. What should Community & Town Councils be responsible for?

2. How should they operate?
3. What's standing in their way to deliver for the local community?
4. How do council's ensure they best represent their local community?

The Clerk informed members that consultation would take place with local councils with regard to this process.

d) Howey Village Hall – Grant Application

Resolved: to award a grant of £400 for 2018/19.

DT 80/17

Planning Applications

- a) **P/2017/1173** – Full: Erection of a steel framed agricultural building for animal housing and fodder store at Bailey Brith, Howey. **No objection.**
- b) **P/2017/1248** – Full erection of an agricultural building for implement store at Lower Gaufron Farm, Howey. **No objection.**

DT 81/17

Finances

- a) **Clerk's Expenses - £100.25 - approved**
- b) **Wales Audit Office – Audit 2016/17 - £208.50 - approved**
- c) **Vision ICT – Website Hosting - £168.00 - approved**
- d) **Confirm Financial Regulations.**

The Financial Regulations were confirmed without amendment.

DT 82/17

Co-option

There have been no applications for the 4 vacancies.

Resolved: to reissue the advertisement with a January 2018 closing date. Clerk to advertise this in the Howey Herald.

DT 83/17

County Councillors Report

- a) **Children's Services**
This department has been placed on 90 Day Notice to implement changes to the department. If this is not successful the service will move into Special Measures.
- b) **Adult Services**
It is likely than an inspection will take place of Adult Services in January 2018.
- c) **Gaufron – Chicken Shed Planning**
The recent application has been approved by Planning Committee
- d) **Overgrown Trees – Goylands Close**
PCC has now agreed to obtain and estimate for the works to be carried out.

- e) Salt Bins
Members were asked to check Salt Bins within their area and inform Cty Cllr Williams if they need replenishing.
- f) Old A470 Pot Holes
This work has now been completed including some white lining.
- g) Little Smithfield Hedge
Cty Cllr Williams noted that this is now becoming overgrown and will contact the owner to request it be trimmed back.
- h) Hedges – Caerwnon Lane
Cllr Richardson asked Cty Cllr Williams to arrange for the hedges along Caerwnon Lane and bordering the site to be cut back.
- i) Cefn Cottage
Welsh Government have now issued an order to carry out works on the drainage outlets by this property.
- j) PCC Budget
Budget seminars will be taking place shortly. There is likely to be a £10 deficit. Cty Cllr Williams estimated an increase in Council Tax of 4.5 – 5%.
- k) Chief Executive
Cty Cllr Williams confirmed that the Chief Executive of PCC is on sickness leave. David Powell is now Acting Chief Executive.

DT 84/17 **Public Questions**
There were none.

DT 85/17 **Information**
a) Photographs
Cllr Deakin asked if it would be possible for photographs to be published when grant cheques are awarded. This will be done in the future.