

NOTICE OF MEETING

A meeting of the **WELFARE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE /TRUSTEES** will be held at the **Welfare Hall, Woodlands Road, Loughor on Monday next the 2nd September 2019** commencing at 7.00pm for the transaction of the following business:-

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To receive disclosures of Personal Interests from Members under the Council's Code of Conduct.
(Note: Members are requested to identify the item number and subject matter that their interest relates to and to signify whether their interest is such that they remain and vote / remain and not vote / withdraw).
3. To confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 1st July 2019 (copy enclosed).
4. To consider matters arising from the Minutes, if any.
5. To consider the Report of the Clerk (copy attached).
6. Any other matter which the Chairman determines to be urgent.

Would members please ensure that they sign the Attendance Register.

Dated this 18th August,2019

Nigel G Havard
Clerk to the Council

CYNGOR TREF LLWCHWR

LLWCHWR TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Welfare Hall Management Committee

Meeting held on the 1st July ,2019

Present: Councillor I.James(Chair)

Councillors S.Beynon, J. Bowen, Will Evans, Wendy Evans, H.Huelin, P.Parsons,
C.Phillips, C.Richards, R.V.Smith, W.Smith, J.Williams,
P.Williams and R.Williams

(Welfare Hall, Loughor: 7.10pm – 7.35pm)

9. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors K.Roberts and D.Walters.

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd June 2019 be confirmed as a correct record..

12. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

13. REPORT OF THE CLERK

(a) Payments

It was **NOTED** that the following payment has been made by Direct Debit-

Virgin Media	£72.90
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It was **RESOLVED** that the following payments be approved-

Electrical Radiators Direct	£183.99
N.Havard-re imbursement of £50.00 for collection and delivery of pyramid stone slabs.	£50.00
Dorian Heel Bar-labels for framed photographs	£35.47

(b) Former Police Office

The Clerk's Report was **NOTED** and it was **FURTHER NOTED** that the electrical storage heater had now been installed.

(c) Works to the Hall-Frontage

The Clerk's Report was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be granted plenary powers in conjunction with the Mayor or Deputy Mayor and the Chair of the Welfare Hall Management Committee/Trustees to agree both the design of the disclaimer Notice and the payment in respect thereof.

(d) Alarm Systems

The Clerk's Report was **NOTED**.

(e) Hall Booking Forms

The Clerks Report was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** to

adopt both the Hall Booking Form and the General Conditions of Hire subject to the following amendments-

1-Hall Booking Form-the following to be added-

“Specific permission is required from the Caretaker to use the Grand Piano.”

In the paragraph headed “Risk Assessment” the following to be added-“The Event organiser should ensure that the Event can be carried out satisfactorily and that the Hall is a suitable venue.”

2-In the General Conditions of Hire the existing Paragraph 12 be deleted and the following substituted-

“ The Event organiser must at all times comply with all Gaming,Lottery,and Gambling legislation(including any relevant E.U.Directives,Statutory Instruments and Welsh Government Measures)for the time being in force.

(f)Receipts and Payments

The Clerk’s Report was **NOTED**.

(g)Weightwatchers

The Clerks Report was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** not to accede to WeightWatchers request and that payment should continue to be in cash.

14. **URGENT ITEMS**

It was **NOTED** that Councillor Jeff Bowen wished to step down as Vice Chair and it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Ron Williams be appointed as Vice Chair.

Chair

Agenda Item 5

**LLWCHWR TOWN COUNCIL
WELFARE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/TRUSTEES
Date 2nd September,2019
Report of the Clerk**

CONTENTS

1-Payments

The following payments have been made by Direct Debit

Virgin Media (July)

£72.90

Virgin Media (August)

£72.90

NPower-Gas

£654.46

NPower-Electricity

£311.67

2-Former Police Office

The Caretaker has reported that-

i)there is no direct link in the Office to the intruder alarm system in the Welfare Hall and no detectors or movement sensors in the Office;there is also no direct link to the fire alarm in the Hall

ii)there is a smoke alarm in the Office as well as two fire extinguishers but it is likely that these will require servicing

Members views are sought as to whether they require the Office to be connected to the main intruder and/ or fire alarm system and/or request Hartsons to carry out servicing of the smoke alarm and the two extinguishers pending any occupation of the premises.

