



# Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

## Minutes of Council Meeting

5<sup>th</sup> June 2024

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

### Present:

Councillor Colin Hidden  
Councillor Edith Jones  
Councillor Ky Lewis  
Councillor Richard Evans

Also present: Stephanie Masters (Clerk) and County Cllr Trevor Bates

Vice Chair opened the meeting at 6:30pm

### 1/0624 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Robin Boston, Cllr Pam Hughes and Davena Davies (Community Agent)

### 2/0624 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

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

**RE** declared an interest in the appointment of Caru'n Pentrefi as Council Volunteers.

#### (b) Requests for dispensations

None

### 3/0624 Reports

#### (a) Police report

PCSO Martin Griffiths had sent a report summarising crime in the local area to **SM** and this had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors were concerned about the lack of detailed information or comments in the report. **RE** to contact PCSO Gareth Jones to discuss format of the report.

Action

RE

**(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates****TB reported:**

- Lightsource BP is preparing a planning application for a 340 acre solar farm in the Coedpoeth, Esclusham, and Rhos/Ponciau area. This application will be determined by PEDW (Planning Environment Decisions Wales) as it is of national significance. It is expected to power 22,000 homes.
- A Citizens Advice drop-in service is being held from 10am to 1pm at the Canolfan Ceiriog Centre on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June. The next session will be held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall between 10am and 1pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.
- **TB** advised Councillors that if WCBC's recycling rates did not improve it can expect a £200 per tonne fine from the Welsh Government for missing national recycling targets. Currently WCBC's recycling rate is 63.88% and it is estimated that it could face a fine of between £350k and £400k. The Welsh Government has set statutory target of an 80% recycling rate as a minimum.
- **TB** had been informed by Dave Douglas (WCBC Streetscene services) that it was planned to start cutting roadside verges from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June. He advised Councillors to make a formal complaint about the verges not being cut and raise concerns about safety as a result of lack of maintenance.
- **TB** advised Councillors there would be a skip for scrap metal on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 in Glyn Ceiriog for use of residents.

**4/0624 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 1st May 2024**

**(a) To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 as a true and correct record.**

**RE proposed** the Minutes be approved as a true and correct record. **Seconded by KL. Unanimously agreed. CH** signed the Minutes.

**(b) Matters Arising**

- **SM** advised Councillors that a WCBC Planning Officer was reviewing possible retrospective planning permission for the large new shed at Fron Derw.
- **SM** had received the new handle from HAGS for the rocker seat in the Pontfadog playground. **CH** to fit the part to the equipment. **CH**
- **SM** advised Councillors that the order for the new Council noticeboard had been confirmed with Daniel Roberts Joinery. Daniel to advise **SM** when the work is complete. **EJ** agreed to give him the details of the site she had found for the noticeboard.
- **SM** confirmed the arrangements for the Council's 80<sup>th</sup> D-Day Commemorations.
- **SM** informed Councillors that Groundforce was no longer trading due to unforeseen circumstances. She had sent out a new tender to three local contractors to ensure three quotes were available for discussion at the next meeting. In the meantime, Councillors agreed that Rhys Hughes should continue doing the ground maintenance work. **SM** to confirm. **SM**

SM

- **RE** presented information about Repair Café Wales. He explained that in their simplest form, repair cafés are pop up events held on regular dates where the local community can get their broken household items repaired for free by volunteers. If the Council decides it would like to set up a repair café Repair Café Wales has created a unique tool kit, based on their experience, that would help us to not only set up a repair café but ensure it has longevity and a hugely positive impact on the local community. **RE** said it would be necessary to assess public interest in the idea and suggested the fortnightly coffee and cake sessions presented an ideal opportunity. He had applied for a £700 grant to help cover costs of the project for the first 6 months. **RE** said another idea would be to set up a community tool bank as a social enterprise, where low-cost DIY and gardening tools would be available for hire. Councillors were impressed with both these ideas, and it was agreed to investigate them further.
- **SM** reminded Councillors about the joint meeting of the three Councils in the Valley being held on 12<sup>th</sup> June at Hedyn Mwstard in Glyn Ceiriog. **RBo** was already attending, and **EJ** offered to go as well. **RBo** had asked for the shortage of carers and first responders in the Valley be included in the agenda.
- The resurfacing of the OJMH car park was discussed as it was agreed this needed to be completed before the winter. Work had been delayed due to the portacabin not having been removed from the car park. During the meeting a message was received confirming it would be removed by the end of June.
- The commemorative bench had been ordered for the Hall grounds. **SM** to price plaque from the engravers in Oswestry.

SM

## 5/0624 Correspondence

**SM** had received:

- An invitation for two Councillors to attend the Mayor's Civic Visit to St Giles Parish Church on Sunday, 23 June at 11.00 am.
- Email from the Glyn Ceiriog Community Council Clerk confirming the following people will be speaking at the joint meeting of the three Councils in the Valley: Carys Davies who wants to raise the profile of the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol visiting Wrexham next year and Gareth Stacey regarding possible play events in the Valley during summer holidays.
- Email from Fiona Fitcher confirming her interest in **RBo's** suggestion to hold an event to encourage more people to become local carers and advise that Community Catalysts helps interested carers to set up a business.
- A revised Community Agent contract which had now been signed and returned to WCBC. Now waiting for payment of funding (£12,792.00).
- Notification of the playground inspection which will be in June. There would be a cost of £78 for the Dolywern playground and £78 for the one in Pontfadog £78.
- An email from the Planning Officer regarding the proposed agricultural building at Tyn y Celyn. He had confirmed the details of the application with the owner of the property, and, at present, there is only one old horse grazing the paddock and there was no intention of increasing stock levels. The outbuilding building was for the safe storage of machinery for land management. The building measured 6m x 7m which in the opinion of the Planning Officer was not excessive for an outbuilding. Councillors asked **SM** to send their comments regarding the application.

