



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 17th MAY
2021 AT 6.30 PM

Present: Councillor H Griffiths

Councillors:

G Andrew
D Davies
S Dendy
M Jones
R Jones
M Thomas
G Walters

Apologies: Councillors C Lloyd, G Lloyd,
C Gillard-Sage and M Trowbridge

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

1/22 Apologies (as above)

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In light of recent community council news items, the Chair reminded Members of the following Standing Order: 3l - photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of a meeting by any means is not permitted without the Council's prior written consent.

2/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Interest
S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters incl. Planning	Member
M Jones	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member
G Walters	Financial Request Garw Tennis Club	Member

3/22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2021 ORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes were presented for approval.

Resolved: The Minutes were approved and were signed by the Chair of the Meeting.

4/22 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE APRIL 2021 MEETING

Minute 128/21 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MARCH 2021 MEETING

Remembrance Benches: The Clerk confirmed that the Bettws and Blaengarw benches had been installed and that the Llangeinor bench would be installed shortly. She suggested branding the benches with a small plaque.

Asset Transfer: 4 councillors attended - G Lloyd, S Dendy, G Andrews and M Thomas attended a site visit. The recommendation to full council following the visit was not to asset transfer the land.

Financial Requests: The Clerk confirmed that work had commenced on the installations of the defibrillators and cabinets.

Footpath Leaflet: The Clerk confirmed she is waiting for a copy of the draft copy.

Minute 129 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR FEBRUARY 2021

Anti-social behaviour throughout the valley was discussed. Sgt Watts had been invited to the meeting but was unable to attend.

Minute 133/21 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES AND WARD REPORTS

The Clerk confirmed the bin emptying schedule for PC Lan. The Clerk was asked to arrange new signage for the Plant! site regarding dogs.

Minute 135/21 CLERK'S REPORT

Bins Pontycymer: The Clerk confirmed that the bin at Federation Lane will be replaced asap. Three bins have been replaced on Pontycymer square.

Projects 2021/22: The new noticeboard has been installed at the Visitor Centre. The work on the MTB blue trail is due to start shortly and the Clerk will seek guidance from NRW on the effects on wildlife.

REACH Consultation: The outcome of the consultation will be fed back to the Council for discussion next Monday 24th May 2021 at 7.00 pm via zoom.

School Site: Councillor Shaw has included this in his report.

Minute 138/21 STAFF CONFIDENTIAL

It was agreed that the Clerk would work with the incoming and outgoing Chair on this matter with recommendations made to Full Council.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted and approved. The Clerk was asked to source plaques for the benches, to invite Sgt Watts to the June meeting, to source signs for the Plant! site and to chase up the bin installation for Federation Lane. Councillor M Jones would set up a meeting with BCBC regarding the crime reporting which Councillor Dendy and the Clerk would attend.

5/22 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR MARCH 2021

The Clerk had distributed a graph and narrative of the crime figures for March 2021 with the meeting papers.

Resolved: The information was noted.

6/22 CO-OPTION PONTYCYMER WARD

One application had been received. The Clerk reminded Members of the Co-option guidelines.

The application was discussed and a show of hands vote was taken which resulted in favour of the candidate.

Resolved: Councillor Maxine Lewis was successfully co-opted to the council to represent the Pontycymer Ward.

7/22 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1. Payments:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the payments for May 2021 totalling £5,563.34 The balance carried forward was accepted.

2. Income:

The Precept Remittance from BCBC had been received for £120,001.

3. Authority to Transfer Funds:

The Clerk requested authority to transfer funds from the HSBC account to the Cambridge Building Society to ensure the accounts stayed within the financial compensation scheme.

4. Financial Request:

A financial request had been received from the Garw Tennis Club and had been circulated to members. This was discussed.

Resolved: The payments for May 2021 payments were approved and authority was given to make the payments. It was agreed to donate £1,000 to the Garw Tennis Club from general funds. Other information was noted.

8/22 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Rod Shaw had sent his apologies and a written report. Updates included COVID, Polling, Highways, BCBC Full Council Meeting and the old Welsh school building.

Councillor M Jones gave an update for Bettws and thanked the Clerk for her work on the Bettws Life Centre project. Councillor Jones recommended an additional payment for the Clerk. He suggested that wards should carry out the bin mapping exercise for their area that the Clerk could collate. Councillor Jones also mentioned the issues with grass cutting.