3-Car Parking-Front of Welfare Hall

i)The Clerk has approached three firms for quotes for the external car parking disclaimer Notice and at the time of writing this Report is awaiting replies.It may be possible to give a verbal update at the Meeting.

ii)All the permanent users of the Hall ,except one,have signed a declaration that they have read and understood the Council's Disclaimer Notice.The one exception is Healthforce and the Clerk ,after conferring with the Mayor,Deputy Mayor and the Chair of the Welfare Hall Management Committee/Trustees,has instructed the Caretaker to lock the gates so as to prevent Healthforce utilising the car parking space;this will be reviewed should Healthforce decide to sign the declaration.

4-New user for the Hall

Weightwatchers have applied for and been given a second slot at the Hall namely Wednesday morning between 9.00 am to 11.00 am-the charge will the same as the existing WW meeting namely £21.00 payable in cash.A formal Rental Agreement has been entered into between the Council and WW.The contact for the new meeting is Kate Goudge.

5-Utilities

The Council's current supplier for both Gas and Electricity is NPower.Both are fixed term contracts expiring respectively on the 30th November 2020 and the 28th May 2020.The Council has been approached (by among others) a Mr.Ralph Golden,an Energy Consultant with Every Aspect Ltd.-it would seem from the Council's records that it has utilised Mr.Golden's services in the past in negotiating energy contracts.The Consultant can provide several quotes and deals directly with the energy companies on the Council's behalf.The Consultant makes no charge to the Council as" Energy companies pay for our service, and as stated we get paid one fix fee and this is why it makes us more impartial."

Due to the timescales of the Contracts the Gas Contract cannot be renewed until December 2019 but the Electricity Contract can be re negotiated now.Is it a good time to renew?

I set out Mr.Golen's advice to date-

"The reason why I'm looking at the contract now is quite simple the energy market is rising, so by securing your prices now for when the original contract ends you'll be getting a more competitive, now"

“While most energy customers are aware of the price rises caused by the ongoing energy crisis, most do not realise that energy prices have actually tripled since 2002. As the price increases are set to continue, the use of a professional energy service is paramount, with government sources and independent advisory groups alike all placing increasing emphasis on the importance of energy account management in today’s business market”

“As you are aware energy prices aren't coming down, but increasing by securing the prices now for the future you'll receive more competitive prices now instead of later, and yes I do everything”

“When it comes to the quotes I can't say how long they long for as the energy market is such a minefield. At one time I use to say "Price would be fine for a couple of weeks" but now with the way the energy market is sometimes they are fine for a couple of weeks, or they could change within the day or the week”

Mr.Golden has secured some quotes and they are set out below-

“Please see below the updated energy prices

What the Council is on till May 2020

NP 3YR ELEC	RATES
STANDING CHARGE	26.93ppd
UNIT RATE	14.82pkwh
ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST	£1,397.00

Renewal offer

NP 3YR ELEC RENEWAL	RATES
STANDING CHARGE	23.63 QTR
UNIT RATE	17.70pkwh
ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST	£1,649.35

Estimated annual increase £252.35, divided by 12 works out estimated additional £21.03 a month

Other options

E.ON 3YR	RATES
STANDING CHARGE	30p
UNIT RATE	17.68pkwh
ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST	£1,658.80

Estimated annual increase £261.80, divided by 12 works out estimated additional £21.82 a month

BRITISH GAS 3YR	RATES.
STANDING CHARGE	42.33p
UNIT RATE	17.42pkwh
ESTIMATED ANNUAL COST	£1,681.01

Estimated annual increase £284.01, divided by 12 works out estimated additional £23.67 a month

As you can see NPower is still offering the best price to stay with them.

E.on came close.”

As Members will note NPower still have the lowest quote but the quote is higher than the Council is paying now-the Consultant's argument would seem to be that if the Council waits until the expiration of the Contract then prices could well be higher than the quotes received now.

Members views are requested as to whether the Council should switch its Electricity Contract now utilising the services of Mr.Golden.It is possible that the above prices may no longer be valid at the time of the Meeting;the Clerk will contact the Consultant on the morning of the Meeting to ascertain the position and if needed and possible obtain more up to date quotations.

6-Receipts and Payments-The current receipts and payments are attached.

Dated this 20th August,2019
Clerk to the Council