

Cyngor Cymuned
Llanddowror & Llanmiloe
Community Council



Minutes of the meeting of Llanddowror and Llanmiloe Community Council

Held in the Llanddowror Meeting Room, then Llanddowror Church, Tuesday 28th August 2018.

Present: Cllrs Chris Holt, Phill Pickersgill, David Howells, Angela Crewes, Tony Paradice, Terrence Langdon, Gwyn Owen. County Cllr Jane Tremlett.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received from Cllr Hewens.
2. **Declaration of personal interests.** None were declared.
3. **Discussion on planning application W/37655.**

The meeting had been scheduled to take place in Llanddowror Meeting Room, but the numbers attending meant that it was agreed it should move to the reserve location of the church, which had been advertised as a possibility. Measures were taken to ensure any latecomers could attend the relocated meeting.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introduced the Councillors and the Clerk. He summarised the details of the planning application, which was for 2 pitches and 2 dayrooms on a field that was now owned by the applicant, for himself and his future family expansion. He then opened the meeting for people to make comments on the planning application.

A number of issues with the application were raised. These centred around:

- a) It was in greenbelt or agricultural land, significantly outside the area allowed for development according to Carmarthenshire County Council's Local Development Plan;
- b) It was on an isolated site that was exposed and very visible from the new bypass;
- c) The village infrastructure was not what would be needed for it (no schools, shops etc. in village) and that the nearest were in St Clears, although it was using Llanddowror as its reference community;
- d) There was a fear of increased crime or antisocial behaviour;
- e) Such a development in that area would be refused for relatives of for instance a Llanddowror resident, so how would allowing this development go ahead be justified;
- f) Allowing this planning permission could weaken grounds for opposition to any future development on that site, or nearby;

g) There will be space for expansion on the current Kilgetty site soon, when overcrowding was one of the main reasons given for this site to be created;

h) There was concern about the fact the field was now owned, so caravans could be moved onto it without planning permission – which County Cllr Jane Tremlett stated would be dealt with by enforcement from CCC.

i) There historically have not been traveller or gypsy sites in the area, so it would be out of character for Llanddowror.

j) The applicant does not meet the criteria of a Gypsy or Traveller, if he and his parents have been living on the Kilgetty site for 40 years or more.

As these arose they were discussed, and people freely gave their views. Concern was also raised about the privacy of those who wished to comment on this application to CCC, that their names and addresses would be made public. The Clerk would clarify this, and let Councillors know the answer to pass on. On the point raised about the actual definition of a Gypsy Traveller the Clerk would ascertain the Welsh Government definition, and again pass on to Councillors to pass on. The Clerk also stated that the 21 days for the consultation would be up in the week of this meeting, so any comments should be submitted as soon as possible.

At the end of the meeting, a motion was offered for all those present to vote upon:

That they were against the application on the grounds that a) it was in greenbelt or agricultural land, outside the LDP; b) that there was adequate planned expansion space and provision for gypsy travellers on the Kilgetty site, so a new site as proposed was not necessary; c) that the applicant possibly did not meet the definition of a Gypsy or Traveller according to the recognised definition, and so the application should not be considered with any legal protection or advantage that gave.

This motion was carried with 46 for it, two abstentions, and no votes against. No voting was done by Councillors, County Councillor or Clerk.

After the public meeting finished, the Council met to discuss their next steps in the light of the discussions held. It was agreed that the Clerk should circulate a draft letter based upon the views expressed and their own earlier discussions for all to review and comment upon, before it was submitted as the Council's comment upon the planning application. In addition the Clerk would confirm the precise criteria that would be used for the application, and also whether full names and addresses of those submitting comments needed to be supplied. This information would be passed on to Councillors to inform the community.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm