

CYNGOR DREF CORWEN TOWN COUNCIL

CEO and RFO Siân E Thomas
Email: clerk@corwentowncouncil.co.uk

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th April 2024

The meeting commenced at 7:08 pm

Present: Councillors Michael McNamara (Chair), Daf Morris, David Counsell, Harry Pooler, Danny Jones and Rebecca Roberts, who arrived at 7.30 pm.

The CEO and RFO, Siân E Thomas, was also present along with DCC Councillors A Hughes and G Ellis, 2 representatives from Bute Energy and a representative from DCC along with 2 members of the public.

- 1006.** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the housekeeping procedures. He also thanked Carrog Village Hall Committee for hosting the meeting and mentioned that more meetings will be held in Carrog in the future. He then mentioned that Councillors Sharon Edwards and Chris Jones had forfeited their right to be councillors by not attending council meetings for six consecutive months. The recruitment process for three new councillors, including Edwin Jones' vacancy, has been started, and was explained to those present.
- 1007. Apologies for Absence** were received from Councillors Gordon Hughes, Jane Marsden and Jeff Eggington.
- 1008. Members' Declarations of Interest.** The Chair asked for any Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests, Councillor Counsell declared a prejudicial interest in Item 1020b and Councillor McNamara in Item 1020a.
- 1009. Active Travel Scheme.** Ben Wilcox-Jones from DCC explained about the scheme, funded by the levelling up fund, to provide a walking/cycling route between Cynwyd and Corwen. He explained that there were going to be public forums about it on the 23rd April in Corwen and the 24th April in Cynwyd. He also explained that, at present there isn't enough funding for the whole route along the A5 but was enough for the part from the steps at the Cynwyd end and the crossing of the A5 at the northern end. DCC want to hear the public's view on the route and 1,000 invites are being sent to residential properties in the area to encourage them to attend the sessions. DCC are also attending local schools to let the pupils know what is happening. All Councillors are invited to attend the events. It is hoped that the work will commence by the end of summer, at the



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latest at the beginning of Autumn. Councillors were pleased that a safe route from Corwen to Cynwyd was being created as it would benefit those living and working in the area, including school pupils. It was also explained that extensive work has been undertaken to ensure that any conservation issues have been addressed. The Chair thanked Ben for attending the meeting.

1010. Public Participation Session.

Councillors were asked about what was going to happen regarding replacing the notice board in cemetery. It was explained that the CEO was in the process of ordering a new one, which would be placed inside the cemetery, not outside as previously, to ensure that it wouldn't get hit by vehicles again. Following a discussion, it was decided to have a smaller notice board at the cemetery and a further one in the village, is going to be replaced, it's location will be decided by the community. Proposed by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor McNamara. **Action:** CEO to order the 2 notice boards and arrange for them to be installed. It was also agreed that dogs can be allowed into the cemetery on leads but that any mess made **MUST** be cleaned up. Proposed by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Jones.

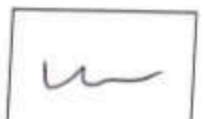
The issue of the parking by the river in Carrog was also raised. DCC Councilor Hughes said that the painting of double yellow lines there had been agreed last year, and will hopefully be painted. He will chase it up with DCC. However, it was explained that a single white line may be better as then vehicles can be moved by police if they are causing an obstruction. **Action:** Councillor Hughes to discuss the matter with DCC.

1011. To Agree and Sign the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th March 2024

Council, having considered the Minutes, agreed they were a true record.

