

Penllyn Community Council

Clerk to the Council
Mr AD Williams
13 Wye Close, Barry,
Vale of Glamorgan. CF62 7TF
Phone 07813 318085
Email – penllyn.community.council@talktalk.net

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Penllyn Community Council held
at the Llansannor Community Hall, City

7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 3rd July 2023

Present – Councillors L. Tiessen (Penllyn) Chairman, M Bancroft, (Penllyn), J. N. Evans (Ystradowen), S.C.Howells (Ystradowen), A. Jarvis (Ystradowen), E.P. Jarvis (Llansannor) P. Summers (Llansannor).

440) Apologies for absence

Councillors P. Eslambolchillar, D.Fardo and H. Harbour; Vale of Glamorgan
Councillor C.E.A. Champion.

441) Declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct

None.

442) To confirm the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 5th June 2023

Resolved: The draft minutes of the meeting be approved.

443) Matters arising from minutes other than appearing below

None

444) Community police matters

No police attendance, written report received as below:

(Report received too late for reporting to meeting , included here for completeness only)

Incidents / crime June 2023:

None

Other occurrence, "S-bends" Ystradowen fatality reported by Members to previous meeting (Minute 427 June 2023 refers), no record found.

445) Vale Council Matters

(A) Highways matters

(a) Schedule of outstanding and ongoing highways issues.

(i) New issues

(a) Winchfield, Graig Penllyn, request for additional signage at entrances to children's playground (Chairman).

Concerns had been expressed by parents that children leaving the playground cannot easily be seen amongst the foliage, even when it is cut back, and has resulted in several near misses.

Parents are requesting signs saying "concealed entrance to play ground" for both directions near both entrances to the playground.

Response received from Vale Highways that as there had been no personal injury collisions over the last 10-years demonstrates that a good level of road safety currently exists at the location, and that as such they are unable to assist.

Resolved: Further discussion deferred to next meeting.

(ii) Ongoing issues

(a) Long term winter gritting and flooding issues (Minute 428 (A) (a) (ii) (a) June 2023 refers)

Response from Vale to Council's letter of 31st March 2023 had been requested but still awaited at the time of the meeting.

The Vale's response received 19.07.23 is included here for the purposes of completeness only.

"Dear Tony

Thank you for your further letter dated 31st March 2023 concerning the above. I would firstly reiterate my belief that the Council has appropriate processes in place to deal with the management and maintenance of highway infrastructure, as well as safety concerns raised on our local highway network. Any specific concerns are always appropriately investigated and assessed with necessary actions implemented in a proportionate and reasonable manner, as well as in accordance with appropriate policies and resources available at the time.

I appreciate that you may not like or agree with some of the responses provided, however, I would assure you that my officers act in accordance with the Council's statutory duties and seek to address issues that arise on the highway as far as reasonably practicable. Regrettably, you may need to moderate your expectations over what works the Council can provide, particularly given the available budgets and resources resulting from over a decade of austerity.

Please find below my further comments in relation to your ongoing queries.

1. Regular sustained flooding of A4222 north of Tudor Garage Ystradowen and S bends approaching the county boundary.

The area of carriageway north of Tudor Garage has several highway surface water gullies, the water from which discharges into a nearby watercourse that passes beneath the carriageway. As the gullies on the west side of the road are located under a wooded area and high hedges, gully grids tend to be obstructed during the wetter months due to leaf fall and tree debris. The Council is managing the situation as far as reasonably practicable given current resources and this area is identified for further maintenance works which will be programmed accordingly. With regard to the 'S' bends, the one surface water gully currently located in the low spot adjacent to the masonry wall is the only highway surface water discharge point. The council is mindful that litter and leaf fall all naturally congregate at this location given the low spot and the gully is maintained accordingly, albeit it is almost impossible to clear leaf litter on a continuous basis. Consideration will be given to the possibility of improving the drainage assets in the area when appropriate resource and funding is available and subject to the highway constraints in the area.

2. Regular sustained flooding of bend/junction between Court Farm and Church Farm Llansannor

As noted, a soakaway chamber was constructed some many years ago in the verge to take surface water from the one gully that exists, however I am of the opinion that the low-lying surrounding ground becomes saturated during winter, rendering the soakaway inoperable. The Council will consider opportunities to increase capacity when appropriate resource and funding is available and subject to the significant highway constraints in the area. Regarding flooding at the bottom of Llansannor Hill, it may be feasible to reduce the level of roadside verges, albeit this will again be subject to resource and funding.

