



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL CWM GARW

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 15th
NOVEMBER 2021 AT 6.30 PM

Present: Councillor H Griffiths

Councillors:

D Davies
M Jones
C Lloyd
G Lloyd
M Thomas
G Walters

Apologies: Councillors S Dendy, R Jones, M
Lewis, C Gillard-Sage & M
Trowbridge

No Apologies: Councillor G Andrews

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

76/22 Apologies (as above)

77/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Interest
D Davies	Richard Price Centre	Director
M Jones	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member

**78/22 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM SUSTRANS ON THE GARW VALLEY
'MISSING LINK'**

The Chair welcomed Gwyn Smith of Sustrans to the meeting. He demonstrated how to use a noticeboard link online and shared the Garw Valley 'Missing Link' consultation, which he explained and went through the current options. Members asked questions and some gave opinions on their preferred route.

Resolved: The information and comments were noted.

79/22 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON YOUTH ACTIVITIES FROM MARK HOLMES

The Chair welcomed Mark Holmes to the meeting. Mark informed Members about the Current activity club in the valley and explained how COVID had restricted activities.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk was asked to follow up the presentation with Mark Holmes.

80/22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2021 MEETING.

The Ordinary October Meeting minutes were presented for approval.

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

81/22 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE OCTOBER 2021 MEETING

Minute 66/22 COVID Memorial

The Clerk had requested quotes for the tree and plaque. The Warden has requested the purchase of another 50 whips to plant in the Plant! site behind the Co-op along with a tonne of soil.

Minute 71/22 Chair's Report

Councillor Shaw had replied to the request to make a referral about the burnt out garages agreeing that the area needs attention as a result of arson and fly tipping. He

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confirmed that he'd already made a referral and that BCBC had attended on more than one occasion.

The Clerk s updated Members on the privately owned area and said Councillor Shaw agreed to make a further referral.

Minute 72/22 Clerk's Report

Bettws Footpath: The Clerk had attended a site meeting with the preferred contractors and invited Helen Mills of the Rights of Way to attend. We are now waiting for a quote so that RoW can approve the works; it is intended that this will be completed before year end.

Daniel James Memorial Plaque: Both Huw Irranca-Davies and the Heritage Society are happy to go ahead with placing the plaque at The Strand. Huw has agreed to write to BCBC to ask them to replace the benches and make good the area before the plaque is installed. Councillor Dendy as borough representative for Blaengarw and the council now need to do the same. Once the work is completed all parties will agree on a date for the unveiling. The Heritage Society have some ideas ref. the plaque installation which they will share with the council for consideration.

Bridge Repair Pont Lake: The Clerk had discussed the bridge with the Warden and requested authority to get it surveyed and a quote for any recommended repairs.

Minute 73/22 Correspondence

I've passed on some bench supplier website addresses to the person who requested a bench at Pont Lake for them to decide what non-cast iron bench they'd like. I've also spoken to the Warden to identify the best location for the bench.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk was given authority to obtain quotes for the whips and soil and for the bridge survey and any recommended work.

82/22 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2021

The Clerk had distributed a graph and narrative of the crime figures for August and September 2021 with the meeting papers and were discussed.

Resolved: The information was noted. Councillor M Jones would contact Hannah Richards at BCBC regarding the reporting of the crime figures as the ones on the Police UK website appear to differ to the SW Police information.

83/22 REPRESENTATIVE ON THE CWM TAFF MORGANNWG UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD STAKEHOLDER REFERENCE COMMITTEE

T&CCs in Bridgend are being given the opportunity to nominate one Councillor to represent the sector in the UHB's area. The commitment will be for attendance at a bi monthly meeting via Microsoft Teams on a Wednesday afternoon between 2.00 and 4.00 pm and if meetings return to face to face, they will be rotated across three localities.

Resolved: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that Councillor Griffiths would apply.

84/22 FOOTPATHS PARC CALON LAN

This item had been brought forward from the October meeting. Councillor Dendy was not present to give an update on any available grant funding found. It was agreed that this information was urgently needed before the precept meeting.

Resolved: Councillor M Jones agreed to work with Councillor Dendy regarding grant funding.