1012. To Consider any Matters Arising from these Minutes

- a. The extra work regarding the cemetery records has now been completed.
- b. The CEO has contacted DCC to see if it's mandatory to have bins in public parks. DCC have said that we have to have them so the appropriate bins have been ordered
- c. The new notice board for Carrog cemetery has yet to be ordered – see above.
- d. Ty Cerrig Road – this will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- e. The new payroll system has been set up with AVOW



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1013. Bute Energy

Two representatives from Bute Energy explained that there was a proposed windfarm site at Moel Chwa, near Cerrigydrudion. Three public consultations have already been undertaken and there is plenty of information regarding the proposed scheme on their website. A 12-turbine scheme is being proposed with a connecting line to new substation on the outskirts of Corwen, probably in Gwyddelwern. Wooden poles will take renewable energy into 51,000 homes. The planning application will be submitted towards end of this year. Local consultations will start in the autumn of this year. It was confirmed that community benefits would consist of £7,500 per megawatt entered into the grid, meaning there would be substantial amount of money available for all sectors of the community. A dedicated person will be appointed for place-based challenges and an interactive map produced to highlight its priorities, which CTC can access and use to ensure it's reflective of the communities. The Chair thanked the representatives for attending and was looking forward to hearing more about the project and community benefits.

1014. Skate Park

This is going to be discussed at the next WMP meeting.

1015. New Recycling Regulations

As mentioned at the meeting in March, new recycling regulations came into effect for the WMP on 6th April. New bins have been placed inside the pavilion which ensure that all refuse is recycled appropriately. Hirers of the pavilion will be reminded to take all their rubbish home. The new bins for the park and cemetery are expected to be delivered in a couple of weeks. Members of the community will be reminded to recycle appropriately, if the recycling is incorrect the Council will be fined £300 for each violation of the regulations, which will be paid from the Council's funds ie residents' council tax.

1016. Newsletter

100 copies of the newsletter have been printed and circulated to date. It has also been published on the Council's website and Facebook page. It was agreed that it will be produced every 6 months, with a summary being produced after each meeting.

1017. WMP & CRM Committee

It was noted that a meeting is being held tomorrow evening.

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1018. Procedure to Appoint New Councillors

The three Council vacancies have been advertised. Residents have got until 22nd April to request elections. If elections are not requested the co-option procedure will be undertaken.

1019. Cemeteries

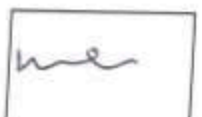
Nothing to report

1020. External Agencies

- a. Councillor R Roberts informed the meeting that SDCP has recently received two significant grants, £201k from Motability and £190k from Clocaeng Windfarm. The Motability grant is for the purchase of two new vehicles to facilitate the access to medical services and tackling isolation, as well as continuing the existing services. The Clocaenog grant is to be used for the provision of luncheon clubs in Corwen, which includes Carrog, and Glyndyfrdwy.
- b. Councillor Counsell explained that the Corwen Partnership had assisted the Owain Glyndwr Team to obtain a grant from the Community Ownership Fund for £453,300 to purchase the building and to refurbish it. This will be added to the match funding already raised and it is hoped that the purchase will be completed by the end of May 2024. An interim management team will then be formed. It was agreed that a progress report will be submitted to every CTC meeting. Congratulations were expressed and it was explained that the OG was going to provide something for everyone in the community and not just be a drinking venue.

1021. Finance Issues

- a. The Schedule of Payments for March has been circulated by the CEO to Councillors and is summarised below.



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Date	To	Detail	Amount
03/03/2024	Amazon	Lawn Spreader	85.75
04/03/2024	British Gas	Gas invoice	313.76
05/03/2024	Elwy Valley	Work carried out in Carrog Churchyard	2,004.00
07/03/2024	Amazon	Karcher Dust Bags	27.69
12/03/2024	Snowdonia Fire Protection Ltd	Annual Inspection	156.00
12/03/2024	BT	Broadband for WMP	37.68
12/03/2024	Amazon	Lever Arch File Labels	2.78
12/03/2024	ACS Technology	Invoice for March	111.00
14/03/2024	Newton	D Day Flag	43.20
15/03/2024	British Gas	Electricity	98.76
18/03/2024	Open Spaces Society	Membership 2024/5	45.00
18/03/2024	Staff	Salaries for March 2024	3,891.30
19/03/2024	Combitech	CCTV work	455.00
19/03/2024	NEST	Staff Pension	157.74
19/03/2024	SLCC	Training July 2023 Chris Jones	54.00
19/03/2024	HSBC	Bank Charges	7.14
19/03/2024	SLCC	Training July 2023 Debbie Jones	54.00
19/03/2024	SLCC	Training July 2023 Sharon Edwards	54.00
19/03/2024	Medisave	Defibrillator Pad	11.93
19/03/2024	NS Roberts	Updating Cemetery Records	641.33
19/03/2024	DCC	Premises Licence	10.50
20/03/2024	Huws Gray	Wood to repair benches	245.76
25/03/2024	Sandra Williams	Translation of Newsletter	118.74
26/03/2024	Corwen Farmers	Invoice for February 2024	43.24
28/03/2024	Jessie's Party and Therapy Ponies	Warm Hub Event	100.00
28/03/2024	Waste Managed Ltd	Refuse Charges	52.58
	Total		£8,822.88

