



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of Council Meeting

5th July 2023

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Robin Boston
Councillor Pam Hughes
Councillor Edith Jones
Councillor Ky Lewis

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

Chair opened the meeting at 6:30pm

Action

1/0723 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Emma Jones (personal circumstances), Cllr Colin Hidden (personal circumstances) and County Cllr Trevor Bates

2/0723 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

(a) Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

(b) Requests for dispensations

None

3/0723 Reports

(a) Police report

No Police report.

DD said that the Police had carried out speed checks in Pontfadog. The highest speed recorded in the 20mph zone had been 32mph.

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

No report

4/07/23 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 7th June 2023

(a) To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2023 as a true and correct record.

PH proposed the Minutes be approved as a true and correct record. **Seconded** by **EJ. Unanimously agreed.** **RBo** signed the Minutes.

(b) Matters Arising

- **RBo** welcomed Ky Lewis as a new Councillor.
- **RBo** advised he had spoken to PCSO Gareth Jones about ways to safeguard the Community Agent when she was working alone in remote areas.
- **RBo** proposed that the decision on whether to put in a path at the back of the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall for wheelchairs be deferred until the September meeting. He said the Council needed commitment from the Hall Committee that they would alter the entrance door to take wheelchairs before the path was constructed. **SM** had still only received one quotation for the work from Mr Graham Barrow and quotations from two other contractors were required. There was already disabled access at the main entrance to the Hall which was used by residents of the Cheshire Home. It was agreed that pothole repairs were needed on the Hall car park. **SM** told Councillors she had received two quotations for the work, and another was needed from a third contractor. It was agreed there would be no further discussion about any of the work until all the quotations had been received. Decision deferred until September.
- Following the last meeting **SM** had ordered the 'no dogs allowed' signs. Two of the signs were in English and two in Welsh. As agreed at the last meeting these would be put in place on the fences at the entrance of the Hall car park.
- **SM** had sent another email to WCBC requesting a new litter bin at the entrance to the Hall car park but had still received no response. **SM** to chase again.
- **SM** had requested a glass recycling bin for the Hall and WCBC had agreed to supply one at no extra cost. However, to date, WCBC had not provided the glass recycling bin as agreed. **SM** to contact WCBC again.
- **EJ** informed Councillors that the owners of the land originally chosen as the location for the new noticeboard did now not want it to be near their property. An alternative location would have to be found. **EJ** offered to check out a possible site near the pool on the same road. **RBo** said the cost for the new noticeboard should be confirmed and reminded Councillors that the prices from two manufacturers had been too expensive. It was agreed that a local carpenter should be asked to provide a quote. **EJ proposed** a cost of up to £850 would be acceptable subject to finding a suitable location for the noticeboard. **Seconded** by **KL**. 3 votes for and one against. **EJ**
- **EJ** asked **SM** to clarify the situation regarding phosphates and planning applications. **SM**
- After promising to remove the portacabin from the Hall car park the Bowls Club had not done this. **SM** to contact secretary of Bowls Club. **SM**

5/07/23 Correspondence

SM had received:

- An email from the Chair of Ceiriog Memorial Institute advising there is an 'Open Day' at the Institute on Saturday July 15th to unveil a new display entitled "Evicting a Community - 100 Years On", commemorating the centenary of Warrington Council's plans to dam the Ceiriog Valley in 1923.
- Notification from One Voice Wales of dates for training courses during July 2023
- An email from Vicki Lindley-Jones (WCBC) offering Clerks and Community Agents an opportunity to be involved in developing an appraisal report and the options for the Community Agent Service. The report will be submitted to the WCBC Scrutiny Committee in November of this year. **SM** said she had confirmed her interest in becoming a member of the panel. Discussed later in meeting.
- Two planning applications (discussed later in the meeting)
- The Playground Inspection reports from RoSPA (discussed later in the meeting)
- An email from County Cllr Trevor Bates providing a computer link for the Shared Rural Network website which he had received from Simon Baynes MP. **SM** had circulated this to Councillors prior to the meeting.