SM

## 6/0624 Community Agent Report

DD reported:

- The up take on the Llandudno trip is good, with only 10 seats left on the Glyn Ceiriog coach and 15 on the Dolywern / Pontfadog coach. My thanks to Glyn Ceiriog Community Council for the £250 they have contributed towards the cost of the trip.
- The vintage machinery and craft fair has also been well supported both with vintage vehicles and craft stall booking. We are expecting a good show, with all profits being given in memory of Llinos Thomas to St Johns Church in Pontfadog.
- Various welfare calls made this month, and all seem to be in good spirits and very much looking forward to seeing some nice summer weather.
- The Citizens Advice drop-in session held at the Hall earlier in May was very well attended and everyone welcomed the fact that they were able to get help on their doorstep.
- The Welsh Dee Trust has carried out a survey at the Hall to estimate how much water is collected on the roof of the Hall. They are very interested in establishing water gardens here. They indicated they would be able to fund the cost of these if the Council was to agree to them. I will keep you updated when I have more information.
- Mrs Shirley Terretta has again donated the money raised from the sale of her home-made cards at the Hall to the Community Agent and the Hall kitchen, so we are now the very proud owner of a commercial can opener. My very grateful thanks to Shirley for her support.
- Commissioning peer support group meeting attended.
- Hafren Dyfrdwy is at the moment carrying out tests on the water quality in some of the bungalows in Bro Dewi after tenants noticed blue particles in the water. Although this discovery doesn't seem to be a concern in itself, they also believe there may be lead pipes bringing water to the properties, so this is being investigated. They are keeping tenants and myself updated.

Summary:

Brunch club is becoming increasingly busy and we feel if this continues we will have to look for an extra volunteer to help. If anyone knows of anyone who may be interested, we would be grateful if you could let one of us know.

## 7/0624 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 £4635.55 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **SM** explained the high level of payments was due to the payments for the Council's insurance and the community trip to Llandudno. **SM** advised Councillors the following payments had been added to the list:

- JDH Business Services: £316.80
- Wine for 80<sup>th</sup> D-Day Commemoration event: £48.00
- Squash for 80th D-Day Commemoration event: £4.40

**RE proposed** all payments be approved. **Seconded** by **KL. Unanimously agreed.** The payments were authorised at the meeting by **EJ** and **PH. EJ proposed** the Finance Report be accepted. **Seconded** by **RE. Unanimously agreed.** **CH** signed the financial report.

There had been two receipts: Glyn Ceiriog Community Council's donation towards the cost of the community trip to Llandudno (£250) and a donation from residents towards the cost of the commemoration bench (£315).

**(c) To review the Internal Audit**

**SM** presented the internal auditor's report and informed Councillors that no control issues had been identified, and the books and records had been properly maintained. Councillors agreed no further discussion was necessary. It was noted however, there were no receipts for the Wales Air Ambulance donation or for one expenses claim. **SM** to ensure these types of receipt are made available in the future.'

**(d) To complete the Annual Governance Statement**

Councillors discussed the details of the Annual Governance Statement and agreed there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements for the year ending 31 March 2024. Councillors agreed with all the statements listed on the Annual Return. **RE proposed** the Council approve the Annual Governance Statement. **Seconded by EJ. Unanimously agreed.** **CH** signed the Annual Return to confirm that the accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement had been approved by the Council.

**8/0624 Volunteers appointed by the Council**

**(a) Review the appointment of Caru'n Pentrefi as Council Volunteers**

It had been agreed at the last Council meeting that the appointment of Caru'n Pentrefi as volunteers would be reviewed again at the Council meeting in June. The group had now carried out litter picks and two sessions when strimmers were used. **SM** had ensured that Litter Pick and Use of Strimmers Induction Briefs, and Volunteer Acknowledgement forms were signed by each volunteer on the day. **EJ proposed** the volunteers of Caru'n Pentrefi be appointed by the Council for a further 3 months and the appointment be reviewed again at the Council meeting in September. **Seconded by KL. Unanimously agreed.**

**9/0624 Community Place Plan**

**(a) Discuss idea of creating a Community Place Plan**

**RE** said he had attended One Voice Wales training relating to Community Place Plans with **RBo** and **SM**. **RE** explained to Councillors a Community Place Plan sets out local planning guidance on the use and development of land and links to planning policies set out by the Local Planning Authority. He felt creating a Community Place Plan would not be of any real benefit for a very small rural community like Glyntraian. However, **RE** said the Council should consider a Council Strategic Plan as an alternative. A Strategic Plan is a live document that would be reviewed annually, used to drive the budget process, plan activities for the coming year and enable the Council to monitor its progress against key priorities. It usually sets out the strategic plans of a Council for the next three years. The objectives in the plan correspond to both the needs and demands of the local area and the wider context.

**(b) Discuss the collaborative process and the active participation of the Community**

Creating a Council Strategic Plan would involve extensive community engagement to help identify ideas and priorities. **RE** had prepared a draft questionnaire for a postal survey and said this should be followed up at a public meeting. The information in the Council's tryptic leaflet could then be updated. It was agreed that face-to-face discussions with individual

residents would be another way of collecting information about proposed ideas. Further discussion deferred until the Council meeting in July.

**10/0624 Items for next Council meeting (3rd July 2024)**

Council Strategic Plan

The Chair closed the meeting at 8:11pm

Next meeting will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 at 6:30pm