

**Minutes of a Remote Meeting of St Harmon Community Council held on Thursday 7th
October, 2021**

Present: Cllr D Jenkins, S Jenkins, S Lewis, L McPhee, D Lowde, P Hunt, M Williams
Cty Cllr D Evans

Apologies: Cllr J Bennion

SH 154/21 **Declarations of Interests**
None.

SH 155/21 **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 1st September 2021 were confirmed and signed.

SH 156/21 **Information from Minutes**
a) Pantydwr Football Club
The Clerk confirmed writing to the Football Club to request the return of unspent grant monies. No response has been received.
Resolved: Clerk to chase this matter up.

SH 157/21 **Public Speaking**
None.

SH 158/21 **Correspondence**
a) PACE – Declaration of Climate Emergency
Resolved: The Council agreed to declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency and supported the CEE Bill.

b) Llandrindod Wells Town Council – Hybrid Meetings
Request for support for the Town Council by writing to Welsh Government with regard to the new rules for hybrid meetings.
Resolved: to write to Welsh Government to request funding for the infrastructure and equipment required to meet new in person meeting regulations.

c) Audit Wales – Annual Audits
Notification to be published on the website with regard to incompleting audit by deadline of 30th September 2021. The Clerk had published this notice on 30.09.21.
Resolved: to publish the draft audit on the website and display the associated notice.

d) Powys County Council Planning – Stores Farm Barn
Email response to the Council’s enquiry:

“We are aware of this building and already have a Dangerous Structure file open regarding this building (DG/2010/0009).

During the past twelve years or so we have periodically received reports of concerns around this dilapidated building. During this time and when it has been deemed necessary, through dialogue with the owner, measures have been taken to alleviate concerns by erecting Heras fencing around the site and addressing any areas that presented imminent danger.

Having visited the property recently, I am of the opinion that although the building is in a state of disrepair, there is no imminent concern regarding the structural integrity of the building, at this time it's not considered to warrant intervention under the Building Act (photo's attached). However, we will continue to monitor the building. The building is also in the process of being sold to someone who I spoke with on Friday. I believe he is going to contact someone within planning with regards to the planning permission that is relevant to this site.”

Members were extremely disappointed with the response and felt that the security fencing is totally inadequate. It was agreed that this forms a serious health and safety issue.

Resolved: to write back to PCC Planning and request a site meeting with the Chair and other available members to discuss this issue.

SH 159/21 **Planning Applications**

None.

SH 160/21 **Grant Applications**

None.

SH 161/21 **Finance**

- a) Salary - £324.10 - approved
- b) HMRC – £81.20 - approved
- c) Powys County Council – Uncontested Election - £130 - approved
- d) Bank Reconciliation

Reconciliation		@	29.09.21
Balance @	@	26.08.21	37408.33
Plus Receipts			6279.00
Less Payments			727.31
Balance			42960.02

Council			11193.89
Bryn Titli			26214.44
			42960.02

SH 162/21 Community Hall Report

Cllr Lowde shared details of the fundraising activities undertaken by the Hall Committee in response the comments made at the last meeting.

He also shared the following extract from the recent Community Hall Committee feedback:

“From Roger re Notice of AGM

Thank you for this information. It does show that one has to have the facts straight before passing comments in a meeting where they may be minuted. I trust that the record will be corrected at the next council meeting.

From Norma re Hall funds and fund raising

From memory:

Over the last 6 years our fundraising events have included Flicks in the Sticks (several times and all well attended), History Film night in conjunction with Carad (packed hall), local history weekend (proceeds partly shared with Y Fan village hall), Shepherd Talk and an informal Christmas lunch organised by supporters and the proceeds given to the hall.

Before the first lockdown, Sheree and I were discussing a further history film night with Carad. The projector would be a great help.

I would point out that the hall has become busier over the years and finding a suitable time for fund raising events has become more difficult. This is a positive point not a complaint - the hall should be busy.

The hall requires reserves - if the Welsh government had not decided to help village halls, we would have had to have funded the building's overheads from those reserves. As it is, we've been able to work on improvements such as the path during lockdown.

