



**GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL CWM GARW**

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE BETTWS LIFE CENTRE  
AND/OR ZOOM ON MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022 AT 6.30 PM**

Present: Councillor H Griffiths

Councillors:

D Davies - via zoom

S Dendy - via zoom

M Jones

R Jones (from 6.38 pm)

M Lewis

C Lloyd

M Thomas

M Trowbridge (from 6.36 pm)

Apologies: Councillors G Lloyd & G Walters

No Apologies: Councillors G Andrews & C Gillard-  
Sage

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

## MEETING OF COUNCIL - 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022

136/22 Apologies (as above)

### 137/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Interest</b>
S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member
M Jones	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member

### 138/22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2022 ORDINARY MEETING.

The February Ordinary Meeting minutes were presented for approval.

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

### 139/22 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FEBRUARY 2022 MEETING

#### Minute 121/22 To Consider Matters Arising from the January 2022 Meeting

**Bettws Footpath:** The work will go ahead towards the end of April 2022 to give the field time to dry out.

**Correspondence:** The Clerk had received a response from BCBC on the condition of the roads in the valley which had been emailed to Members; an audit would not be carried out. There had been no response regarding the bin installations at Federation Lane and Ffaldau School from BCBC. The Clerk was still waiting for a clear map of the leased land in order to progress the enquiry from Huw Irranca-Davies on the turning area at the end of Railway Terrace. Councillor M Jones had also made a referral to BCBC on this matter.

#### Minute 12/33 Re-visit the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

4 benches, 1 for each ward, have been ordered and it is hoped that they will arrive in time for installation before the June bank holiday weekend.

#### Minute 127/22 Blaen Park/The Strand

The Clerk had made initial enquiries to BCBC regarding asset transferring this space to the Community Council. The legal department is looking into ownership of the land as it is not in BCBC's ownership despite them cutting the grass.

## MEETING OF COUNCIL - 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022

### Minute 128/22 Finance & Accounts

The Clerk had looked into suitable new bank accounts, but suggested the council wait until the new council is elected in May as this could affect signatories.

### Minute 129/22 Borough Council Updates/Ward Reports

A donation of £150 had been made as the invoice was less than initially expected.

### Minute 131/22 Clerk's Report

A contractor had visited the site to measure up the fallen fencing at the Plant! site behind the Co-op and is now sourcing materials and prices to provide a quote.

**Resolved:** The information was noted. The Clerk was asked to make a Land Registry search to confirm ownership of the Blaen Park/Strand land at a cost of £6.

### 140/22 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR JANUARY 2022

The crime figures for January 2022 had been circulated to Members. The PCSOs were unable to attend the meeting for further discussion due to them being called to a road traffic accident just before the meeting.

**Resolved:** The information was noted.

### 141/22 CAR PARKING BETTWS SCHOOLS

Councillor C Lloyd circulated some photos of the traffic issues outside the Bettws primary schools and raised her concerns for the safety of the children crossing the road at pick up and drop off times.

This was discussed and it was noted that there is staggered drop off and pick up times in place.

**Resolved:** The Clerk was asked to request that SW Police make regular visits during these times. Councillor M Jones would speak to the schools regarding reminding parents to take care during these times and ensure the safety of all children and would refer the matter to BCBC.

### 142/22 GRANT FUNDING FOR FOOTPATHS PARC CALON LAN

Councillor S Dendy gave feedback on the Community aspect of the National Lottery funding which accepts grant applications from £10,001 to £100,000. She suggested an application should be made for the footpath work in the park and additional signage needed.

## MEETING OF COUNCIL - 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022

**Resolved:** It was agreed that Councillor Dendy would make the application and that the Clerk would check that the council meets the criteria.

### 143/22 ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

T&CCs have been notified by One Voice Wales that there is a requirement for all T&CCs to publish an Annual Report 2021/22 as near to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 as possible. This was discussed.

This is a new requirement which will be published annually.

**Resolved:** It was agreed that the Clerk would produce a draft which would be discussed at the April meeting for publication asap after that date.

### 144/22 DEFERRED FINANCIAL DONATIONS 2021/22

Members had been given copies of all deferred requests, they were from Ray of Light Cancer Support, Cancer Information & Support Services, Urdd Cymru, Marie Curie, Bridgend Carers Centre, Bridgend Country Show, Llangollen International Eisteddfod, Children's Wales Air Ambulance, Teenage Cancer Trust and Noah's Ark. These were all discussed.

**Resolved:** It was agreed to donate £25 to Urdd Cymru, Bridgend Carers Centre, Children's Wales Air Ambulance and the Teenage Cancer Trust. A donation to Noah's Ark would be left on the table for consideration at the next meeting.

### 145/22 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS UPDATE

It is good practice to review regulations regularly and these were discussed.

**Resolved:** The regulations were accepted and approved.

### 146/22 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

#### 1. Payments:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the payments for March 2022 as detailed on the payment sheets. The balance carried forward to April 2022 was accepted.

#### 2. Income:

Interest of £63.54 had been received from the Cambridge Building Society.