3. Newton road from Newton House Farm to junction bottom Pen y Lan hill and side road to the Barn and Newton farm

As noted, roadside ditches are cleared annually by our in house JCB operator and via an externally appointed contractor with specialist equipment. I have been advised that a short length of watercourse within a private field has historically been cleared by the council during summer months after gaining permission from landowner and this is something that officers of the Highway Maintenance team will seek to progress with in the coming months. As previously advised, the Council has no capital funding available to progress works at this time to upgrade the existing culverts or any associated open section ditches and this includes the creation of any attenuation ponds on private land. Whilst the Council as lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has permissive powers under the Land Drainage Act 1991 to enforce maintenance in relation to ordinary watercourses, the management and maintenance of such watercourses is the sole responsibility of the riparian owners. Where the Council identifies that any maintenance works are considered necessary, reasonable, and proportionate on any ordinary watercourses to prevent flooding, then appropriate action will be considered at that time and this includes liaising with NRW in relation to matters affecting main rivers.

4. Sustained flooding and sewage contamination road Graig Penllyn to Pont y Rhyd junction

Your gratitude is noted for works completed to ditches from Pont y Rhyd junction to Sunnycroft and Dwr Cymru pumping station. I can confirm that investigations could not locate the alleged buried pipe in the roadside hedge bank. As thought, no such pipe exists, and no further exploratory works is planned given current limited resources. DCWW is leading on the illegal connections and to date, has not shared any update to the Council – you may wish to make contact with DCWW direct on this matter.

5. Penllyn to Llanharry Road adjacent to Hillside Farm and Degar Hill

I can confirm that the manhole chamber constructed in adjacent land had been damaged in the most recent floods, however all items have now since been removed, as well as all roadside ditches reinstated, and one soakaway exposed and reinstated. The drainage in this area and specifically the defective pipe crossing on land owned by Brigham Farm is the subject of ongoing investigations being carried out in conjunction with the Council's Environmental Team withing Neighbourhood Services and Transport. Information is being collated and further investigation / survey works planned, however, I would advise that progress is being severely hampered and delayed by the landowner who is uncooperative in allowing access to his land to facilitate further investigations. Any future works considered necessary following conclusion of the investigations will be programmed accordingly, subject to available resource and budgets.

6. Maendy Road (A4222) to Newton West of disused rail bridge & Newton fork junction Water run-off from Watery lane / A4222

Officers within the Highway Maintenance team have the contact details of the adjacent field's tenant and contact will be made in the coming months to gain access for ditch clearance works to be undertaken. The Council has a regular scheduled maintenance regime for gully clearance throughout the Vale's local highway network and all gullies will be maintained as far as practicable and subject to available resource and funding. The Council has introduced a new asset management system which it is hoped in the future will assist in more effective management of highway surface water gullies etc. and will enable certain areas to be given higher priority and frequency, however, this system will take time to develop to its full potential.

7. Llansannor to Trebettyn road south of Court Drive

Again, your appreciation is noted in relation to recent works, however, the landowner is responsible for ensuring that any ditches on their property are free flowing and maintained in an adequate condition to avoid flooding adjoining properties. Please refer to my previous comments regarding the council's powers as LLFA in item 3 above.

8. Trerhyngyll - Ffalds lane, Jane Hodge and Culvert from Wellgreen to Jane Hodge

All highway surface water gullies have been checked, cleaned and jetted to ensure they are free flowing.

B. TREATMENT OF ROADS DURING ICY CONDITIONS

It is regrettable if you interpreted the tone of my previous email patronising or complacent as it was intended as a factual statement of the Council's statutory duty and operational processes. I have already provided a clear and concise position in relation to the Council's winter maintenance service regarding the safety and treatment of the Vale's local road network during winter periods and would again confirm that I am satisfied and confident that the Council adequately and fully complies with its statutory duty in this regard. If you have any substantive evidence to the contrary, then I would suggest that you present it for further detailed consideration and investigation but until such time I have nothing further to add and would reiterate that the council has no intention of increasing its gritting routes for the winter maintenance service at this time. I am however prepared to consider gritting of additional routes if the community council wish to fund such an activity and subject to review how this may be practically accommodated within existing resources.

