

St Harmon Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of St Harmon held on Thursday 6th June, 2024, 7pm

Present: Cllr M Williams, L McPhee, A Mills, N Schmidt

Apologies: Cllr S Lewis, D Lowde, D Davies

SH 69/24 Minutes

The Council was not quorate to approve the minutes. This matter was deferred to July meeting.

SH 70/24 Minutes

The Council was not quorate to approve the minutes. This matter was deferred to July meeting.

SH 71/24 Information from Minutes

a) New Notice Boards

The Clerk had identified of 24 sheet magnetic noticeboard, post mounted for outside of the Community Hall road entrance. One half for the Hall and the other half for the Council. This would be £959.95. Members were asked to consider this board. Cllr Williams and Cllr Mills agreed to install it.

Resolved: to purchase the noticeboard from the Bryn Titli Fund.

SH 72/24 Public Speaking

a) Mr David Poulton – Summer Party

Mr Poulton addressed the council to express his concern that the Summer Party was not open to residents on the community border, particularly those who regularly participate in community activities.

The Chair thanked Mr Poulton for bringing this matter to the attention of the Council. This matter was discussed further under Minute Reference – SH 78/24a

SH 73/24 Correspondence

a) Powys County Council – 20mph Speed Limit

A second email had been received from Minister Ken Skates as follows:

“I am writing to encourage you to get involved in our listening programme on 20mph.

This has been a really challenging period for transport in Wales and I recognise that councils have been at the frontline through some incredibly turbulent times.

As we have always acknowledged with a change of this scale, we were not going to get the speed limits on all restricted roads right from the start. We now want to support all highway authorities to get the right speed on the right roads and achieve more consistency across Wales on which roads should have a 30mph limit.

Against that backdrop, it is not surprising that some colleagues are cautious about reigniting the debate on 20mph at a time when it was beginning to calm down in some parts of Wales.

I absolutely recognise those concerns and genuinely welcome that constructive criticism and challenge.

I want to build from the consensus that 20mph is right around schools, hospitals and in built up residential areas. Through partnership working and by supporting highway authorities to make changes where it is right to do so, I believe we can absolutely make 20mph a success story for Wales.

However, we cannot escape the fact that 20mph has served to polarise the people and communities we serve. Against that background, I felt we should take a step back and listen to the views of everyone involved. I take full responsibility for that reset, and it is not a reflection on highway authorities who have worked so hard on the implementation of this policy over the past two years and more.

To support the National Listening Programme I have instigated, we have published a webpage to help signpost people towards the relevant highway authority where they want to feedback on specific speed limits. Your local knowledge and community engagement make you key partners in this process.

I encourage you to contact your local council, or the Welsh Government for trunk roads, about any roads or streets in your communities where you feel the speed limit has not been correctly applied. You can view a map of all Welsh trunk roads on DataMapWales.

We want you to **let your highway authority know** if you think a specific road should:

- change from 20mph to 30mph
- change from 30mph to 20mph
- stay at 20mph

When giving feedback please:

- be clear and precise about which section of road you are talking about
- give reasons for your views

In my discussions so far, it has become clear that in many areas only a handful of changes will be made, whereas in other places, more roads are likely to revert to 30mph.

Through the drumbeat of regional meetings we are putting in place with the support of Transport for Wales, and with the help of the County Surveyors' Society Wales, we want to co-create a framework that supports

highway authorities to make the right decisions for local roads – particularly when those calls are finely balanced.

That framework will be published before summer recess. After the summer break, we will continue to support highway authorities in the implementation phase of assessing roads, making of traffic regulation orders and finally in the implementation of changes on the ground. We acknowledge that it may take several months from September onwards before we see any changes on the ground.

My officials will then focus on prioritising guidance for other speed limits where people live.”

Webpage Link - <https://www.gov.wales/give-feedback-roads-20mph-speed-limit>

Map Viewer -

https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/geonode:Network_1003211

Let your Authority Know - <https://www.gov.wales/comment-20mph-speed-limits-local-authority-managed-roads#144679>

b) Powys County Council – Local Bus Network 2025

I have recently been appointed as the project officer for the upcoming retendering process for the local bus network in 2025.

