



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

5th February 2020

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Graham Barrow (Chairman)
Councillor Jools Payne
Councillor Edith Jones
Councillor Donald Roberts

Councillor Merle Hunt
Councillor Pam Hughes
Councillor Robin Boston

Also present: Stephanie Masters (Clerk), Davena Davies (Community Agent) and County Councillor Trevor Bates. Councillor Freya Evans Swogger (Ceiriog Uchaf Community Council) and local resident Ted Johnson.

Chairman opened the meeting at 6pm

GB welcomed Shan Cooper from Wrexham CBC who had been invited to the meeting to discuss the future of the Wrexham Library Service. She advised Councillors there is a £100,000 cut in the library service budget this financial year and the challenge is how to sustain the service. Wrexham CBC (and all other County Councils), must provide a library service under the 1964 Public Libraries and Museums Act, but there is nothing in the Act that quantifies the service or the required level of provision. The mobile library which operates in the Glyntraian area costs £82000 to run annually. Wrexham CBC currently pays all costs associated with the service but is asking Community Councils to consider making a contribution towards these and help support the service. The mobile library visits the Glyntraian area for 1% of its time which equates to a cost of £824. **MH** said ideally all Councils should make a contribution, but it is unrealistic to expect small Community Councils to pay and an increase in the Precept would be needed. Shan informed Councillors a time and motion study to monitor usage is being undertaken. Councillors agreed the issue would need further discussion. **GB** thanked Shan for coming to the meeting.

01-0220 Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Councillor Chris Fatcher (personal circumstances) and Councillor Ralph Bennett (personal circumstances)

Action

02-0220 Declarations of Interest

GB declared an interest in the planning application relating to his property

03-0220 Reports

(a) Police Report

PCSO Martin Griffiths was unable to be at the meeting and sent his apologies. He advised **SM** that local crime statistics are now available on the Police UK website which is updated monthly. There had been two cases of violence and sexual offences in Pontfadog which are still under investigation. In addition, PCSO Gareth Jones reported there had been two burglaries (two mountain bikes and a quad bike) and asked Councillors to remain vigilant. He confirmed that Police patrols are being increased and will continue in Glyntraian and the surrounding areas.

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

TB reported:

- The installation of two electric car charging points at the Canolfan is still being discussed and not yet confirmed. These would be installed by Wrexham CBC with funding from Welsh Government if it goes ahead.
- Adam Salomonson is maintaining the three defibrillators in Glyntraian.
- He will be attending a meeting with Mark Pritchard with Marc Roberts to discuss the Ysgol Pontfadog site.
- Planning to arrange another meeting with the Wales Ambulance Service in May 2020.
- Police intend to have speed traps in the Ceiriog Valley area for 2 hours per month.
- In the Wrexham CBC budget for 2020-2021 an extra £1 million has been assigned to pothole/road repairs, which equates to an amount of £833 per km of public highway for the 1200km of roads in the County. There are 147 km of the road network in the Ceiriog Valley and on that basis, we can only hope for £122,500's worth of pothole repairs and only if funds are allocated on a pro rata basis for the length of road network.

04-0220 Community Agent Report

DD reported:

- Two new referrals both for vulnerable residents needing specialist help from Housing Services.
- Continuing with home visits
- Working closely with Warm Wales to help vulnerable residents out of fuel poverty.
- Lunch club and fish suppers have restarted, and both have been very busy. Now supply a larger number of lunches that are taken away or delivered to the less mobile residents of the community.
- On-going training for all Community Agents to ensure are all trained to the same level and able to offer the right support.
- Attended a Community Agents' meeting in Wrexham.

- Attended the Southern Cluster meeting in Rhos which was a joint meeting of all support agencies involved with caring for people in the community, including GPs, social workers, district nurses, care providers and Community Agents. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss having an information sharing system so professionals can access details held on individuals when providing care.
- Working with Wrexham food bank to offer cooking lessons to people on a limited budget.
- Tea party originally planned for the 1st March has been cancelled due to the Hall already been booked on that day. New arrangements will be made, and a date is still to be confirmed.
- Valley wide 75th VE Day celebrations event being discussed.