85/22 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1. Payments:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the payments for November 2021 as detailed on the payment sheets. The balance carried forward to November was accepted.

2. Financial Requests:

Two financial requests had been received, one from the Men's Shed and the other a suggestion from Councillor Dendy. Details of both had been forwarded to Members. These were both discussed.

Resolved: The payments for November 2021 were approved and authority was given to make the payments. Councillor Dendy would be asked to speak to the Pontycymer councillors about her suggestion. The Clerk was asked to request that the Men's Shed members are more specific about the area they'd like to work in, what they'd like to achieve and be more specific in their request.

86/22 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Thomas expressed her concerns about a footpath in Pontycymer.

Councillor Griffiths said the bin at Federation Lane still hasn't been replaced and used dog waste bags continue to be left at the base of the post where the bin was located.

Councillor Davies informed Members that the Llangeinor ward councillors had arranged a 'Meet and Greet' session at the Richard Price Centre the following evening; the Clerk would attend too.

Councillor M Jones had attended an ASB management meeting and gave an update on the discussions. He also gave an update on the need for a housing stock increase needed in Bettws, the number of unoccupied houses, the demolition of the old school building, the bunkhouse and the construction of the new nursery. Councillor Jones also complimented the Warden on his excellent work and interaction with the children whilst

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daffodil bulb planting. He also gave an update on the assistance given to a resident regarding a complaint.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk was asked to chase up the replacement bin for Federation Lane and to pass on thanks to the Warden for his excellent work, continued support; it is appreciated.

87/22 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair expressed her concerns about the state of the highways at Hill View and Lower Adare Street following the demolition of the school. She had taken photos which had been sent to the Clerk.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to write to BCBC again regarding the highways and in particular the state of the roads following the demolition. She was also asked to share the photos with the other councillors.

88/22 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING WARDEN'S REPORT

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

Defibrillator Pont yr Hyl

This should be installed week beginning 15th November 2021. Don Sage has arranged defib training 23rd November and 7th December at the OAP Centre Pontycymmer at 6.30 pm.

Christmas

All lighting column motifs are in place. The two new motifs for the Blaengarw ward have been delivered, but BCBC has been unable to adapt the two columns as at each visit there have been parked cars obstructing access to the columns. The Christmas trees for each ward are being delivered the week beginning 15th November and will be installed in time for 1st December switch on.

Steps Pont Lake

The Clerk confirmed that the work is due for completion before Christmas.

Bridges Pont Lake

The Clerk asked for authority to get the two bridges at Pont Lake in Parc Calon Lan surveyed; the other 3 had been surveyed the previous year and works carried out.

Meetings from January

Accommodation in large rooms to hold face-to-face meetings from January 2022 was proving a problem. The Clerk updated Members on her enquiries to date.

Resolved: All information was noted. Councillor Davies said the Richard Price Centre could be made available and Councillor M Jones said he'd speak to the café proprietor at Bettws Life Centre to see if something could be arranged. The Clerk was given authority for the bridge surveys to be carried out.

89/22 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:

- Latest news from BCBC forum meeting
- Request to use mountain bike trails for training exercises
- Request re LEA governor from Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon y Cymoedd
- Request re Green IT programme
- Request for Financial Information from Resident
- Wales Air Ambulance Financial Request
- Invitation to Stakeholder Meeting (online) on the Garw Valley Missing Link Consultation

Resolved: All correspondence and action of the Clerk was noted including the provision of financial information provided by the Clerk to a resident. It was agreed to defer a decision on a financial donation to the Wales Air Ambulance until the March 2022 meeting. There was no interest in the LEA governor role. The Chair would look for information on the Green IT programme, it was agreed that the MBT trails could be used for training exercises.

90/22 PLANNING MATTERS

6 planning request had been included in the meeting papers; 1 decision were included in the planning table and there were no appeals. 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.

91/22 STAFF CONFIDENTIAL

A discussion took place.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to accept the findings and close the matter. It was also agreed that a 5 year plan was needed for Parc Calon Lan and that this would be a matter for the elected council in May 2022 to consider.

92/22 URGENT ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER PRECEPT MEETING

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, 6th December 2021 via Zoom at 6.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.