C. COMMUNICATION

The Council has specific arrangements in place through its Contact One Vale (C1V) service ([Contact us](#)) which deals with and logs enquiries from the public and others prior to distributing them to relevant department and teams for consideration of any appropriate actions. The Council has recently introduced a new customer management system to assist in the efficient management of enquiries and services and this should ensure appropriate responses are provided to all contacts or enquiries, when fully embedded and operational in the future. The service also operates an emergency contact arrangement outside office hours as do the Council's highways team to deal with any necessary emergencies that might occur. The Council's highways team and winter maintenance service also use the Council's communications team as and when necessary to relay information through various social media and other channels to keep the public and other stakeholders updated regarding various highway matters that are considered relevant and important at any specific time. It is also the case that residents will have access to service information via the Council's website and in particular the Council publish regularly updated road [reports](#), as well as urgent updates via the Council's social media platforms.

D. ACTIONS

I consider that I have responded appropriately and reasonably to all the issues raised in your letter under the relevant headings above. As alluded in the above responses, I consider that the council fully engages, cooperates, and works in partnership with NRW as well as other flood risk management authorities in relation to managing local flood risk in accordance with its necessary duties and responsibilities as LLFA and will continue to do so. Finally, I would draw your attention to the information and resources available via the council's website below.

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Flooding/Flood-and-Coastal-Erosion/Flood-and-Coastal-Erosion-Risk-Management-FCERM.aspx>

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Flooding/Flood-and-Coastal-Erosion/Local-Flood-Risk-Management-Strategy.aspx>

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Flooding/Flooding.aspx>

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Flooding/Flood-Investigation-Reports.aspx>

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Roads/Winter-Service-Statistics.aspx>

I hope that the above information further clarifies my position and that of the Council regarding the issues you have raised.

Regards

Miles Punter
Director of Environment & Housing Services”

(b) Llansannor School, road traffic junction improvements – (Minute 428 (A) (a) (i) (a) June 2023 refers)

Response received from Vale to Council’s letter of 11th May 2023 requesting reprofiling of verge bank, that land ownership issues, lack of previous accidents, together with very limited traffic management budget, do not support substantial intervention.

(c) Llansannor School, road junction signage - (Minute 428 (A) (a) (i) (b) June 2023 refers)

Response received from Vale to Council’s letter of 11th May 2023 accepting signing and road markings at the junction very deficient, decision on replacements awaited.

(d) 20mph rollout – Consultation (Minute 428 (B) (c) June 2023 refers)

The Restricted Roads (20mph Speed Limit) (Wales) Order 2022 was made by Welsh Ministers on 13 July 2022. The Order reduces the general speed limit for restricted roads, set by section 81(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to 20mph. It will come into force on 17 September 2023. From that date any restricted road will have a speed limit of 20mph unless a different speed limit is set by the highway authority by Order.

Council discussed the definitive map published by the Vale and the consultation thereof which closes midnight 19th July 2023.

Members, along with the majority of residents in Ystradowen, were extremely disappointed to see the Vale Council’s intention to maintain the 30mph speed limit on the A4222 running through the village.

Resolved: Regarding the Vale Council’s intention to make the A4222 in Ystradowen an “Exception” to the 20mph rollout, it was resolved that....

- (i) A formal objection be made to the Vale Council on the grounds that the intended Traffic Regulation Order is unlawful and counter to the rationale and spirit of the legislation designed to improve the quality of life for

residents in Wales by making it possible for pedestrians and cyclist to mix with traffic in a safer environment with lower emissions.

- (ii) Penllyn's Vale councillors be requested to support the objection and make appropriate representations when the objection is considered by the Vale's Cabinet to ensure that the presence of both the village hall, associated sports facilities and the White Lion Restaurant and pub in close proximity to the road are taken into account.

(B) Other matters

(a) Public Rights of Way (PROW) (Minute 428 (B) (a) June 2023 refers)

- (i) Footpath north of Newton Farm to towards Trerhyngyll (Cllr Eslambolchilar) – Understand Vale officers had walked the route and were investigating the issue of the locked section – No update.
- (ii) Footpath Trerhyngyll village to the Llanharry Road - Cllr Bancroft advised that he had walked the route with Vale officers who had agreed on works to trees to remove obstruction and to stiles.
- (iii) Trees Trerhyngyll playground – Cllr Bancroft advised he was still obtaining estimates for any necessary works, mindful that the Vale's officers had advised him that Welsh Government funds provided to the Vale for "Ash dieback, would not be now be made available to the Council.
- (iv) "Definitive map" for the Community Council's area – Still awaited.

