



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

5th December 2018

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Chris Fatcher
Councillor Graham Barrow
Councillor Jools Payne
Councillor Robin Boston
Councillor Mike Ingle

Councillor Pam Hughes
Councillor Ralph Bennett
Councillor Merle Hunt

Also present: Stephanie Masters (Clerk), Davena Davies (Community Agent) and County Councillor Trevor Bates.

Chairman opened the meeting at 6pm

Plans for the future use of the Ysgol Pontfadog site

Mark Pritchard and Phil Wynne from WCBC had been invited to the meeting to discuss options for the future use of the Ysgol Pontfadog site following closure in 2019. **CF** said it was to be a formal open discussion to establish facts, expectations and what WCBC has to offer. Mark Pritchard said WCBC plans to work with the Council and provide support. It wanted the outcome to be something the local community would benefit from. Ideas were discussed, and it was agreed the Council undertake a consultation with local residents. **CF** said the discussion had proved very useful and thanked Mark Pritchard and Phil Wynne for coming to the meeting. **CF** confirmed the consultation would be discussed further at the meeting in January 2019.

Presentation by Sarah Hawkes

SH outlined her plans for a wildlife/environment project for the Valley:

- Produce a set of wildlife leaflets for the Valley The idea behind the leaflets is to raise awareness and interest in local wildlife and encourage people to think about the conservation of it. **SH** presented an example of one of the leaflets to Councillors. She plans to have them ready for the new tourist season and school spring/summer terms.
- Ask for support to invite five speakers to give talks about wildlife and the environment and how this also it affects farming. Speakers to include an organic farmer from near Lake Vrynwy, a representative from the Nature Friendly Farming Network (similar) plus some local people who would give presentations about Climate Change and information about Wild Bees. **SH** hopes

Action

to get people invited for January/February onwards for an audience of Valley residents. **JP** said **SH** should remember that the cost of hiring the OJMH needed to be included in the costs.

CF said a s137 donation was a possibility asked what the end gain would be from the project. **SH** said people would be better educated on wildlife and environmental issues. Having the backing from the Council would help make the project more secure and she would be able to do the initial work without any risk. **CF** said the Council would discuss and agree how it was able to support **SH**. **GB** suggested this could be put on the agenda for the Council meeting in January when a pilot project could be discussed. **JP** made the point that the project could be under the remit of the CCVP. **MH** said the project could reach out to other groups in the community and gave the example of the WI. **CF** thanked **SH** for her presentation and suggested she submit a s137 application.

01-1218 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Edith Jones (personal circumstances) and Donald Roberts (personal circumstances)

02-1218 Declarations of Interest:

None

03-1218 Reports

(a) Police Report

PSCO Martin Griffiths had sent a report to **SM** which summarised the criminal activity in the local area. **SM** had sent it out to Councillors prior to the meeting. Figures included three cases of ASB, one of criminal damage to a gate and two cases of theft which related to tools being taken and number plates being removed.

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

TB had contacted **SM** prior to the meeting to advise he had little to report. He did however inform the Councillors that the WCBC had voted to place the LDP on deposit with Welsh Government and the Planning Inspectorate. He explained this will now be subject to more scrutiny and anyone will be able to make representations to the appointed person.

MH said **TB** provides information and feedback on the various issues affecting the Ceiriog Valley which is much appreciated. All agreed they are very grateful for what he does and the support he gives to the local community as a County Councillor

04-1218 Community Agent Report

DD reported:

1. The month had started with displaying the poppies in Pontfadog with the help of several volunteers.
2. Had attended a level 2 food safety course with two volunteers meaning that at any event at which food is served there will always be at least one person with a food safety certificate.
3. Had attended a meeting with **RBo** to finalise the Gilbert and Gordon tea dance and talk. The event took place on the 22nd November with a soup supper and was enjoyed by all who attended. A follow up meeting to arrange dates for future dance sessions had taken place.

4. The Liverpool Christmas market trip was well attended considering all the other events on that weekend. Reported everyone had enjoyed themselves.
5. Had attended training courses in Wrexham which included tackling loneliness and social isolation. Different ways Community Agents may have to work are currently been discussed by WCBC. It is planned to reduce eligibility for the service from the age from 50 and be an asset-based practice.
6. Continuing to attend drop-in sessions at the doctors' surgeries in both the Glyn Ceiriog and Chirk. Has also made a number of home visits.
7. Advised there are currently lots of other things going on and she was very excited about the Community Christmas lunch taking place at 12:30pm on 6th December 2018 at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall. **GB** is the chef, cooking a three-course lunch for at least 52 people. **DD** to assist at the event. Explained she had been in contact with Vicky Bolton from Tesco at Cefn Mawr, who has said she will attend and donate tea coffee and chocolates for after the meal. **DD** to stay in contact with Vicky for future events. **DD** asked Councillors to all come and support the event. **CF** congratulated **DD** and **GB** for arranging the event.

