



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 21ST JUNE
2021 AT 6.30 PM

Present: Councillor H Griffiths

Councillors:

G Andrew
S Dendy
C Gillard-Sage
C Lloyd
G Lloyd
M Thomas
M Trowbridge (from 6.46 pm)
G Walters

Apologies: Councillor D Davies, M Jones & R Jones

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

14/22 Apologies (as above)

15/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Interest
S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters incl. Planning	Member
C Lloyd	P/21/486/FUL	Personal Interest
G Lloyd	P/21/486/FUL	Personal Interest

16/22 PRESENTATION BY HALO LEISURE REF. SUMMER PLAY SCHEME

Karl Patterson and Rhian Thomas of Halo attended the meeting to give a short presentation on the summer activity offer they could provide for each of the 4 wards during the school holidays. Unfortunately only 3 days were available for Bettws due to lack of availability at Bettws Life Centre and the cost of the service for Llangeinor had increased due to the room hire charges at the Richard Price Centre. The total cost is £9,600 with the previous costs (in 2019/20) at £8,510 which was the funding in the budget for 2021/22.

Resolved: Following the presentation this was discussed and it was agreed to go ahead with the additional costs covered from the contingency budget.

17/22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 2021 ANNUAL AND ORDINARY MEETING

The Annual and Ordinary May minutes were presented for approval.

Resolved: Both minutes were approved and were signed by the Chair of the Meeting.

Note: Councillor M Trowbridge joined the meeting at 6.46 pm

18/22 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MAY 2021 MEETINGS

Minute 8A/22 Annual Meeting Minutes

The vacancy for a representative for the One Voice Wales Area Committee remains open.

Ordinary May 2021 Minutes:

Minute 4/22 Matters Arising March Minutes

Remembrance Bench Llangeinor: This has now been installed. The go ahead for the one in Pontycymer should be given by end of June/early July.

Footpath Leaflet/Short Family Walk: The leaflet has now been published and copies are available from the Visitor Centre. An electronic version will also be published online. A hard copy had been sent to all councillors for their information and would be published in the Visitor Centre noticeboard at Parc Calon Lan.

Projects 2021/22: Half of the work to the blue mountain bike trail has been completed; the rest will be completed in late July/early August.

Minute 8/22 Borough/Ward Updates

Bin Mapping Exercise: The Pontycymer and Blaengarw Wards had completed their mapping exercise. Llangeinor and Bettws would complete theirs in the coming weeks.

Minute 10/22 Clerk/Warden Report

The flower planters in the Garw have been cleared out and planted with summer bedding plants. The hanging baskets for Llangeinor had been delayed due to the forecasted wind on Monday 21st and would be installed on Tuesday 22nd if the wind had settled down.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted and approved. The One Voice Wales area committee representative would remain open. The bench at Llangeinor had been well received, and members agreed the footpath leaflet was great.

18/22 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR APRIL 2021

The Clerk had distributed a graph and narrative of the crime figures for April 2021 with the meeting papers. Sgt Watts had been unable to attend, but PCSO Andrew Jenkins had provided a further breakdown of the crimes in the valley, which had been circulated to Members.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk would invite Sgt Watts to the July meeting.

19/22 GARW VALLEY ASB MANAGEMENT GROUP

This was not discussed.

Resolved: Councillor M Jones was not present at the meeting so this item was

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deferred to the July 2021 Ordinary Meeting.

20/22 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

This was not discussed.

Resolved: Councillor M Jones was not present at the meeting so this item was deferred to the July 2021 Ordinary Meeting.

21/22 COVID MEMORIAL

Some ideas were discussed including a Celtic Cross or a Bandstand.

Resolved: This would remain on the agenda for the July 2021 Ordinary meeting and Members were asked to bring further ideas to that meeting.

22/22 REACH

This was not discussed.

Resolved: Councillor M Jones was not present at the meeting so this item was deferred to the July 2021 Ordinary Meeting.

23/22 CALON LAN MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Huw Irranca-Davies AM had contacted the council via the Clerk in light of some COVID easing to revisit placing a plaque in honour of Daniel James in a permanent location in Blaengarw. He also suggested whether a small ceremony might be appropriate.

Resolved: This was discussed and it was agreed that the plaque should be placed somewhere on the Strand park in front of Katie Street. Agreement was also given to working in partnership with Huw on a small ceremony

24/22 CHRISTMAS 2021 PROVISION

The Blaengarw ward had provided the Clerk with their request for Christmas 2021. The other 3 wards would discuss and have a final request ready for the July Ordinary Meeting.

Resolved: Christmas 2021 Provision would remain on the agenda for July 2021.

25/22 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1. Payments:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the payments for June 2021 totalling £15,786.84 The balance carried forward was accepted.

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2.Income:

No income was received in June 2021.

3.Financial Request:

A financial request had been received from Air Ambulance Wales.

4.Internal Audit:

This needs acceptance and approval by 30th June 2021.

