

**Gwehelog Fawr Community Council Minutes Meeting Number 380
Held virtually on line: Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 7.30pm**

Present: Chair Cllr J Kershaw, Cllr. R. Marfell (RM), Cllr P Stevens (PS), Cllr.C.Kirby (CK)

In attendance: the Clerk Ms. Awni, (NA) Cllr V Smith and 1 member of the public attended part of the meeting
(Note: Monmouthshire County Council is denoted as MCC)

Item No.	Item	Action
1	The meeting began at 7.30pm. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Bayliss (JB), Cllr K. Backland (KB) Declarations of Interest – none	
2	Minutes of the meeting 379: The Clerk confirmed that the minutes required an amendment to reflect the discussion around Cllr Kirby’s apologies for not attending virtual video Council meetings, due to a medical issue. Members agreed that the apologies made by Cllr Kirby for this year were formally accepted. As we are subject to COVID-19 conditions, making face to face meetings unlikely for the future, Cllr Kirby should not be subject to restrictions regarding six months attendance and should continue in office. This was proposed by Cllr RM and seconded by Cllr PS.	Clerk to action
3	Matters arising: The applicant for co-option to the council has confirmed to the Clerk that there are sensitive family circumstances currently. Members agreed to move the item forward for discussion at the January 2021 meeting. County Cllr V.S joined the meeting virtually and congratulated the new members on their co-option to the council.	Clerk to action
4	Covid 19 update The Chair confirmed he was grateful for the amount of information being circulated to update members on the local and national situation.	
5	Councillor remuneration The Independent Review Panel draft report had been previously circulated to members. It was confirmed that each year the individual Councillor allowance must be paid, unless a member specifically confirms that they do not wish to receive it. A form for this year’s payment will be circulated to members which should be completed and returned electronically. As the Council has not specifically agreed to pro rata payments, where a member may join or leave and the allowance is taken, members agreed to put this measure in place, to avoid the potential for overpayment. The report was accepted and the pro rata process agreed proposed Cllr RM seconded Cllr PS.	Clerk to action
6	Finance and governance – The Clerk confirmed that all papers relating to finance and budget setting, had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. There had been regular payments agreed at the October meeting and the Q3 HMRC payment is due at the end of December. It was confirmed that the current account balance will be £4047.90 once the payments have been made. Members approved payments and the accounts presented. Proposed Cllr PS seconded Cllr RM. A third precept payment is due during December. A copy of the account balance had been circulated. Cllr Kirby joined the meeting by audio and was welcomed by the Chair and all present. The changes to authorised signatories is in progress and members have completed the necessary documents. The Chair agreed to meet with the Clerk to present the payments agreed and accept the donation for the cinema on behalf of the village hall. A formal presentation of the funds will be made by the Chair. Use of the Starleaf video conferencing system - Members had met virtually during October, to test out access to the system. The Clerk and Chair had also met to become familiar with operating it. The clerk had received training on how to link via audio with members on dial in. This was a success tonight and had enabled Cllr Kirby to dial in. Cllr Kirby asked what the situation was regarding face to face meetings, as he had seen a hall locally in operation. The Chair said there were no plans to open the village hall that he was aware of under the current restrictions. Cllr Kirby agreed he would contact the trustees. Members confirmed they were happy with the Starleaf arrangement which did not require multiple dial in. It was proposed that the Council should contract with	Chair and clerk to action

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	Starleaf for a 12 month contract on a £10.99 per month basis to provide audio visual conferencing facilities. It will be useful for working groups and the clerk will explore whether the Chair can have access to set up meetings. Proposed Cllr RM seconded Cllr PS	Clerk to action
7	Finance and Planning Working groups The Chair discussed the reasons why a planning working group might work well in practice including the ability to consider wider application details and have detailed discussion on matters. There may be time constraints during a full meeting, that can restrict this. It was felt it could be a helpful mechanism especially during the months when the council does not meet, allowing members to consider matters as they come through, for reference to a full meeting. There was agreement to the working group proposed by Cllr CK and seconded by Cllr RM. The Council agreed to replace the Finance working group members. The proposal was made by Cllr PS and seconded by Cllr RM.	
8	Consultations and Notifications -it was recognised that there have been many items this month to read and consider. The revised LDP timetable was circulated as part of correspondence.	
9	Reports – CC VS confirmed that the issue of 3 weeks to comment on planning applications does appear to be causing issues as a consequence of covid restrictions. Cllr VS will write to P.Thomas, at MCC planning to convey concerns. The Local Government Elections Bill has been passed by the Welsh government which will enable 16 and 17 year olds to vote and there will be a 5 year rather than 4 year election cycle.	Cllr VS to action
10	Highway matters – All previously notified no new issues highlighted	
11	Planning - Application DM/2020/01478 Skirrid, Winfield Lane, Members expressed concern over whether there was the capacity for extra waste and foul water as part of the proposed development. The Clerk was asked to notify planning of the comments. Cwm Cayo – members had seen the updated information and there was no comment Judicial review -concern was raised over the site extension and an additional dwelling which had been placed in situ. It was understood that the CC had been notified. Access to the footpath is open. No Appeals notified.	Clerk to action
12	Questions from the public – none received	
13	Correspondence : All received circulated	
14	Matters for the next meeting : none raised	
	The Chair wished all present a Merry Christmas and the meeting was declared closed at 8.26 pm Next meeting : 27 January 2021 at 7.30 pm	