b. New Bank Account

The CEO has started to complete the application forms to transfer all of the Council's bank account to the Unity Trust Bank. It is hoped that the procedure will be completed within the next six weeks.

It was noted that the Council has been successful in its application for a grant from Clocaenog Wind Farm for a new fence around the WMP car park and also for 2 new picnic benches for the park.

The Chair also commented that the CEO was looking into moving away from our website provider to a local firm. This won't cost any extra money but will enable the Council to have a much more user friendly website.



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1022. Planning Matters

Trewyn, Corwen. Councillors did not object to the planning application.

1023. Rural Housing Survey

The Council has been approached to consider undertaking a rural housing survey. Following a discussion, Councillors agreed to move forward with this to identify whether or not there is a need for social and affordable housing in Corwen, including people working in the factories in Corwen and the surrounding villages. DCC are saying that there is no evidence of a need in the area as not many are on the appropriate register. An external company is happy to fund the survey. Proposed by Councillor Morris and seconded by Councillor Jones. All Councillors were in favour of the proposal.

1024. Old Pavilion Site

The land where the old pavilion stood is held in trust and DCC want to pass it over to CTC, plus some other land, rather than compensation the Council for the loss of the land.. A quote has been received from a land surveyor to carry out a survey of the site to ascertain its monetary value. CTC is waiting to hear from DCC to see if they will pay for the survey.

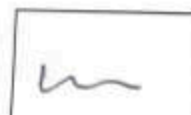
1025. Oriel Chapel

DCC has now agreed to pass the building over to CTC. All the information regarding this has now been received by the Council and discussions will take place as to how to move forward with this matter. Discussions will also take place with the Museum Committee and it has been agreed that a CTC councillor will be on the Museum Committee. Further information will be brought to the next Council meeting

1026. Report from County Councillors

- a. Corwen been chosen, along with Denbigh, to be part of the Placemaker Scheme, which will involve creating a town plan for Corwen in order to improve it.
- b. DCC budget cuts will mean that CTC may have an opportunity to take over further DCC assets. Consultation with DCC will take place at the end of this summer.
- c. The temporary toilets are now in place in Corwen and the new toilets should be completed by July 2024.
- d. The new bollards on the Square in Corwen will have the OG symbol on them.

1027. Correspondence for Review



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- a. DCC Streetworks
- b. OVW Training Courses
- c. DCC Climate Change
- d. New consultation: Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill
- e. OVW Annual Financial Timetable of Actions

1028. Items brought to the Council's attention by Councillors.

- a. Councillor R Roberts explained that she now has a new role with Active Cymru. She will be based in Llygadog and Clawdd Poncen and the aim of her post is to get people more active and see that they can get to wherever they need to.
- b. Councillor Counsell has asked for the possibility of having Coach Friendly Status for Corwen discussed at the June meeting.

1029. To confirm the date of the Council's AGM

This was confirmed as being Wednesday 22nd May 2024.

It was agreed that the June meeting will be held in Glyndyfrdwy Village Hall, following an invitation to meet there.

The meeting finished at 20:41 pm.

Approved as being a correct record by:

Chair: 

Date: 22/5/2024