



# Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

6th June 2018

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

### Present:

Councillor Chris Fatcher  
Councillor Graham Barrow  
Councillor Donald Roberts  
Councillor Edith Jones  
Councillor Jools Payne

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

### 01-0618 Apologies for Absence

No Apologies

### 02-0618 Presentation by Jacky Allen

Jacky Allen, Chair of the Community Health Council, came to discuss the issue of poor ambulance response times in Chirk and the Ceiriog Valley. It was agreed that it is not acceptable that ambulances do not meet the 8 minutes response time in the Ceiriog Valley. Ambulances queuing at Wrexham Maelor A&E is one of the main problems because while waiting the ambulance is not available for other emergency calls. Taxis have been used to transfer people to hospital, but this is a high-risk practice in case any serious problems occur on the way. **TB** has arranged a Public Meeting with the Welsh Ambulance Service for the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at the OJMH. Jacky suggested questions the Councillors should ask at this meeting. She will also be at the meeting to ask questions. Councillors thanked Jacky for coming to the meeting, which was much appreciated.

### 03-0618 Declarations of Interest

#### Declarations of interest for S137 Donations

Pentrefi Volunteers Village Tidy group: **GB, RB and JP**

St John's Church, Pontfadog: **EJ and PH**

Action

**04-0618 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd May 2018 and the Annual Council Meeting held on 16th May 2018 at the OJMH**

**(a) Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd May 2018 were reviewed and approved as a true and correct record.** Proposed by **PH** and seconded by **EJ**. **All agreed. Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were reviewed and approved as a true and correct record.** Proposed by **MH** and seconded by **JP**. **All agreed.**

**(b) Matters Arising**

There was a review of the actions from the last meeting to confirm what had been completed. The planned 'drop in' session, which was to have been held on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall had to be cancelled and moved to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**RB** requested **SM** to find out what is expected of Council representatives on the NHS Trust/Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board

**SM**

Following the ACM, **MH** agreed to be on the Governance and Compliance Committee with **SM**, **CF** and **GB**.

**05-0618 Reports**

**(a)** No Police report.

**(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates** reported:

- Confirmed the WCBC Skip Day/Environmental Day in Glyn Ceiriog has been arranged for the July 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 for Council House Tenants.
- The 20mph flashing sign by Twn y Bryn in Pontfadog has still not been raised.
- Reported concerns about the grass cutting in Bro Dewi. Advised WCBC Street Scene is a month behind with general work. Council Tenants in Bro Dewi are charged £1.06 per week to have the grass cut and are still having to pay despite the work not being carried out. **DD** said tenants used to do this themselves in the past. The fact the grass has not been cut between the houses and the river as expected, rats are becoming a problem resulting in a serious health issue. **GB** proposed Glyntraian Community Council send a letter to WCBC, (and copy in **TB**), highlighting these local issues. Seconded by **RB**. All agreed.
- Said that the number 64 easyBus provided an irregular and inconsistent service in the Valley which is unacceptable. Reported easyBus services are the only ones that get any grant subsidies. Any complaints should be sent to Andrew Martin, the company's Managing Director.
- Advised the Local Development Plan consultation period has been extended to the 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018 because WCBC had missed out information relating to travellers' camps.

**SM**

## 06-0618 Correspondence

**SM** had received:

- 'Play for Wales' magazine
- Letter from Nightingale Hospice requesting a donation.
- Emails requesting donations received from Dyffryn Ceiriog Riding for the Disabled, Pentrefi Volunteers Village Tidy group and St John's Church in Pontfadog. An email had also been received from Mr A. Salomonson, a First Responder, requesting a donation towards the cost of specialist bags which are needed for medical equipment.
- Letter from Home-Start requesting a donation towards its work offering families high quality flexible support to improve wellbeing, skills and confidence of parents when struggling with things like domestic abuse, poor parental mental health or poverty.
- Two applications for the two Community Councillor vacancies
- Letter from Seafarers UK informing Councils of Merchant Navy Day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 and a request to fly the Red Ensign on that day.

