



# Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

1st February 2023

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

### **Present:**

Councillor Graham Barrow  
Councillor Robin Boston  
Councillor Pam Hughes  
Councillor Edith Jones  
Councillor Colin Hidden

Councillor Laura Bell McMillan  
Councillor Sarah Hawkes

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

Chairman opened the meeting at 6pm

### **Action**

### **1/0223 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllr **Emma Jones (personal circumstances)**

### **2/0223 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

#### **(a) Declarations of interest in items on the agenda**

None

#### **(b) Requests for dispensations**

None

### **3/0223 Reports**

#### **(a) Police Report**

No report

**(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates**

He reported:

- He was meeting Jamie Edge to confirm the need and positioning of yellow lines on the B4500 in Dolywern. Mr Edge will draw up a public notice in case there are any objections before a Traffic Regulation Order is obtained allowing the yellow lines to be put in place.
- He had had a meeting with North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner Andrew Dunbobbin, regarding the damage being done to tracks by 4x4 vehicles and motorbikes and how traffic regulation orders could be more effectively enforced. The Police need more information and residents should be encouraged to report any incidents. This evidence would be used to support ongoing Police Operations.
- WCBC was getting a valuation of the Pontfadog School site ready for the auction of the property. Interested parties may be able to make an offer prior to the auction.
- He had received issue 5 (Winter 2023) of the LIFE Dee River Report which included details of work carried out in Nant Gwryd, a tributary of the River Ceiriog (south of Pontfadog). The work had involved the construction of a rock ramp fish easement using different sized boulders and gravels, and stock fencing to keep livestock away from the edge. The resulting stepped ramp will allow fish to move up and is a significant improvement to the previous situation.
- Delta Wellbeing supports a prevention and early care system through proactive wellbeing calls. It has a 24/7 telephone service. However, **DD** advised Councillors that calls are not always answered.
- He had forwarded 28 complaints from residents about the lack of salt grit piles on roads in the area to the Council Leader Mark Pritchard and Highways Officer Kerry Williams at WCBC. They had met at the Guild Hall where it transpired that Highways is under the impression that all rural areas of the Ceiriog Valley had already shared 120 tons in October and another 13 tons between 22nd November and 16th December. However, whatever the figures there are many public roads in the area that still have no salt grit. He was meeting WCBC Streetscene Officer Dave Douglas to take him round the area to show him roads not provided with salt grit piles.

#### **4/0223 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**(a) Minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2023 were reviewed and approved as a true and correct record. Proposed by RBo and seconded by PH. Unanimously agreed.**

#### **(b) Matters Arising**

- **SM** had reported the incident regarding an adult and a child on a quad riding around Dolywern on New Year's Eve between 10:00pm and 11:00pm to PCSO Gareth Jones. He had thanked the Council for the information.
- **SM** confirmed that the application for a warm space grant from WCBC had been successful and that the money (£1000) would be held in the Community Agent's account until required. **DD** said Councillors needed to provide more support to the warm space as this was being advertised as a Council initiative. **RBo** was already providing support during the warm space opening times on both Mondays and Fridays. **GB** asked Councillors to consider how they could also contribute.

- The Wales Air Ambulance was running a Community Council Appeal and had requested a donation towards the costs of providing their service. This was discussed and **CH proposed** a donation of £100. **Seconded** by **SH. Unanimously agreed. SM** to make payment.
- Concerns had been expressed at the last meeting for elderly and vulnerable residents in the community who do not own or have access to a computer and consequently do not have the skills or means to apply for or renew their Blue Badges online. **SM** had contacted WCBC and had been advised that the application for a Blue Badge is a Welsh Government process, not owned or designed by WCBC and the initial application form is online only. However, WCBC offers a telephone support service that enables a Customer Advisor to complete the form on behalf of the applicant. A friend or family member can also apply on an applicant's behalf if they have access to a computer. Telephone appointments can be arranged via WCBC's published Transport telephone line (01978 298996). Any applications that need a medical assessment are completed face to face currently at the Guildhall until Contact Wrexham move to their permanent new location at Wrexham Library. This location will also provide computers and online support for anyone wishing to improve their digital skills and apply online themselves with assistance from an advisor.
- **SM** advised Councillors that she had sent an email to Ysgol Cynddelw about the Council's donation and had requested bank details from the school. The email had been sent on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023, but no information had been received yet from the school. **SM** to contact again.
- **SM** had received an email from PCSO Gareth Jones who had been asked by his sergeant to get an up-to-date list of Councillors' names, telephone numbers and email addresses. This information is for Police contact purposes. **SM** asked Councillors to confirm they were happy to send their details.
- **LBM** had written the Council's contribution to the Glyn News which had been printed in the February edition. **SM** thanked **LBM** and asked if she would consider writing an article for the March edition of the Glyn News. **LBM** agreed. **GB** said the other Councillors should be involved in writing for the future editions. To be discussed further.
- **EJ** raised the issue of the removal of the portacabin by the Ceiriog Valley Bowling Club from the OJMH car park. **GB** had requested it be removed from the site on several occasions, but no action had been taken.
- The two apple trees (Jubilee) had been planted in the grounds of the OJMH. **DD** questioned where the trees had been sited because the Council had not agreed or discussed the location or spoken to the Hall Committee and there was a problem of them being put where marquees are usually placed by caterers when needed. **GB** said he would review where the trees had been planted and reminded Councillors that it was the Council and not the Hall Committee who approve the use of the grounds at the Hall.
- **SM** had spoken to the WCBC Housing Officer about No. 6 Bro Dewi to find out the reason for the delay in allocating the empty property. The reason was because work on the property had been delayed and was not complete. According to the Housing Officer there may be another property in Bro Dewi becoming available soon. Resident raising the original query had been advised.

