Minutes of a Meeting of Ciliau Aeron Community Council held on Thursday 11th April 2024 at 7.30 pm at the Ciliau Aeron Village Hall

Present: Councillor Robert Davies (Chairman), Councillors Michelle Davies, Helen Evans and Alwen Thomas.
County Councillor Marc Davies
Clerk, Denfer Morgan

184 Apologies

Councillors Nigel Davies, Eirlys James-Evans, Arwel Jones, Tina Jones, Iwan Thomas and Ray Williams apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

185 Minutes of the Last Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to approve, as being correct, the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2024.

186 Finance Matters

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the following:

One Voice Wales (Annual Subscription) - £171

187 Application for Financial Assistance

Consideration was given to an application from Bois y Gilfach for financial assistance and, following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** not to contribute.

188 Planning Matters

Consideration was given to planning application A230845 - Tyglyn Aeron Hotel, Ciliau Aeron. Extension and renovation to Ty-Glyn Aeron Hotel, including the erection of a detached workshop and other ancillary work surrounding the hotel.

DECISION: No objection.

189 Holy Trinity Church, Cilcennin Churchyard

The Clerk reported a letter dated 8th April from the County Council Planning Department providing the 'pre-application advice' requested by this Council.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** to request planning agents for quotes for preparing and submitting a planning application.

190 Ceredigion Community Review Draft Proposals

Consideration was given to the Ceredigion Community Review Draft Proposals and the recommendations for this Community namely:

- abolishing the Communities of Ciliau Aeron and Nantcwnlle and the creation of a new Community Council called Ciliau Aeron a Nantcwnlle / Ciliau Aeron and Nantcwnlle
- in accordance with the Council Size Policy approved by the County Council for the Review - namely "a community in general have no fewer than 800 electors and be represented by a minimum of 7 councillors" - it was being proposed that the Community Council has 8 Members
- the new Community to comprise 3 wards, namely the current Cilcennin and Ciliau Aeron wards (both with 2 Members each) and the former Community of Nantcwnlle (4 Members)
- there are some minor boundary changes.

Members expressed their disappointment with the recommendations as they were of the view was that they did not improve the existing democratic arrangements and that they undermined "effective and convenient local government" for the electors in the Community.

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following representations to the Commission:

- i) combining the community councils of Ciliau Aeron and Nantcwnlle would not result in effective and convenient local government as there was no connection at all between the two as they served two distinct localities with no transport links
- ii) a reduction in the number of Members to seven would result in:-
 - less representation for electors in a large rural area
 - with a quorum of a third, a Council meeting would be quorate with only three Members in attendance which is much too small to produce a healthy democratic forum for determining local matters and providing services
 - it will not produce any financial savings as all Members forgo their basic allowance.

191 20mph Questionnaire

Consideration was given to the questionnaire sent out by the Office of Elin Jones MS and it was completed and returned to the Office.

192 Any Other Business

It was **RESOLVED** to follow up with the County Council the pothole on the road leading from New Bridge to Cilcennin as it had not been repaired.

The meeting ended at 8:30pm