Resolved: The payments for June 2021 were approved and authority was given to make the payments. The financial request from Air Ambulance Wales was deferred to the March 2022 meeting for consideration. A meeting to accept and approve the Internal Audit Report and Annual Statement would be held on Wednesday 30th June 2021 at 6.30 pm via zoom.

26/22 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Rod Shaw had sent his apologies and a written report. Updates included COVID, Highways, Development Masterplan, Full Council update and the re-opening of the youth clubs in the valley.

Councillor M Trowbridge gave an update for Bettws ref. grass cutting issues, anti-social behaviour and working with the Boys and Girls Club.

Councillor Dendy gave an update for Blaengarw on the ASB Management Group set up, the Regeneration report, the concerns of the Blaengarw Primary schoolchildren about littering and bin replacement. Councillor Dendy mentioned her disappointment that she was the only GVCC councillor who attended the workshop with Planning Aid Wales on the LDP, held on 10th June 2021 and asked that this remain on the agenda for July 2021.

Councillors Griffiths, Gillard-Sage and Walters also gave an update for Pontycymer, including facilities for the over 17s in the valley via music, sport etc., fly tipping, anti-social behaviour and the recent vandalism at Halo Leisure Centre.

Councillor G Lloyd gave an update for the Llangeinor Ward including floral displays and the Llangeinor bench installation.

Resolved: All information was noted. The LDP would remain on the agenda for July 2021. Councillor Thomas would pass on the letters she had received from the

Blaengarw Primary schoolchildren to the Clerk and this would be an agenda item for the July 2021 Ordinary Meeting.

27/22 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair raised her concerns regarding the increase in anti-social behaviour in the valley and said some residents in Pontycymer were afraid to go into their gardens because of it. She was disappointed in the lack of police presence and the lack of police attendance at the council meetings despite requests for them to attend.

28/22 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:

Issues raised this month:

- Request re swimming in the lakes
- Request re. paddle boarding in the lakes
- The removal of the mattress in Pantygog
- Fly tipping behind Waun Bant

Sit on Mower: The Warden's sit on mower had been out of action for several weeks and the grass cutting was way behind schedule. The Clerk informed Members of the cost of repair and reminded them that the mower is over 10 years old, she also gave the cost of a new one. In addition the supplier was happy to purchase the log-splitter owned by the council and to take this payment off the mower.

Bench Gwendoline Street: The resident had now repaired the bench.

Noticeboard Bettws Life Centre: This would be delivered on 22nd June. The Warden would need assistance to install it due to its weight and she would approach the two male Bettws councillors to assist. Councillor Walters said it was more like a 3 man job and offered his assistance too.

Defibrillator Installations: These were almost complete and had been delayed because of some electricity supply issues. Don Sage had informed the Clerk that he would be arranging awareness classes for 6 people at a time and he would let the Clerk know the schedule so that if councillors wish to attend they could book a place.

Garw Valley Tennis Club: The Clerk had presented the Club with a donation cheque for £1,000 and would include a story on the website on the donation.

Daffodil/Bluebell Bulb Ordering: The Clerk informed the meeting that the order had been placed for Blaengarw and Pontycymer and that no request had been made by the deadline from Llangeinor or Bettws.

Community Council Governor Tynyrheol School: Councillor Davies had asked if she could swap to represent the Council as a Governor as there is a vacancy.

Warden: The Warden continues to have issues with a local resident and another altercation had taken place last week. In addition, another resident had taken to using the Visitor Centre water supply to wash his car and this too had caused issues for Karl when he approached him to tell him that the tap was not for public use to wash cars.

Resolved: All the information was noted. The Clerk was asked to respond and refer to the issues raised in the month, it was unanimously agreed to purchase a new sit on mower, it was agreed that if it was possible Councillor Davies should swap to be the Community Council governor at Tynyrheol School and if still possible, to order bluebells and daffodils for the Bettws ward and bluebells from the Llangeinor ward. The Clerk was asked to find out the resident using the Visitor Centre's water supply to wash his car's address and to send a letter on behalf of the council informing him that it was not for public use and to look into purchasing a body cam for the Warden.

29/22 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:

- Invite from the Bridgend Samaritans AGM
- Tanio request to put a link to their organisation on the council's website
- Registry Office Near Me request to put a link to their organisation on the council's website
- Cylch Ti a Fi - publish their poster on the council's website
- Resident - tree planting in the valley

Resolved: All correspondence and action of the Clerk was noted. It was agreed that the Chair would attend the Samaritans meeting, that web links to Tanio and Registry Office Near Me would be attended to the website and that the poster for Cylch Ti a Fi would be published on the website. The Clerk was asked to find out more about the tree planting idea.

Note: At 7.41pm Councillors Dendy nor Councillors C & G Lloyd did not take part in the planning item and her connection to the virtual meeting was muted.

30/22 PLANNING MATTERS

6 planning request had been included in the meeting papers, 2 decisions and no appeals had been received. 3 emails from Planning Aid Wales had also been circulated.

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

31/22 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

- Blaengarw Primary School Letter

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, 19th July 2021 via Zoom at 6.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 7.46 pm.