SM

SM

## 5/0223 Correspondence

**SM** had received:

- Email from **TB** advising the fence by the Mulberry has been repaired. A photo of site had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.
- Email from One Voice Wales notifying dates of Councillor training courses in February and March.
- Notification from Welsh Water confirming it was launching its Biodiversity report following publication of its a new Biodiversity Strategy 'Making Time for Nature' which sets out the high-level mission, vision, aims and objectives for biodiversity and ecology across the company. The email was an invitation to attend the online launch of Welsh Water's statutory Biodiversity report on 16th February 2023.
- Email from Chief Officer of Economy and Planning (WCBC) advising that from April 2023 WCBC will no longer be sending paper copies of planning consultations and these will be sent to Community Councils by electronic means only. The Planning Department is focussing on using digital technology and becoming a paperless office to reduce WCBC's use of paper, ink and postage which will minimise costs and reduce WCBC's carbon footprint.
- Invitation to the AONB Champions & Local Members & Community Councils Annual Forum being held on March 2nd 6:30 to 8:30pm (Denbighshire).
- Email from Carla Hinde (WCBC Landscape Officer) confirming that the new Dolywern Play Area had been added to WCBC's list of playgrounds.
- WCBC had sent a list of useful phone numbers to help people get advice and support during the cost-of-living crisis. **SM** to circulate the information to Councillors and **DD** and prepare copy for the Council noticeboards.

**SM**

## 6/0223 Community Agent

**DD** reported:

- The TV that Tesco donated to us for our warm space has now been fitted in. **CH** fitted the TV on the wall with the cost for the parts (£75) to come from the grant we got for the warm space.
- A lot of people are finding it hard to budget money with the cost-of-living crisis so I have referred people for a tenancy support officer who will be able to help them.
- I have had a lot of phone calls and home visits this month due people finding January a hard month with bills coming in, the cold weather and the loneliness that comes from being stuck in the house and away from family and friends.
- I have had a phone call about some people in our area that are struggling and need some support. I am working with all parties involved to get them talking and keep an eye on them for some support.
- I am doing a lot of work to support people through bereavement and getting them the right help and support with things such as finance.
- I am supporting a lady with her shopping and hospital appointment etc. after her having a fall.

- As the rent for the clubs I run in the Hall has doubled I am no longer making any profit. I am just breaking even and no longer have profits to give towards any activity we are doing.
- A meeting with **RBo** and **CH** to talk about different activities that will be run in the next couple of months in the community. We have a lot of great things coming up.
- I had a meeting with Rhys Jones and Colin Owens about organisation a vintage show in the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall carpark in June. It looks like there could be some beautiful things on show and it could be a great success.

**DD** said she had been visited by the Little Learning Company from Wrexham who offer learning at clubs run for the wellbeing of local people. Funding is available via the scheme and this would be available for the Council's warm space and brunch club when attendees sign registration forms. The amount per person is £5.60 for every time they attend. The Company would also pay people to come and hold classes at the same rate. There are currently 26 people who attend the brunch club and 10 people who use the warm space.

## 7/0223 Finance Report

### (a) To review Financial Report and (b) to authorise and sign payments

**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 £2622.79 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed.

**SM** advised there were three further payments to be made which were not listed on the payment schedule circulated prior to the meeting. These were:

- Groundforce: £216.46
- M Masters: £79.95 (printer ink)
- M Masters: £7.79 (Clerk's office diary)
- R Boston: £100 (deposit for Ceilidh band for King's Coronation event)

**CH proposed** all the payments be approved. **Seconded** by **RBo**. **Unanimously agreed**. All the payments were signed by **GB** and **PH**.

There had been no receipts.

**GB** signed the financial report.

**SM** advised the Precept (£21500) requested by the Council had been confirmed by WCBC.

### (c) To review Clerk's salary back pay

**SM** explained that the National Salary Award for 2021-2022 had been made available. It advised the hourly pay rates had increased and that the new rates should be applied from April 2021. **SM** presented the details of backpay owed to the Clerk which amounted to £245.44 over the last 22 months. **RBo proposed** this amount be paid immediately and the new hourly rate continue to be applied to future salary payments. **Seconded** by **PH**. **Unanimously agreed**.

## 8/0223 New Council Noticeboard

**SM** had spoken to a WCBC Planning Officer about whether planning permission would be required for the new noticeboard. She had been told that if the noticeboard was put on the verge, then

permission would have to be sought from WCBC Highways Department. If it was being put on private land, then planning permission may be required but this would need to be reviewed once a location is chosen. **LBM** had looked at different sites and had found a suitable location. **LBM** to send the grid reference to **SM** to forward to WCBC Planning and confirm whether permission was required.

**SM**

**SM** gave details of the various noticeboards available from suppliers. It was agreed she would have the final prices for the next meeting.

**SM**

### **9/0223 Celebrations for King's Coronation**

**GB** proposed **DD**, **RBo** and **CH** form a Coronation Events Committee to discuss ideas and manage the events on behalf of the Council. **Seconded** by **LBM**. **Unanimously agreed**. Committee to present their plans at the next meeting.

**DD CH**  
**RBo**

**RBo** had already booked a band for a Ceilidh as one of the events to celebrate the King's Coronation and this would be held on Saturday 4th May 2023.

### **10/0223 Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

Review of Council's plans relating to biodiversity

**GB** advised Councillors that he would be resigning from the Council at the Council's Annual Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023. He confirmed he would be at the meeting to chair the start of the meeting when a new Chairman would be chosen.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:29pm

Next meeting will be on 1st March 2023 at 6pm