As such, I am looking for each county councillor and community council to consider what local bus services in their area might look like. These may well be aspirational, but all suggestions are welcome. Please include any areas that you feel are not currently serviced by the bus network, and from which you believe your community would benefit, including reasons for the benefit and indeed where appropriate numbers of those who would likely use such a service. Whilst we value all suggestions, we cannot commit to being able to implement everything a community may wish for, we will, however, consider everything carefully.

The closing date for any input will be the 30th June 2024.

Contact - Tom Lewis - tom.lewis@powys.gov.uk

Resolved: to publish this notice within the minutes, on the Facebook page and website. To forward the notification to John Senior with the Community Council to write a letter in support of Mr Senior’s groups proposal.

c) Welsh Government – Garn Fach

The Planning Inspector’s report has been received by Welsh Government and is under consideration. This process is expected to take 12 weeks, with a decision expected in June.

All documents relating to the planning application can be found on the Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) portal here <https://planningcasework.service.gov.wales/> (search 'Garn Fach Wind Farm' or 'DNS/3244499').

Resolved: to publish this notice within the minutes, on the Facebook page and website.

SH 74/24

Planning Applications

a) 24/0630/FUL

Grid Reference: **E:295479 N: 277170**

Proposal: Erection of a covered manure store - Site Address: Cefn Llech, Pant-Y-Dwr, Rhayader, LD6 5LR

Resolved: no objection

SH 75/24

Finance

a) Catch 22 - £250 - approved

b) Audit Wales - £200 - approved

c) Defib Warehouse Batteries - £52.74 - approved

d) Allowance – Cllr D Davies - £208

e) Allowance – Cllr A Mills - £208

f) Allowance – Cllr D Lowde - £208

g) Bank Reconciliation

Reconciliation	@		31.05.24
Balance @			48921.13
Plus Receipts			
			48921.13
Less Payments	Salary	377.90	
	HMRC	94.60	
	Internal Audit	71.50	
	Insurance	823.42	
	MW B Castle - Summer Pty	415.00	
	Defib Batteries St Harmon	52.74	
	Allowance - D Davies	208.00	
	Allowance - A Mills	208.00	
	Allowance - D Lowde	208.00	
	Total	2,459.16	46461.97
Total Balance			46461.97
Breakdown:			
Council			25272.47
Bryn Titli			21189.50

SH 76/24

Council Vacancy

The closing date for the vacancy is 24th June, 2024.

SH 77/24

Defibrillator

The Clerk had purchased and installed new batteries in the St Harmon Defibrillator. She asked members if someone would be responsible for checking it on the first of every month.

Resolved: Cllr Williams will check the defibrillator status on a monthly basis.

SH 78/24

Community Events

a) Summer Party

All plans are in place for the event via the organizing Committee led by Cllr Mills with Cllr McPhee. Cllr Mills will use the Council gazebo to shelter residents whilst queuing.

Members supported the comments and suggestions of Mr Poulton and plans were made for the inclusion of those residents from outside of the electoral boundary that regularly participate in activities within the community. It was disappointing that this matter had not been brought earlier to the Council. Those residents would be asked to make a donation.

Resolved: to notify Mr Poulton of the outcome of the meeting and ask for a donation from residents outside of the community.

b) Community Show

The Council agreed to host a stand at the Community Show on 17th August 2024. Plans will be put together along with the display on Thursday 1st August 2024. Clerk to book stand with the Show organiser. Cllr Mills will ask his wife to make a cake for the competition.

SH 79/24

St Harmon Play Area

Cllr Williams had not received a reply about the land. The Clerk reminded members of the cost of play equipment and the lack of grant funding available. The Clerk will place this matter on the next agenda for final discussions.

SH 80/24

County Councillors Report

Cty Cllr Johnson-Wood sent her apologies for the meeting. The Clerk reminded members and residents to contact Cty Cllr Johnson-Wood via email if there is an issue within the community.

SH 81/24

Other Matters

a) Community Woodland Sign

Cllr Mills brought back the matter of purchasing signage for "Sheep Dip Wood." He will look into the size of signage required for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on 4th July, 2024 via Zoom as the hall will be used as a polling station.