DD reminded Councillors that it had been agreed the Council would provide memorial plaques for the defibrillator at the OJMH in recognition of two contributions given by two residents in memory of a relative. **GB** asked **DD** to find out from the two residents what details and wording they would like on the plaques so these can be arranged.

DD

05-0220 Correspondence

SM reported the following correspondence had been received:

- A letter from WCBC confirming the Council Precept (£15900).
- Magazine from Play for Wales.
- Documents relating to the review of the electoral divisions for Wrexham Borough.
- Email from 'Keep Britain Tidy' advising of the 'Great British Spring Clean' and are looking for volunteers to take part. It was suggested Caru'n Pentrefi could support the campaign. **SM** to contact group with details.
- Two letters/cards from residents thanking the Council for the hug/hamper they received at Christmas.

SM

06-0220 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th January 2020 at the OJMH

(a) Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2020 were reviewed and approved as a true and correct record. **Proposed by MH** and **seconded by PH**. **All agreed**.

(b) Matters Arising

RBo said that following the Community Agent's report in January the Council should acknowledge the high number of vulnerable people in the area and make residents aware the issue is of concern to the Council. It was agreed this issue should be on the agenda for the next meeting.

07-0220 Finance Report

A financial report had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting, detailing the account balances, receipts and what had been paid. A schedule of items for payment totalling £ 2167.17 had also been sent out prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **MH proposed** all payments be approved. **Seconded by RBo**. **All agreed**. **PH** and **EJ** signed the payments. A payment of £13.59 had been made from petty cash for the refreshments for the school consultation public meeting. A credit of £132.36 had been received from Scottish Power as the Feed-in Tariff payment for the solar panels. **GB** signed the financial and petty cash reports.

At the last meeting it had been noted that the funds reserved for the OJMH have been held for some time and **SM** had notified the Hall Committee that plans needed to be made to use the money. As

Secretary of the Hall Committee, **GB** explained the installation of a new heating system is being investigated. An invitation to tender to explore heating system options is taking place and the Hall Committee has received one response so far. The Hall Committee plan to apply for a grant, which, if successful, would then be eligible for the match funding from the Council's earmarked reserves being held for the Hall. **SM** informed Councillors that a grant may be available from the Community Facilities Programme run by the Welsh Government. **SM** to forward details to **GB**.

SM

08-0220 Communications Committee

JP reported:

- The work of the Communications Committee is being dominated by the ongoing Ysgol Pontfadog site consultation. The Committee and the Clerk had met with Marc Roberts on 15th January to discuss his Interim Report and Phase II activity to date, and to agree format for the Public Meeting on 30th January. Phase III activity starting in February was also discussed. Marc Roberts submitted draft presentation slides for the Public Meeting for approval by the Committee and Clerk and were agreed subject to amendments.
- On the website, updates had been posted on the Public Meeting and a new landing page banner created, highlighting a dedicated Ysgol Pontfadog page.
- Updates had been posted on the consultation progress, Public Meeting, Public Meeting outcome, Community Lunch and Fish & Chip Suppers on the Council's Facebook page.
- A press release announcing the Public Meeting was distributed to local regional daily and local weekly press. Coverage in Wrexham Leader, Oswestry Advertizer, Shropshire Star and Wrexham.com.
- A press release announcing the outcome of the recent Public Meeting has been drafted and awaits sign off by Cadwyn Clwyd.
- The Public Meeting project tasks were uploaded to Click-Up and successfully managed on the platform.
- A survey questionnaire asking residents to score their priorities on the ideas submitted for the school site on a scale of 1 – 7 was distributed to 323 households across Glyntraian during January. There had been an exceptional response rate of over 60%. The data is being input and analysed by **SM**. A detailed analysis is to be formulated, organised into charts and distributed to Cadwyn Clwyd and Marc Roberts and reviewed by the Communications Committee. The information will be included in Marc's final Recommendations Report.
- Marc Roberts coming to the OJMH for a final informal 'Drop In' afternoon for residents between 1pm and 8pm on Thursday 6th February.
- A meeting has been arranged with Marc Roberts, the Communications Committee and Denise Garland (Assets) at Wrexham CBC on the 19th February.
- Marc's final report will be available at the end of February. His recommendations will be discussed at the Council meeting on 4th March 2020. At the meeting Councillors will decide whether to accept these recommendations and whether they are prepared to submit these to Wrexham CBC. Marc will be present at the meeting and **SM** to invite Helen Williams from Cadwyn Clwyd to attend.

SM

09-0220 Staffing Committee

MH informed Councillors that the Committee had met with **SM** to discuss her work schedule and taking on additional tasks for the Communications Committee. As Chair of Communications Committee, **JP** is meeting with the Staffing Committee and **SM** on Thursday 7th February to discuss the Clerk taking on increased Communications Committee administrative functions.

10-0220 s137 Applications

Sarah Hawkes had requested a donation towards a portable catch and release moth trap for a moth survey covering the whole length of the Ceiriog Valley. Approximately one third of the Valley electorate lives in Glyntraian and **GB** suggested the Council contribute one third of the total cost of the trap. **GB** to confirm the amount of the donation following the meeting. **RBo proposed** once confirmed a donation could be made to the project. **Seconded** by **PH**. **All agreed**.

Eisteddfod Dyffryn Ceiriog had applied for a donation towards the prizes and other costs for the Eisteddfod held annually in Glyn Ceiriog. It was agreed the Council should make a donation. **JP proposed** £100. **Seconded** by **MH**. **All agreed**.

11-0220 Planning Applications

P/2020/0041 (First floor extension at 3 Garth Obrey, Pontfadog).
Councillors had no objections to this application. **SM** to notify Wrexham CBC.

P2020/0016 (On plot parking No 3 Tan y Bryn, Pontfadog).
Councillors had no objections to this application. **SM** to notify Wrexham CBC

P2020/0067 (Erection of garage Llwyn Onn, Llwynmawr)
GB informed Councillors permission had already been declined due to the detrimental effect the application would have on the Valley's Special Landscape Area.

GB informed Councillors the amended application relating to his property had been approved.

12-0220 Highways

MH again raised the serious issue of the poor condition of the lane which was being used to move spoil from a building site in Pontfadog to Cae Mor, and the damage being caused by the trucks. She said Gareth Morris Construction Ltd should take responsibility for cleaning the lane and asked **TB** if he could raise the issue with them.

DR asked **SM** to notify WCBC about an overgrown hedge in Bronygarth which had been left uncut and was growing over the road. This is causing a problem with visibility for drivers.

Councillors again raised concerns about the deteriorating condition of the lanes in the area being caused by potholes. **DR** cited in one case a pothole was in danger of causing the collapse of a drain running under the lane. **SM** to notify WCBC.

13-0220 AOB

GB had spoken to the Ceiriog Valley RDA regarding a site for the new Council noticeboard in Bronygarth where the group have storage facilities. This will be discussed at the next meeting of the RDA Committee and the Council will be advised of their decision.

MH said the Council should have a strategy in place for attracting potential Councillors to ensure there is proper representation from the various villages/hamlets in Glyntraian at the Local Elections in 2021. It was agreed this was an issue for the Governance and Compliance Committee and will be on the agenda for the Council meeting on 1st April 2020.

SM

SM

TB

SM

SM

JP asked who would be putting up the flag at the OJMH on St David's Day. **DD** explained this was the responsibility of the Hall Committee.

GB had attended a meeting of the Town and Community Council Forum in Wrexham where devolving certain services to Town and Community Councils in the Borough had been discussed. It is envisaged that partnering Town and Community Councils would enable them to carry out these services in a way that's appropriate for the community and is more efficient and more economical. However, funding for any devolved services is likely to result in Council precepts having to be increased to ensure funding is available to cover the costs of any devolved service.

Items for next agenda:

Concerns about number of vulnerable people in the area

Strategy for attracting potential new Councillors.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:57pm

Next meeting will be the on 4th March 2020 at 6pm