(b) Ystradowen land plot - (Minute 428(B) (b) June 2023 refers) (Cllr Evans) –

Cllr Evans apprised Council regarding further discussions he had undertaken with residents immediately facing the land to allay any concerns they might have and that to the best of his knowledge all were in agreement with that proposed i.e. that trees would not exceed 2-3 metres in height and not extend past the village sign.

Cllr Evans further advised that he was receiving ongoing advice and help to source trees from Vale Council's Parks & Open Spaces Officer, Mr John Greatrex, and that it is anticipate tree planting would take place this autumn.

Resolved: That the revised "Heads of Terms" considered at June's Council be accepted and that the Clerk be authorised to progress formalities with the Vale Council at an anticipated cost approximately £175.

(c) Field adjacent to the pumping station Ystradowen, possible use as football pitch

Resolved: Defer to next meeting.

446) Chairman and members reports and communications

None.

447) Delegates reports

Llansannor & Llanharry C/W Primary School, Governors meeting 7th June 2023 (Cllr Summers) – The minutes of the meeting together with the Headteachers report had been circulated to all members.

448) Matters relating to land holding

None

449) Planning applications

(a) New applications:

Application No.	Location & proposal	Community Council's Recommendation
2022/00820/FUL	Tafarn Barn Stables, Trerhyngyll Proposed retention of gates to paddock (safety access for horses) and proposed security gate (vehicular access to existing stable block and approved agricultural machinery store 2020/00441/FUL)	No objection
2023/00006/FUL	Tafarn Barn Stables, Trerhyngyll Proposed menage and amendments to agricultural machinery and hay store as approved 2020/00441/FUL (raising agricultural machinery store ridge and eaves height) (Original application considered February 2023 Penllyn Minute No.372 (a) refers , Resolved “No objection”)	No objection
2023/00605/PNT	Land at Cowbridge Bypass, Penllyn The installation of 20m high slim-line monopole, supporting 6 no. antennas, 2 no. equipment cabinets, 1 no. electric meter cabinet and ancillary development thereto	No objection
2023/00636/FUL	Whitewebbs, Penllyn Construction of stonework columns and extending the existing roof over an existing balcony	No objection

Resolved: The recommendations as set out above be forwarded to the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

(b) Other Planning issues.

(i) GARAGE AT TY CARRIG, CITY, CF717RW PLANNING PERMISSION 2019/00866/FUL.

Council briefly considered the concerns of the Llansannor Community Hall Association and local residents regarding works currently being undertaken to construct a garage and associated walls as above and whether these comply with the Approval as granted.

Resolved: In view of Council's summer recess, delegated powers be granted to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Cllr Summers to take such action as is considered necessary.

(ii) Farm building adjacent to Green Valley Farm, Trerhyngyll 2020/01516/FUL – ENF/2022/0272/CCC. (Minute 423 (b) May 2023 refers)

Update from Vale had been requested but still awaited at the time of the meeting.

The Vale's response received 12.07.23 is included here for the purposes of completeness only:

The application as received could not be "validated" as necessary information had been omitted. This outstanding information has now been requested and if not provided then the Council's Planning Enforcement Unit will need to assess the expediency of enforcement action.

450) Finance

(a) Payment of accounts:

Chq No.	Payee	Details	Amount £.p
743	Mr AD Williams	July 2023 Salary	301.00
744	Mr AD Williams	August 2023 Salary	301.00
745	One Voice Wales	Councillor training May 2023	19.00
746	Mr AD Williams	Clerk's expenses / disbursements January to June 2023 incl	478.17

Resolved: Schedule of payments as above be approved.

451) Evan Jenkin's Charity – Consideration of trust deed / Nomination of trustees. (Minute 434 June 23 refers)

Nothing further.

Resolved: Defer to next meeting.

452) Vale Councils Public Service Board- Cllr representative appointment.

Resolved: Defer to next meeting.

453) Clerks Correspondence

Nothing further.

454) Member's training programme 2023/24

Availability of free places discussed.

455) Any other business

Notice Board, Ystradowen , condition - Cllr A. Jarvis to investigate.

456) Date time next meeting

Next meeting Monday 4th September 2023, 7pm.

Signed:

Chair

Date: