



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL CWM GARW

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT BLAENGARW
WORKMEN'S HALL ON TUESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2019 6.30 PM**

Present: Councillor R Stirman (Chair)

Councillors: G Andrews
S Dendy
H Griffiths
M Trowbridge

Apologies: Councillor R Clatworthy, C Gillard-Sage, M Jones, R Jones, C Lloyd, M Thomas and G Walters

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk

114/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Ms S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member BCBC
Mrs R Stirman	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member BCBC

115/19 REED CUTTING AND POND WEED REMOVAL - BOTH LAKES

This had been raised as a Finance Committee recommendation at the January 2019 Ordinary Meeting but had not been resolved with a vote. As the birds begin nesting at the beginning of March, the deadline for giving the contractor the go ahead to carry out the work was 6th February 2019.

The Clerk had provided an updated forecast for 2018/19 and reminded members of the cost and where the money had been found in the forecasted budget. The item was discussed. Councillor Griffiths asked that it be minuted that she was disappointed with the lack of attendance by the other Pontycymer councillors on such an important matter.

NRW and the consultants for the Upper Garw Valley work will be holding a half day workshop in the valley to update members on the findings, including lake maintenance. The Clerk asked members if they wanted this workshop to be open to members of the public.

Resolved: A vote was taken, 1 member abstained, 2 members voted for the work to go ahead and 2 members voted for it not to go ahead. The casting vote was given by the Chair and it was agreed that the work would not go ahead and would be reviewed at a later date. It was agreed that the workshop would be open to members of the public.

116/19 FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING EARMARKING RESERVES

A number of recommendations and concerns had been raised at the January 2019 Ordinary Meeting, but the recommendations had not been resolved with a vote. Each recommendation was discussed and it was agreed to earmark anticipated reserves for the year ending 31st March 2019 (£47,598) as follows:

£ 1,500	Councillor Allowances (10 x £150)
£15,000	Larger risk assessment work to be carried out to footpaths, Bridges, new signage etc. in PC Lan
£ 2,600	Provision of funding for councillor and clerk training (T&CC Review First Steps - Code, Induction, Employer, H&s, Fin.)

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£ 1,500	Provision for annual report etc. (T&CC Review First Steps)
£26,998	General Reserve
£47,598	Total Earmarked Reserves

Resolved: It was agreed to earmark the reserves as above and it was noted that the anticipated reserves had increased by £12,000 to £47,598 following the decision not to carry out the reed cutting and pond weed removal.

11719 TO DISCUSS STAFF CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (Public to be excluded)

The Chair had been asked by a member to raise the following:

- To agree to write to the previous Chair to request that a third of the Chair's allowance be returned to council so that the current Chair could receive the allowance.
- To write to One Voice Wales to express the council's disagreement with the way the Clerk's role was assessed.

Resolved: It was noted that items brought to council are not usually discussed if the member who raises them is not present. However as a Councillor Allowances Policy has been agreed as an agenda item at the February ordinary meeting, a discussion would be held on the request to write to the previous Chair. In addition it was agreed that to write to One Voice Wales regarding this matter would not serve any purpose as it is the system they use and the assessment has been completed. It was resolved not to write to OVW.

The meeting closed at 7.28 pm