



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

1st September 2021

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Robin Boston
Councillor Graham Barrow
Councillor Edith Jones
Councillor Colin Hidden
Councillor Donald Roberts

Councillor Pam Hughes
Councillor Ted Johnston
Councillor Dave Edwards
Councillor Emma Jones

Also present: Stephanie Masters (Clerk), Davena Davies (Community Agent)

Chairman opened the meeting at 6pm

01-0921 Apologies for Absence

No apologies

02-0921 Declarations of Interest

GB declared a personal interest in the s137 application from the Caru'n Pentrefi Volunteers

03-0921 Election of Vice Chair

GB advised Councillors that Cllr Merle Hunt had resigned due to personal circumstances, and it was therefore necessary to elect a new Vice Chair. **PH proposed RBo** be elected as the Vice Chair. **Seconded** by **TJ**. **All in favour**. **RBo** accepted the position.

SM had contacted WCBC, and a notice of vacancy had been put on the Council noticeboards.

RBo suggested the Council send a vote of thanks to Merle Hunt in recognition of her work with the Council and in the community. **RBo proposed** the Council send some flowers. **Seconded** by **DR**. **All in favour**. **SM** to arrange.

SM advised Councillors that following Merle Hunt's resignation, a new member was required for the Staffing Committee. **PH proposed CH** and **EJo** be members of the Staffing Committee. **Seconded** by **TJ**. **All in favour**.

Action

SM

04-0921 Reports

(a) Police Report

No Police report

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

No report from Cllr Bates

05-0921 Community Agent

DD reported:

- Meeting with all area Community Agents including a meeting with the new head of services for Community Agents.
- Glyntraian Community Agent has now been approved for collections twice weekly from Tesco, Cefn Mawr, which helps to supply the Community Cupboard held in Glyn Ceiriog.
- Have connected community members to the telecare services to help maintain independence.
- Continue to work with the Heating Department at WCBC and are very happy to report that 17 properties now have an independent hot water system in place, which means their heating systems will work better at a lower cost during the winter months. We still have a little way to go to guarantee both heating and hot water in the homes of council tenants, but I am determined that this will be the case before winter comes.
- Tom Hughes from Community Catalysts has been working to help people set up their own enterprises to provide care in the community and has now helped six people to achieve this, meaning that we are now in a much better position to support Community members to be able to stay at home.
- It is now 18 months since the beginning of lockdown and the same number of months since it was suggested that I should supply and deliver Sunday lunches to the most vulnerable members of our community. Having spoken with my own family and the families of those affected I have made the decision that this will now end. Most of those affected are now connected with family again or are able to source their own supplies and I feel that the dependency should actually be ended before winter starts. I have made it clear to all that I will always supply a hot meal in an emergency. I will continue to support one community member who has no family and who pays for his lunch at the cost of £2.50. This decision has no effect on the availability of the lockdown lunches on Thursdays.
- After the reports of rats in Pontfadog, and the vast amount of calls I received with the suggestions of who could be to blame. I have been working with the family and officials of a community member to establish if indeed the suggestions had any foundation. This has been proven not to be the case and actually the problem at this property is no worse than anyone else is experiencing. Cllr Trevor Bates is now also working with the same people on a way forward with this issue.

- Wished to express her thanks to **EJ** and Alma for their kind donation of £50 for the afternoon tea. £20 had paid for the hire of the OJMH with the remainder going towards food for the event.
- Computer club will be starting again 7th October 2021 but will be a joint venture between Dilys Bates and myself. We have applied for a community inclusion grant and have asked Chris Fatcher to take the sessions, which he has agreed to do.

06-0921 Correspondence

- S137 application from Caru'n Pentrefi Volunteers (discussed later in meeting)
- Email from the Police regarding this year's Remembrance Day parades and asking the Council to discuss this so any issues or concerns can be sorted in advance. The Council does not arrange a parade, but a service is held at the war memorial. **RBo** to check whether a minister will be available. **RBo**
- One Voice Wales has sent a 'Guide to Taking Part in The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons' on 2nd June 2022. **SM** advised Councillors that celebrations will take place over the June Bank Holiday 2022, which will be moved to Thursday 2 June and an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June will see a four-day weekend to celebrate the Jubilee. It needs to be agreed what event the Council will do in recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- Meeting with Steve Latham-White, regarding funding and new management of Community Agents.
- 'Learn how to use a defibrillator' free training session(s) at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall (OJMH) on the 16th and 17th of October 2021.
- Draft rules received from the Welsh Government for next year's local elections.

07-0721 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 7th July 2021

(a) Minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2021 were reviewed and approved as a true and correct record. Proposed by RBo and seconded by PH. All agreed.