RBo confirmed the first event in the Tea Dance programme had been great success and those who attended expressed huge interest and were keen to continue. **CF** said that people are asking for future dates for the dances. **RBo** advised the first dance will be on the 16th February 2019. The time for the event is being discussed by those running the programme. Councillors felt that 6:00pm to 9:00pm would be the most convenient time.

05-1218 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th November 2018

(a) Minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2018 were reviewed and approved as a true and correct record. Proposed by **PH** and seconded by **RBo**. **All agreed.**

(b) Matters Arising

There was a review of the actions from the last meeting:

8. **SM** had written to Andy Long to express the Council's thanks for his assistance with the defibrillators and working to help build a more resilient community as agreed at the meeting in November
9. **JP, CF** and **SM** had held a meeting to review and rebuild the Council website using 'Word Press'. The basic architecture of the website was now complete. Information could now be uploaded to the site to ensure the Council's website was compliant with the Local Government Act (1972). **SM** to provide the necessary documents. **SM** informed Councillors the website would be viewed by the both the external and internal auditors to ensure it meets requirements. The cost would be £84 per annum.
10. At the previous meeting **CF** had offered to run a workshop on project planning techniques but was now unable to do this due to other commitments at the current time.
11. Following the meeting in November **SM** had contacted One Voice Wales for further details of training courses offered. She informed Councillors that the courses could be held at any venue and for up to 20 people. This gives the opportunity to involve the other Community Councils in the Valley and to share the costs of the training. **SM** to get further details of costs for the next meeting in January 2019. **JP** proposed that new Councillors should attend a specific training course aimed at new Councillors. Seconded by **GB**. **5 votes for and 0 against** proposal (3 abstentions).
12. **SM** had arranged and paid for a cabinet for the defibrillator being sited at Bronygarth. Fitting is being arranged but no date has been given for the work yet.

13. It had been noted at the last meeting there was a delay on the draft text and design of the community information leaflet. It had been planned a draft would be prepared in November for approval/sign off by full Council at the December meeting. However, this had not been completed due to significant hours being devoted to the OJ Film Club and new website. The preparation of the leaflet is therefore ongoing.

06-1218 Correspondence

SM had received only emails relating to various issues and these had been forwarded at the time to Councillors. There had been no other correspondence.

07-1218 Finance Report

At previous meetings paying the OJMH for use of the Council Room for meetings had been discussed. It was questioned whether the Council should be paying given the Council had paid £8500 for the refurbishment of the kitchen and that most events in the Hall are sponsored by the Council and the Community Agent, encouraging further use of the Hall. Formal negotiation and agreement need to take place with the OJMH Committee. **SM** to contact the OJMH Committee and Trustees to arrange a meeting.

GB said the refurbishment of the kitchen at the OJMH was almost completed. He said the outstanding £200 should only be paid once the work was finished. **PH** questioned whether the Council should have paid for the work. **DD** explained the cost had been covered by the £2500 inclusion grant, £3000 from the Community Agent's Account and £3000 from the funds already put aside for OJMH projects.

A financial report had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting detailing the account balances, receipts and what had been paid. **SM** summarised a list of items that needed to be paid. **SM** to send a list of the payments approved after the meeting. The payments were authorised at the meeting by **PH** and **EJ**. **CF** signed the financial report.

SM

08-1218 Dolywern Playground

Following the last Council meeting **RB** had received an estimate from Brad Jones for the remedial work to the swings in the Dolywern playground. He reminded Councillors that it had been agreed at the last meeting the repair work should be carried out by Brad Jones but with a proviso of £300 for the replacement swings. However, the new estimate for the swings was £402 excluding VAT and a further £100 for labour. **RB** proposed the Council accept the quote for the repair work and replacement swings. Seconded by **PH**. **All agreed**. **SM** to confirm arrangements for the work with Brad Jones.