6/0723 Community Agent Report

DD reported:

- The Community flower demonstration on 7th June with Sioned Hughes was very well attended and the total profit of £470 was given to the Oliver Jones Hall.
- My appraisal at a meeting with members of the Staffing Committee and the Clerk.
- More home visits carried out than is normal due to very hot weather conditions, and the need to keep vulnerable Community members as comfortable as possible.
- In the middle part of the month, I should have been on jury service, so I had to cancel Brunch Club on 13th June. Thankfully I was able to finish early on the 12th so managed a home visit and an event meeting on this date. Tuesday lunch time I was discharged so I was able to resume my commitments as Community Agent, meaning no actual paid working hours were lost.
- As most of you will be aware Wrexham County Borough Council are carrying out an evaluation of the work of Community Agents and Community Agents and Clerks have been given the opportunity to be involved. I think it's very important that we are given the opportunity to outline how very different the job of Community Agent is in rural Wrexham and how it is even different from our neighbours in Glyn Ceiriog. Here we have no long running clubs or entertainment which leaves me very involved in organising and attending events and clubs here at the Hall. My involvement takes away paid time to spend with Community members on a one-to-one basis and also leads to many hours of unpaid work and also means there is nothing available in Glyntraian to signpost Community members to. I think that it's of upmost importance that both Wrexham and our own Councils understand the commitment it takes to be a Community Agent in rural Wrexham. With this in mind I have declared an interest in being part of the panel and ask your permission to attend any meeting. **SM** is also aware of this and has been invited to show an interest in becoming part of the same panel.

- Council Clerks have now been made aware of what training is compulsory, and I am happy to inform you that I am fully trained and up to date with all training as required. That being said we have been told of a date for mandatory training to attend on the 11th September. This training is Dols – Deprivation of liberty safeguarding and MCA – Mental Capacity Act. I am up to date with this training, but these will need renewing soon.
- The arrangements for the Vintage Rally are going well. This inclusive event is being funded by the Groundworks/Tesco grant
- We have filled one coach already for the Llandudno Trip.
- Family fun day on 19th August.
- Coffee and cake afternoons fortnightly from 6th July.
- Informed Councillors that No. 5 Dro Dewi had now been let after a considerably long time after the property first became vacant. RBo said the Council needed further information from the WCBC Housing Officer (Alan Griffiths) about WCBC's local lettings/housing policy. He suggested that the Housing Officer give a presentation at a Council meeting.

SM

DD informed Councillors that the boundary hedge of the Hall was overgrowing the pavement making it dangerous for pedestrians and it was also restricting visibility for anyone driving out the Hall car park. **SM** to arrange for the hedge to be trimmed as soon as possible.

RBo said another named person should be available to help with work in the community if **DD** was away. **DD** advised it would be best to call WCBC Adult Social Care to resolve any problem.

DD informed Councillors of a serious incident when a wheelchair had been needed to resolve the situation. The wheelchair at the Hall can be used in an emergency but it is not in very good condition. **DD** suggested that two lightweight wheelchairs be purchased using the money donated by the Little Learning Company. These would be left at the Hall for use in emergencies. **EJ proposed** that two lightweight wheelchairs be purchased. **Seconded** by **PH**. **Unanimously agreed**. **DD** to research available wheelchairs and get prices for September's meeting.

7/0723 Finance

(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 £2293.19 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **PH proposed** the payments be approved. **Seconded** by **EJ**. **Unanimously agreed**. The payments were authorised at the meeting by **EJ** and **PH**.

Receipts totalled £15872.87 (Funding from WCBC for the Community Agent £12480.00, £376 from the bar and raffle at the Coronation Ceilidh and a VAT Refund of £3,016.87)

RBo signed the financial report.

8/07/2023 Planning

(a) To review planning application P/2023/0372 - outline application for erection of rural enterprise dwelling (all matters reserved) at Spring Hill Farm.

SM

The plan was reviewed, and Councillors had no objections or concerns about this planning application. **SM** to notify WCBC Planning.

(b) To review planning application P/2023/0346 - erection of two storey rear extension Arddyn Barn on Pen y Brongyll Farm Road.

Councillors had concerns about this planning application and wanted more information and floor plans for the proposed extension. **SM** to check with WCBC Planning and advise Councillors.

SM

9/0723 Playgrounds

To playground reports from RoSPA Play Safety Ltd were discussed. There were remedial actions for some of the equipment. In the Dolywern playground the portable goal post and net on the fixed goal post must be secured to the ground. **KL** to look at ways of resolving the issue.

On the roundabout damage to the laminate on the roundabout had been identified and to resolve the issue would require the damaged laminate to be rubbed down and the damaged ledges treated. **SM** to find suitable contractor to do the work.

SM

In the Maes Meredydd playground in Pontfadog the hand grip on the rocker seat was missing and the bolt from the rocker seesaw was also missing. **SM** to contact the manufacturer of the equipment and arrange for spare parts to be provided. Chain wear on the swings must also be monitored.

SM

It was agreed that a Councillor should inspect the playgrounds regularly and this would be discussed at September's meeting.

10/0723 Items for next Council meeting (6th September 2023)

Construction of path and pothole repairs at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Council inspection of playgrounds

The Chair closed the meeting at 7:45pm

Next meeting will be on 6th September 2023 at 6:30pm