(b) Matters Arising

- The Ceiriog Valley Bowls Club has still not removed the porta cabin from the OJMH. **GB** had sent a letter to the Bowls Club's secretary requesting the Club remove it by 31/08/2021 but the letter had not been acknowledged. **PH** said it had also been suggested the Club sell the porta cabin instead of using it which would provide funds towards the new pavilion. However, there had been no response. **GB** to follow up. **GB**
- **SM** informed Councillors that no response had been received from WCBC regarding the playground information sign for the Pontfadog playground. **SM** to chase again. **SM**
- **SM** had spoken to the Welsh Dee Trust who had suggested the idea of rain gardens at the OJMH as a small project for the Council's Biodiversity Action Plan. **GB** explained a rain garden soaks up and stores surplus water, reducing the amount that runs off into drains, so helping to prevent flooding and slow down the flow of rainwater into the river, which on a larger scale would help reduce erosion of the riverbanks. He informed Councillors that the guttering on the

OJMH is being replaced and rain gardens are being considered. It is hoped that these would encourage residents to do the same at home.

08-0721 Finance Report

SM had sent a copy of the financial report to Councillors prior to the meeting detailing the account balances, receipts and what had been paid. A schedule of items for payment totalling £5096.85 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **DR proposed** the payments be authorised. **Seconded** by **EJ. All agreed.** All the payments were signed at the meeting by **GB** and **PH.** **SM** informed Councillors receipts totalled £6035.69: Precept £5300; WCBC social care workforce special payment scheme £735 and £0.69 in bank interest. **GB** signed the financial report.

09-0921 s137 Applications

A s137 application had been received from the Caru'n Pentrefi Volunteers requesting a donation to provide safety equipment, funds for the maintenance of tools, insurance, Christmas tree lights and plants for containers in Pontfadog and Dolywern. The group had been unable to hold any fundraising events during last 18 months due to the Covid19 pandemic. **CH proposed** the Council donate £600. **Seconded** by **DR. All agreed.**

10-0921 Dolywern Playground

GB advised Councillors he was still waiting for the revised quote from Creative Play for the requested amendments to the playground design.

Concerns had been expressed at the last meeting about the relatively low number of children in the area and it was questionable how much the new playground would be used and if it would warrant the expenditure of the large amount of public money required for the project. However, **PH** informed Councillors there had been lots of children using the existing playground over the summer and who would benefit from any new play equipment. **CH** said there was justification for a new playground given it would also encourage older people in the area to bring their grandchildren to play. Following discussion, it was agreed that there is a need for the new playground.

After the last meeting **SM** had put the details of the playground project on the Council's Facebook page inviting residents to put ideas forward for the play equipment they would like to see in the new playground. The responses from residents had identified specific types of play equipment, several of which were already being considered and incorporated in the design.

RBo said the Council should set a date to confirm a final design for the playground. He **proposed** the Council make a decision at the Council meeting on 3rd November 2021 and ensure the final design was settled by 1st December 2021. **Seconded** by **PH. All agreed.** It was agreed the Council would aim to have the new playground installed by Easter 2022.

GB said he would arrange for the play equipment (donated by the Council) in the Ysgol Pontfadog grounds to be removed and brought to the Dolywern playground.

GB

11-0921 Planning

Planning application P/2021/0809 for the erection of a roofed slurry storage and associated works at Llwydiarth, Dolywern. Councillors had no concerns about this application and were aware that this was necessary due to new regulations. **SM** to advise WCBC.

SM

12-0921 AOB

EJo said the residents of Maes Meredydd in Pontfadog wanted to know when work was starting on the construction of the new culvert at Tan y Garth. **GB** said this would be dependent on where the works appear in WCBC's works programme.

TJ said he had received complaints about the signs put up along the verge in Pontfadog by the Forest School and Community Hub Committee regarding the demolition of the old school building. The signs had been in place for over 6 months and some residents said they were making the village look untidy, were an eyesore and should be removed. **GB** said any unauthorised signs can be taken down and the Council would provide secure storage for the signs until they were collected by the group. **TJ proposed** the signs be removed. **Seconded** by **CH**. **Votes: 5 for and 1 against. Resolved. GB** to remove signs and **SM** to notify group.

GB SM

Similar concerns were raised about the flags put on the verge by the Tan-y-Garth Hall Retreat. **GB** to speak to the owner.

GB

DR again raised the issue of the poor condition of the lane near Craignant Farm and Stryt Pentre and how the potholes were making it impassable for cars. **GB** said WCBC had visited the area after the Council had first complained about the issue, but no action had been taken. **SM** to make a further complaint to WCBC.

SM

EJo asked if the Council was prepared to support a Halloween pumpkin competition again as it had been very successful last year. **EJo** requested £20 for prizes. **GB** suggested £40 to cover costs of additional prizes instead of just having one overall winner. **EJo** revised her proposal to £40. **Seconded** by **DR**. **All agreed. GB** to judge competition.

DD said there were plans to hold a Community Harvest Supper and requested the Council donate £100 from Community Agent funds towards the cost of the event. **CH proposed** the Council donate £100. **Seconded** by **RBo**. **All agreed.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:22pm

Next meeting will be on 6th October 2021 at 6pm