



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

2nd February 2022

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Graham Barrow
Councillor Pam Hughes
Councillor Edith Jones
Councillor Sarah Hawkes
Councillor Donald Roberts

Councillor Emma Jones
Councillor Ted Johnston
Councillor Robin Boston
Councillor Colin Hidden

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

Chairman opened the meeting at 6pm

Action

01-0222 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Dave Edwards, (personal circumstances)

02-0222 Declarations of Interest

None

03-0222 Reports

(a) Police Report

No Police report

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

TB reported:

- Confirmed an Emergency Planning meeting on 16th February 2022 for the Valley's three Community Councils.

- Advised that as funding is coming to an end in July 2022 a review of the bus timetable for the Valley was being undertaken. He suggested the new bus timetables could be linked closer to the train service.
- NWP Rural Crime team had been made aware of persons acting suspiciously on a farm in Llanarmon. Individuals had left the area in a vehicle which was subsequently located and searched by the Police. As a result, two people have been arrested for suspected theft-related offences. Police urge residents to remain vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour.
- Notified Councillors that the forms for the Election in May 2022 will be available from March 2022.
- Explained a resident volunteer providing lifts for vulnerable residents so they could attend appointments was retiring from the role and a new volunteer was needed in the area. The WRVS oversees volunteers and provides expenses claim forms and volunteers receive 45p/mile for providing transportation.
- Advised he had reported that the damaged road sign in Castle Mill asking for it to be repaired. **CH** said the road sign in Stryt Pentre was also damaged. **TB** to check and request its repair.

EJo notified **TB** of a tree hanging over the B4500 opposite the Chirk Fisheries which was becoming dangerous. **TB** to investigate.

05-0222 Community Agent

DD reported:

- She had now resumed home visits by invitation to those who are unable to meet at the Hall because of transport difficulties or because of the cold weather. All visits are carried out in full PPE.
- Had been overwhelmed by the support and uptake of brunch club and was very pleased to be able to say we are now engaging with a lot more gentlemen.
- Computer club starting again at to the Hall from Thursday 3rd February starting at 2.15pm.
- From Thursday 3rd February a music club run by Cass Meurig will start at the Hall and is open to all age and abilities. She has been encouraging older members with an interest in music to sign up. The music club will run from 5.30pm until 6.30 pm.
- On 1st March 2022 for Shrove Tuesday and St David's day there will be a music and pancakes evening at the Hall from 6:00pm until 7.30pm. The event is open to all members of the Community.
- With encouragement and support from a resident she had asked The Glyn Valley Tramway Trust for permission to use the waiting room in Pontfadog as an interview facility and was very happy to say the Trust had agreed to this. She is to become a member of the Trust later this month.
- Attending training via Zoom.
- On Tuesday 1st February there had been a review of the FareShare Go scheme.
- Community members have raised concerns over the increase in the price of electricity and the difficulties they have experienced when trying to renew contracts with providers. Everyone expected the cost to increase by 50% but everyone has said on renewal of fixed price tariffs they are being asked for increases in excess of 100%, which for most is

unaffordable. 'Warm Wales' had been contacted and they had offered to hold a surgery at the Hall to help Community members find the best offers available.

06-0222 Correspondence

SM had received:

- Notification from the Welsh Government about a Winter Fuel Support Scheme as part of a wider support package of over £50m to address immediate pressures on living costs. Welsh Government has made available over £38 million through a Winter Fuel Support Scheme for those on benefits. **DD** raised concerns about people in the area who are not on benefits and who maybe below the poverty line.
- Notification of training dates available in February and March 2022 from One Voice Wales.
- Notification of a planning application for erection of external staircase (fire escape) at Berwyn lodge in Dolywern.
- Notification from the Clerk of Glyn Ceiriog Community Council that a meeting relating to emergency planning had been scheduled for Wednesday 16th February at 7 pm at the Institute in Glyn Ceiriog.
- Email from WCBC regarding the changeover to LED lighting and the white and blue hue from it having a detrimental effect on wildlife. WCBC confirmed the lighting in Wrexham has been designed by competent lighting professionals to minimise any obtrusive light.

07-0222 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 5th January 2022

(a) Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2022 were reviewed and approved as a true and correct record. Proposed by DR and seconded by PH. All agreed.