SM

09-1218 Defibrillator

MI had sought a suitable location for a defibrillator in Bronygarth and reported Brian Watkin had kindly agreed for it to be positioned at his property. **GB** proposed the Council should go ahead with this offer. Seconded by **RB**. **All agreed**. **SM** to arrange cabinet for and fitting of the defibrillator.

SM

10-1218 s137 Donations

A s137 donation had been paid to cover the cost for the two metal soldier figures that had been erected as part of the WW1 Commemoration event as agreed at the last meeting.

The New Glyn Valley Tramway and Industrial Heritage Trust is making an application for a donation towards a new door planned for the waiting room in Pontfadog. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

11-1218 Ceiriog Valley Bowls Club

SM arranged to meet **CF**, **RBo** and **PH** on Saturday 10th November to collect ID and verification of address documents to take to the solicitor. It was agreed **SM** to contact **EJ**.

SM

12-1218 Council Procedures

There had been a meeting of the Governance and Compliance Committee to review the Standing Orders and a draft had been sent out to Councillors by **SM** for comments ready for the Council's meeting in January 2019. **MH** explained the Committee had looked at the new Standing Orders model produced for 2018 by NALC and found that the Council's existing Standing Orders were out-of-date. There had been significant changes and there was now a considerable amount of information which it was now mandatory to include. **CF** said Councillors would need to agree the final document for adoption at next Council meeting.

14-1218 Ground Maintenance

At the previous meeting **RB** had proposed the work to resurface the OJMH carpark should be put out to tender. **CF** commented that according to the Council's Financial Regulations **SM** should obtain 3 quotations for the work because the contract is below £25000. The figure was questioned as to whether it should be reduced. This will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting. It was agreed that **SM** and **RB** would outline the tender for the work and get quotations for the work.

SM
RB

15-1218 Communications Committee

JP reported:

- A total of 27 hours had already been devoted by Cllr Payne and her company staff members to create and support all aspects of the launch of the OJ Film Club pilot project in association with Arts Alive/Flicks in the Sticks which is aimed at tackling rural isolation and community cohesion within Glyntraian. She was concerned that to date only 14 tickets had been sold online. However, the tickets are also on sale in the Pontfadog PO and there had been further interest. Thanked **GB** for his support in printing and distributing tickets for offline sales and **DD** for distributing posters and flyers.

Explained the objective of the pilot project is to provide an evidence-based need for an Arts Council Wales grant for a digital cinema screen and projector facilities for OJMH to help deliver the Council's wellbeing goals through the medium of film to combat loneliness.

There had been a presentation to Community Agents meeting at Chirk Town Council on Monday 19th November to explain concept, rationale and request for support. **JP** thanked **DD** as Community Agent for making this possible.

Full support documentation including; Project Definition, Project Tasks Gantt Plan, Project Timeline and Project Cost Sheet are available from the Clerk or **JP** on request.

- **RBo** **DD** and **JP** had held the Councillors' Surgery, but nobody came. **JP** questioned whether Saturdays are the best time for the Council to hold these. It was agreed that more needs to be done to raise awareness of sessions.
- A Press release had been issued to Daily Post, Wrexham Leader, Oswestry Advertiser, BBC Wales NE Online on the Council's WW1 Commemoration event. A report on the event and images had also been uploaded to Council Facebook page.

- There is a need to find a local, mature young person willing to be co-opted onto Communications Committee.
- **JP** informed Councillors the next full Communications Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday 12th December 2018. The Council's Communications policy and PR protocols will be discussed.

JP CF
GB DD
SM

16-1218 Highways

MI reported:

1. Discussed concerns with Mark Pritchard (Council Leader, WCBC), Darren Williams (Service Manager), and Lawrence Isted (Head of Environment and Planning). The poor condition of the roads in the Ceiriog Valley was not disputed. Obtained verbal agreement that the reason why other authorities perform better maintaining rural roads would be investigated. This is significant because by implication it is an acknowledgement that WCBC are performing under par.
2. Planning to visit and view more roads/farms where I have been advised that conditions are especially bad and local business may be at risk because of poor road conditions.
3. Planning to meet and discuss highways issues with Councillors from other parts of Ceiriog Valley to get better understanding of problems and successes. Request GCC members to contact me to draw my attention to particularly bad areas
4. No reply from Ken Skates WA, despite two emails.

17-1218 AOB

None

Items for next agenda:

Discussion and adoption of new Standing Orders
Consultation on possible future uses for Ysgol Pontfadog site

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:00pm

Next meeting will be on 2nd January 2019 at 6pm