**3. Budget Monitoring:**

It was noted that the Love It, Don't Trash It scheme had been completed and presentations made to each of the four English primary schools. Due to the change in the way the scheme was rolled out during Covid, there was no charge for the scheme therefore saving £1,500 in the Earmarked Projects budget.

In addition, the Clerk highlighted some of the budget lines that were slightly overspent and presented the reasons.

**Resolved:** The payments for March 2022 were approved and authority was given to make the payments. The income was noted and the saving in the Earmarked Projects budget. The slight overspend explanations were accepted and approved.

147/22 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS

Blaengarw: Issues in the month included parking in various places including Church Terrace and the condition of Blaen Park. On a positive note the craft fair held at the William Trigg Centre had been popular and the new café had been well received.

Pontycymer: Issues included parking and speeding in the valley, particularly Oxford Street. The Chair was thanked for attending the youth club in Pontycymer.

Llangeinor: Issues included parking outside the school, the poor road resurfacing as there appeared to be no differentiation between the footpath and the roadway.

Bettws: Llanmoor Homes had made a pre-application to build on land off Bettws Road. The nursery is on track to open in late May. The Girls & Boys Club is now in Bettws. V2C has confirmed it will carry out 13 cuts of grass this year. On 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 there will be a community litter pick in Bettws. This will take place monthly on the first Saturday of the month. The Active travel route plans through Bettws is progressing. The Mayor's Citizenship Award was presented to Zena Dix at Bettws Life Centre Café on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Details of an event involving ADA recycling to be held at the school on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 was given.

**Resolved:** All information was noted.

148/22 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had attended the presentation of the Mayor's Citizenship Award at Bettws Life Centre and the Pontycymer Youth Club.

The Chair suggested that a plaque to commemorate Richard Price's 300 birthday anniversary in 2023 could be erected in his honour.

## MEETING OF COUNCIL - 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022

**Resolution:** The information was noted. It was agreed that the Events Committee would look into the plaque idea in honour of Richard Price.

### **149/22 CLERK'S REPORT**

The report from the Warden, circulated to Members, was noted.

#### **Additional New Requirements for Councils from 2022:**

As well as the Annual Report discussed in item 8 above, there is also a requirement for each T&CC to write a Training Plan for 2022/23 and annually thereafter. This year's plan must be published by 5<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

#### **IRPW Report 2022:**

There are changes for T&CCs to consider in this report, particularly the option to pay a £30 attendance payment to each Members. This should be included on the May 2022 agenda when the new council is in place.

#### **Grass Cutting:**

Bleaf are no longer able to carry out grass cutting in the area. The Clerk asked if Members wished to continue using the contractor used during Covid to carry out the work at Pen Parcau and Glen Garw.

#### **Nomination Packs:**

The Clerk reminded all Members who wish to stand for election to complete the forms that had been emailed to them.

#### **Annual Leave 2021/22:**

The Clerk informed Members of the Warden and Clerk's leave dates in the run up to the end of the year.

**Resolved:** All information was noted. The Clerk was asked to draft a Training Plan and include it as an item on the June 2022 agenda, to include the IRPW Report on the May 2022 agenda and to ask the contractor to continue with the grass cutting in both areas.

### **150/22 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk drew Members' attention to some of the correspondence received, including additional correspondence included with the permission of the Chair as they were received after the papers for the meeting had been circulated to Members. Of particular note were the following:

- Annual Renewal Membership Letter and Invoice from One Voice Wales

## MEETING OF COUNCIL - 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022

- NALC National Salary Award 2021
- IRPW Report February 2022
- Local election nomination packs - closing date 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- BAVO request to display poster
- Anne Robson Trust request to display poster
- Resident regarding vehicles blocking rear lane access to Church Terrace
- Financial Requests from the Bridgend Country Show, Children's Air Ambulance Wales, Llangollen International Eisteddfod, Ty Hafan and the Teenage Cancer Trust
- Notice of Election 2022

A discussion took place on the merits of renewing the One Voice Wales membership.

**Resolved:** All correspondence and action of the Clerk was noted. It was unanimously agreed to renew the membership of One Voice Wales. The posters could be published on the council's website, Councillor Dendy would refer the resident's concern regarding vehicles blocking access to the rear of Church Terrace, the financial requests had been included in item 9 on the agenda, Ty Hafan would be considered in April and the Notice of Election had been published on the council's website and in its noticeboards on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

### **151/22 PLANNING MATTERS**

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

**Resolved:** No objections were made to the planning applications.

### **152/22 STAFF CONFIDENTIAL**

(The Clerk was not present for the discussion)

At the staff appraisals both members of staff had made requests and these were discussed.

**Resolved:** Following recommendations by the Staff Appointments Committee it was unanimously agreed to the requests from both staff members, effective 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.

### **153/22 ITEMS FOR THE APRIL 2022 MEETING**

- Community Award Presentation
- Place Making Charter
- Donation to Noah's Ark/local patient
- Draft Annual Report 2021/22

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

MEETING OF COUNCIL - 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022

The date for the next meeting will be Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Bettws Life Centre and via Zoom at 6.30 pm, covid permitting. This is a week later than usual due to a clash with the Easter bank holiday.

The meeting closed at 8.03 pm.