(b) Matters Arising

- **GB** had checked the type of fixing kit required for the litter bin for Castle Mill and advised Councillors a ground fixing kit was required. **SM** to order litter bin. **SM**
- **SM** to contact EE again for information about how it could maintain the service of the wireless telephone mast during a power cut to allow emergency service calls to be made. EE's general advice is for customers to use wireless broadband for calls, but this could be a problem as landlines are now digital and are unable to work without electricity. Some people have their broadband from EE via the telephone masts so this would also be a problem. **SM**
- Councillors asked for information about the future plans for the Community Cupboard scheme. **DD** said the Community Cupboard is to continue indefinitely. It is held regularly in Glyn Ceiriog and Llanarmon but has only been held once in Dolywern at the Hall. **DD** has now been offered the opportunity to use the waiting room in Pontfadog instead.

08-0222 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 £1783.39 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **EJ proposed** the payments be

authorised. **Seconded** by **PH**. **All agreed**. All the payments were signed by **GB** and **PH**. The Council had received £100 from the Castle Mill and Pontfadog WI for Helping Hands. **GB** signed the financial report.

SM advised Councillors that the Council's External Audit had been passed successfully without any further qualification of the information sent to the External Auditor.

09-0222 Planning

Planning application P/2022/0046 for the erection of an external staircase (fire escape) at Berwyn Lodge in Dolywern was discussed. Councillors agreed they had no objections to the application. **SM** to notify Planning Officer in WCBC.

SM

GB said there had been nothing further about the Cae Mor planning application on the WCBC's planning portal.

10-0222 Queen's Platinum Jubilee

At the last meeting **GB** had requested Councillors bring ideas to the meeting about possible events to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. **EJo** had the idea of holding a street party in Pontfadog. **RBo** advised Councillors that he and **EJo**, **CH**, **DD** had met to discuss ideas and had decided a street party in Pontfadog could be held during the day on the Friday (3rd June 2022) and a Ceilidh could be held as a second event at the Hall in Dolywern in the evening on the Saturday. He advised Councillors they were already making progress with the plans for the events. **GB** said there should be a committee to manage the events and suggested **EJo**, **CH**, **DD** and **RBo** form a committee and prepare an outline for the planned events to discuss at the next meeting. **CH** raised the issue of cost and whether there would be a charge for the events. **GB** asked the committee to put together their proposals and determine what would require funding and how much would be needed to discuss at the next meeting. **CH** said all Councillors should be involved in the events as this would provide good publicity for the Council.

EJo CH
RBo DD

11-0222 Environment Committee

CH said he had received comments from residents about the wildflower area being planned for the Hall grounds following the article in the Glyn News. Concerns had been raised about the project going ahead without consulting residents in the surrounding area. **GB** said the Environment Committee could only put proposals to the Council and not make any decisions as to whether a project should go ahead. Any final decision would be made by the full Council. The Committee intends to meet residents affected by the project to get their views before proceeding.

DD raised the problem of the lack of maintenance of the waste ground behind the houses in Bro Ddewi and the fact no one had accepted responsibility to look after the it. People living in the properties had tried to maintain the area but had been told by WCBC they must not do this. **GB** said the ownership of the land should be confirmed which would identify who is responsible for the waste ground and then action can be taken. **SM** to find out who owns the ground.

SM

GB informed Councillors the drone survey of the River Ceiriog would take place in May. He confirmed the Committee would be speaking individually to landowners with livestock in the fields adjacent to the river to seek permission and address any concerns they may have prior to starting the survey.

SH reported she had tested the water quality of the river above and below the water treatment plant in Pontfadog. The phosphates level had been slightly elevated compared to tests carried out in other locations along the river but not by any measurable difference.

SM advised Councillors the Welsh Dee Trust was still trying to get funding for the repair of the revetements below the properties in Bro Ddewi.

SM informed Councillors that there had been a meeting with the Welsh Dee Trust to discuss the design of rain gardens for the Hall. The Trust is sending information about suitable containers and the costs involved.

The Welsh Dee Trust is also keen to set up SMART river sites along the Ceiriog to monitor invertebrates in the river as they are important indicators of the condition of river and the species/family and number found helps to assess water quality. Sampling is carried out twice a year, once in spring and once in autumn. **SH** and **SM** to attend sampling and identification training with the Trust on the River Alyn. The aim in the long-term is to involve members of community.

12-0222 AOB

DR informed Councillors that streetlight no.5 below Llangwryd Isa was not working. **SM** to notify WCBC.

SM

GB advised Councillors he would not be at the next meeting and the meeting would be managed by **RBo** as Vice Chair.

Items for next agenda:

Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Environment Committee Report

Local Elections

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:17pm

Next meeting will be on 2nd March 2022 at 6pm

