Felinfach Community Council

Agenda for Regular Meeting to be held at Llandefalle Hall

On Tuesday 9th August 2022

6.30pm

**Register of attendees will be taken**

**Apologies.**

**Any other business for agenda.**

**Minutes of last meeting**

**Declaration of interest**

**Actions**

Tredurn Road – Repairs proposed.

2. Planning - No Planning Application

**3.0 - Correspondence**

3.1 – Co-opting new Councillor to Council.

3.2 – Crassula mites at Brechfa Pool – Update from Moyrah Gall NRW

3.3 - Grid reference SO 0987 3410 – Right of Way footpath between Trehenry Fawr & Duck Pond Wood above Felinfach

3.4 - A Powys network to support community led climate change actions

3.5 - Training Plan – What is required

**Reports –** No Reports

**County Councillor Report.**

**Finance**

Balance of Accounts

Invoices to be paid – Bitdefender

Standing Order Payment – Microsoft 365

1ST Quarterly Accounts for 2022-2023

**Point of Interest**

Letter from Lucy Warry, Y Neuadd Talachddu

Response from Lee Waters regarding Pont-y-Bat junction.

**Chairman’s Business**

Date of next meeting

**ACTIONS**

**Tredurn Road**

Afternoon Vincent

I was wondering if you had successful organized your team to do repairs to Tredurn road, I know when I messaged regarding it, it was in the middle of winter and the water was constantly flowing down it, an update would be appreciated.

Hi Delyth

Sorry been off a few days.

That road is ideal for our Jetpatcher Machine which we hire every year and a job has been raised.  It is due to be with us mid July so will be done soon

Best regards

Vincent

**Correspondence**

**3.2 – Update on Brechfa Pool**

Dear Delyth

Thank you and Garth for meeting up on Monday evening and offering to assist with periodic checks on the fencing.

Please let Garth know I am sorry, but to process consent before Friday for digging a hole to search for water is less likely. I will contact you on my return (after the 22nd of August). Perhaps a simple solution is to use a soil bore to establish at what depth the water sits.

As explained, the source of water for the site is rain. Climate change results in higher temperatures and water depletion (with or without crassula), and a water shortage will become more of a problem, as is the case at many other rain-fed sites.

Lack of water will become an issue at Brecha Pool, and maybe a consideration is the grazier's look at other available water resources. The most likely would be water troughs and a liaison with the two nearby farms to feed water from existing pipe water supplies. If the graziers considered constructing a borehole, I believe costs would be high. The financial implications to the graziers of affordability are probably more the consideration.

My understanding is the owner of Brechfa Pool for many years had and still has an established management agreement with the Freshwater Trust  [Brechfa Pool Flagship Site - Freshwater Habitats TrustFreshwater Habitats Trust](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffreshwaterhabitats.org.uk%2Fbrechfa-pool-flagship-site%2F&data=05%7C01%7C%7Cf2d440dfe04849ac204408da754c6852%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637951268271603887%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ujGtpNfyB4uTaiy%2BRoq1qUMX1yUVozVZqIVPAnbcv3Q%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank)

**(NB:** The FT is **not**the Wildlife Trust. Brecknockshire Wildlife Trust ended its interest with Brechfa Pool in 2015/16 when they went into financial difficulty- they no longer exist as Brecknockshire WT and were taken over by South and West Wales Wildlife Trust the year following). SWWWT only took on BWT sites owned by the Wildlife Trust, not private owned sites, as with Brechfa Pool).

I wonder if the graziers have been in touch with or worked with the Freshwater trust in the past? It might be worth following up on as the Freshwater Trusts remit is not as narrow as NRW's involvement (this is limited to working with the owner to preserve/improve the designated features of the site).

Birds again were raised Monday evening, in particular Lapwing and Curlew.

**Lapwing:** Brechfa Pool, with its current grazing regime of sheep and public use, would not support lapwing breeding at the site, nor do I believe been recorded at this site for over 20 years. NB: There is a small breeding colony of Lapwing down at Llangorse in a cattle grazed area away from public access.

**Curlew:** 2020 recorded a breeding pair behind the pool with sightings again this year in the area. Additionally, two pairs of Curlew were noted on Llangorse two weeks ago.

There is a UK-recorded shortage of Curlew, and a BTO Curlew recovery program in progress across the UK and Europe. A local BTO recorder (Andy King) for the Powys area is monitoring Curlew as part of this BTO program. He would be able to assist if you require more detailed bird recording information.

Birds are not a designated feature of Brechfa Pool SSSI and SSSI management prioritises improving the feature condition of the SSSI.

Please refer to the email sent back in July 2021, which includes links to the designated information

on Brechfa Pool SSSI and other information regarding designated sites.

All this contributes to why NRW's involvement with this site is limited which I hope helps.

All the best

Moyrah

**3.3 -** Grid reference SO 0987 3410 – Right of Way footpath between Trehenry Fawr & Duck Pond Wood above Felinfach

Good afternoon Delyth,

I have had a look at footpath 1 now. The path is just over 2km in length, (only slightly shorter than the adjacent County Road) with no connecting paths. It is obstructed by three fences. However, the northerly section through Duck Pond wood is overgrown to such an extent so as to be practicably impassable. That surface vegetation is a matter for PCC to maintain. I have put it on the list for our volunteers to look at, but it will be low down on our current priorities I’m afraid. It will be inequitable for me to seek to enforce the landowners to remove the obstructing fences until the Authority can ensure that the obstruction, we are responsible for, is resolved. I will contact Mr Lawrence and update him directly.

Regards,

Martin Davies
Rights of Way and Enforcement Officer, Powys County Council
Tel (01597) 82 7679, Mob 07810156045

3.5 Training

## Training plans

Community and town councils have a duty under section 67 of the [Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2021/1/contents) to consider training for councillors and community council staff from 5 May 2022, publish their first council training plans by 5 November 2022 and make a new training plan no later than three months after each subsequent ordinary local government election. It is not the intention to ensure that each and every councillor necessarily receives training on the same subjects but to seek to bring about a situation where the councillors as a group, and the staff collectively, possess the knowledge, skills and awareness they need to operate effectively. Completing this toolkit will support the council in considering what training should be prioritised to ensure it has effective governance and financial management in place.

**Point of interest**

Hi Delyth,

I hope you are well.

It’s Lucy Warry here, from Y Neuadd, Talachddu. I just wanted to let you know that we will be putting a tent up in our field for our children to use for the rest of the summer holidays.

The last time we did this there were some complaints that we were starting the glamping business up again and it was the wrong coloured tent...or some such similar nonsense!! So, I’m just heading it off at the pass and hopefully if any one does notice, let alone take issue, they can be assured that we are completely entitled to put a tent up in our field for personal use and that it will be taken down at the end of the summer holidays.