## 07-0618 Community Agent

**DD** reported:

- Continuing to attend coffee mornings when time and commitment allows.
- Developing links with the Leonard Cheshire Home
- Continuing to attend Computer Club
- Attending doctors' surgeries in Glyn Ceiriog once fortnightly to raise awareness of the Community Agent service and be on hand with help and advice.
- Receiving new referrals and has completed home visits and signposted clients to the services needed.
- Undertaking follow up visits to see if any further help is needed or if help has been accessed.
- Hosted a joint meeting for all Community Agents in the area at the OJMH on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018 with 18 other Community Agents attending and 3 guest speakers.
- Has rearranged the coach trip to accommodate more of the community and is changing the choice of venue.
- Forging ahead with plans to update the kitchen at the OJMH in the hope of setting up a luncheon club.
- Had taken a call from the Crisis team who asked her to help one elderly resident. The help needed was for her to sit and talk with the person whilst the different support teams were informed of the situation so help could be put in place. The person trusted **DD** to relay any information to the teams involved. It was a rewarding experience.
- Reported how a telecare system had been put into action for another couple who wanted to keep their independence within their own home. The cost of this package is £3.69 per week. It includes a panic button, in case of any confrontation on the door step. **RB** thanked **DD** and commended her for her work. It was agreed that information about the telecare system should be publicised on the Council website.

## 08-0618 Finance Report

**SM** reported the balance of each GCC account and confirmed what had been paid. **SM** presented a list of items that needed to be paid. The payments were checked and authorised at the meeting by **PH** and **EJ**. **SM** said information regarding any payments being signed for at a meeting would be sent out to Councillors prior to each meeting. **JP** asked if the bank statements could also be made available. **SM** agreed to present these at future meetings.

It was agreed to reimburse Councillor Futcher for the cost of the dongle and cable (£25) which is needed for use with the Smart TV in the Committee Room. **RB** proposed this, which was seconded by **MH**. **All agreed.**

**SM** presented information from the Internal Audit which was acknowledged and reviewed by Councillors. **SM** informed Councillors she was in the process of completing the External Audit, which had to be sent to Grant Thornton by 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

**CF** asked Councillors to think about plans for the surplus funds, so this could be discussed at the next meeting in July.

Councillors discussed a review of the Clerk's working hours. **SM** had stated she only had the time to complete the basic tasks, which meant other, in some cases more important responsibilities, were not being effectively carried out. **GB** proposed:

"This Council proposes to offer the Clerk an increase in paid hours from 5 to 12 hours per week; this time to be wholly for the completion of work directly related to Council business.

The situation is to be kept under review by the Staffing Committee on behalf of the Council for effectiveness and efficiency. The Committee will report at three monthly intervals to the full Council and make any recommendations for further changes as necessary."

This was seconded by **PH**. **Unanimously agreed.** **SM** thanked Councillors for agreeing to the extra hours which would enable her to carry out the Clerk's role more effectively.

## 09-0618 Bowling Club Lease

**CF** reminded Councillors that the agreement with the Bowls Club is a Lease and not a Contract. The Lease must be amenable and friendly and access to the local community be assured. **GB** and **MH** to look at acceptable terms. It is planned to identify areas of common agreement and make a decision at the meeting in July 2018. The Council will appoint a solicitor to prepare the documents. **SM** to contact two solicitors to compare costs and report at the next meeting.

**GB**  
**MH**  
**SM**

## 10-0618 S137 Donations

**CF** proposed s137 donations to be discussed at the Council meeting in July 2018. Seconded by **GB**. **All agreed.**

## 11-0618 Ysgol Pontfadog

**JP** reported that over 1400 complaints were sent to WCBC objecting to the school's closure. WCBC had planned to produce a final report within 28 days. However, WCBC will not have produced the report in time to meet the July deadline.

### **12-0618 Council Procedures**

**CF** confirmed the notice for the first Councillor vacancy would be displayed until the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018, when applications would close for this vacancy. The closing date for the second vacancy is 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Co-option of the new Councillors would be at the Council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

### **13-0618 Ground Maintenance**

A check on the ground maintenance work being carried out by 'Greenfingers' highlighted that work was unfinished. Work in certain locations was not done at all. **SM** advised the monthly payment was due, but Councillors refused to pay as the company were in breach of contract. **SM** to contact 'Greenfingers' to resolve issue.

**SM**

### **16-0618 Planning**

**SM** advised two planning applications had been received:

- P/2018/0436 Residential Development of Affordable Houses and New Access located in Pontfadog.
- P/2018/0434 Erection of Replacement Dwelling at Erwallo Uchaf.

Councillors to view plans for discussion at the meeting in July 2018.

### **17-0518 Highways**

It was agreed to review the poor condition of roads and lanes at the Council meeting in July 2018.

### **18-0518 AOB**

Refurbishment of Committee Room was briefly discussed. This will take place over the Summer and will be completed by **MH, DD, JP, PH, RB** and **GB**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:00pm

Next meeting will be on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 6pm