From Roger re Hall fund raising

Here is Norma’s response as mentioned in the hall meeting last night. In addition to this several members of the hall Committee participated in one of my motorcycle shows. For this work they earned £400 for the hall accounts. We also had arranged a concert to take place in March 2020 with a choir from Trefeglwys plus other musical participants.

This could not take place due to being shut down by the onset of Covid. It is an absolute fabrication to say the hall has done no fund raising.”

Cllr Lewis stated that members must state the facts in meetings rather than saying what they think.

She felt the comments made by the Chair and Cllr S Jenkins were disgusting and asked for an apology for these comments. She commented that the Committee volunteer their time to run the hall for the benefit of the community.

Cllr S Jenkins stated that the Chair’s life had been disrupted over the last 3 years by the Hall and she would never make an apology.

The Chair responded by stating that the Motor Cycle event is run by a private individual and not the Hall Committee.

He confirmed that no event posters have been displayed in the Bus Stop in St Harmon. He is aware that an AGM notice was placed on the Church noticeboard, which he had responded to Cllr Lowde about. As a member of the charity he is entitled to see a notice of the AGM. Notices are also posted on the board at the top of the hall lane.

He was aware of the Shepherds Talk as he was a member of the Hall Committee at the time.

With regard to the previous grant application; the Chair reminded members that Audit Wales had criticised the Council about not having a policy for the Bryn Titli Fund. A policy and criteria were subsequently developed and adopted. This policy must be adhered to and full applications must be submitted prior to the deadline. The Chair stated that the Clerk is responsible for checking the forms.

The Policies Committee will be meeting shortly to review the policy and application form. This will be presented to the council at the November meeting.

The Chair stated, that if Cllr Lewis had suggested that the Community Council purchase a projector at the last meeting as a community resource this could have been done via the Bryn Titli Fund. However, no one proposed this.

The Chair concluded by stating that he would not be making any apologies.

SH 163/21 **Purchase of Projector**

The Chair proposed that the Council purchase a Projector to be held as a community resource at the Community Hall. This could be loaned out free of charge for community events. This could be funded from the Bryn Titli Fund as a community element.

Resolved: Clerk to liaise with the Community Hall Committee and purchase a Projector for community use, to be housed at the Community Hall under their responsibility.

SH 164/21 **St Harmon Play Area**

The Chairman had been approached by local residents with regard to establishing a play area in St Harmon. Cllr Lewis said she had tried to do this several years ago but could not identify any land.

The Chair felt that this would be long-term project and would involve the identification of suitable land and acquisition. The Clerk is experienced in obtaining grant funding and felt confident that grants could be obtained for equipment. She also suggested approaching the Garn Fach project to see if they would secure some land for this project. The Council supported this idea.

Resolved: to progress this idea. The Chair and Cllr Williams to arrange to meet and look for suitable land for this project and report back to council.

SH 165/21 **County Councillors Report**

Cty Cllr Evans updated members on local issues. He had approached PCC about collecting litter by the bus stops.

Resolved: to keep an eye on this situation and review is on a regular basis.

Several incidences of fly tipping were mentioned by members. Members were encouraged to report fly tipping directly via the Internet to PCC.

Link - <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4073/Report-fly-tipping>

SH 166/21 **Other Matters**

a) Overgrown Tree Junction with Sun Hill

Cllr Lewis reported an overgrown tree at the bottom of Sun Hill. The responsibility for this tree was unclear. Link -

https://www.google.co.uk/maps/@52.345602,-3.4878158,3a,75y,347.63h,109.01t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sHC_8PXZE_kGaYcyQNHD0-A!2e0!7i16384!8i8192

Resolved: to write to PCC Highways and report this.

SH 167/21 **Resolution – Confidential Matters**

Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 as there would be disclosure to them of confidential information relating to contractual, legal and personnel content

SH/168/21 **Confidential Matters**

a) Clerk’s Request – Community Hall

The Hall Committee is looking for someone to look over the Annual Accounts once completed. The Clerk had offered her services free of charge, but wished to get authorization from the Community Council prior to undertaking this role.

Resolved: the Council were happy to support this.