Councillor Dendy gave an update for Blaengarw including information on BCBCs bin mapping exercise. Fly tipping continues to be an issue and BCBC are setting up a group to tackle this matter over the summer period. She confirmed that following NRW testing the water near David Street is no contaminated.

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Councillor Griffiths also gave an update for Pontycymer Councillor Walters gave an update on the demolition of the old school.

There was no update for the Llangeinor Ward.

Resolved: All information was noted. The additional payment to the Clerk was approved. All wards were asked to work in their teams and map the bins in their wards.

9/22 CHAIR'S REPORT

No update was given.

10/22 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNITY WARDEN/PARC CALON LAN

A written report from the Warden had been circulated with the meeting papers.

Clerk's Report:

Floral Displays PC Lan

The Clerk requested authority to plant some winter plants and spring bulbs in the flower beds in PC Lan as it looks very bare from September to June?

Issues raised this month

- Rubbish to the rear of Waunbant - referred to BCBC who will inspect
- Draining issues at The Avenue - referred to BCBC and they will inspect
- Tree fallen onto path from Llangeinor square to Mountain Road - this was reported today, Karl will deal
- Enquiry from Cllr Stirman regarding Declarations of Interest

REACH Consultation

An Extraordinary Meeting will be held for council only to discuss the final draft of the consultation - 24th May 2021 6.30 pm

Miners' Lamp

This has been inspected and there is no issue with removing the sheath. Washbourne Services have offered to clean it.

Council Insurance

The Clerk confirmed that she'd added the 5 new benches, and two noticeboards to the Council's insurance policy. An additional fee of £35.65 had been incurred, but this would be waived until the renewal due on 1st October.

Footpaths Around the Monument

The Clerk gave an update on the new path and problems with it.

Bench Gwendoline Street

A resident has asked if he can pay to replace the old concrete bench at the top of the path. It is not on the leased land and the Clerk asked councillors if they had any further information on its ownership.

Christmas Provision

Councillors were asked to discuss amongst their ward members the ward's Christmas provision for 2021 for a discussion at the June meeting.

Daffodils/Bluebells

Councillors were asked to discuss their daffodil/bluebell bulb requirement amongst their ward members and let the Clerk know by mid-June.

Councillor Allowances

Councillor Allowances were due to be paid and the Clerk reminded Members that if they don't wish to accept their allowance of £150 they need to let the Clerk know in writing.

Annual Leave

The Clerk reminded Members of her annual leave dates in June.

OVW/SLCC Conference

The Clerk had attended this conference and reported back. New tasks to carry out included:

- Annual Report
- Training Plan for Staff and Councillors
- Report actions from the virtual meetings on the council's website within 7 days of the meeting

Resolved: All the information was noted. The Clerk was asked to arrange winter planter of the flower beds in PC Lan and to obtain quotes for the footpath work around the monument and the steps to the picnic area at Pont Lake.

11/22 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk drew Members' attention to some of the correspondence received, including the additional sheet distributed with the consent of the Chair as the correspondence had been received following the meeting papers being sent out. Of particular note were the following:

- Active Travel Barrier Report
- Remittance for Precept 2021/22
- Ffaldau Arms Development - referred to REACH consultant.
- Increase in number of Rights of Way Agency Agreement
- Bridgend Ramblers Funding Offer

Councillor Dendy updated Members on the proposed balsam bash for June via Green Links and this was approved.

Resolved: All correspondence and action of the Clerk was noted. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to the Active Travel Barrier Report saying that the Council agrees that the barriers must be compliant, but that it will give easier access to off road bikes which already cause issues on the land. Styles and gates needing attention were discussed for the Bridgend Ramblers funding offer.

Note: At 7.27pm Councillors Dendy did not take part in the planning item and her connection to the virtual meeting was muted.

12/22 PLANNING MATTERS

2 planning request had been included in the meeting papers, 1 decisions and 2 appeals had been received. 2 emails from Planning Aid Wales had also been circulated.

Resolved: No objections were made to the planning applications. The Planning Aid correspondence was noted.

13/22 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

- COVID Memorial
- Christmas Provision 2021

Resolved: The agenda will be kept open for urgent items to be added in the month.

The date for the next meeting will be Monday, 21st June 2021 via Zoom at 6.30 pm.

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The meeting closed at 7.35 pm.