



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL CWM GARW

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

Present: Councillor C Lloyd

Councillors:

G Andrew
D Davies
S Dendy
H Griffiths
M Jones
R Jones
M Thomas (left the meeting at 9.00 pm)
M Trowbridge
G Walters (left the meeting at 8.31pm)

Apologies: Councillor Gillard-Sage and
Councillor G Lloyd

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

MEETING OF COUNCIL - 15th MARCH 2021

108/21 Apologies (as above)

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.

109/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Interest
S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters incl. Planning	Member
M Jones	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member

110/21 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2021 ORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes were presented for approval.

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

111/21 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FEBRUARY 2021 MEETING

Minute 94/21 To Consider Matters Arising from the January 2021 Meeting: a response had been received from the PCSOs regarding the Warden's concerns. These were discussed.

Minute 95/21 To Receive the Crime Figures for December 2020: The new sergeant's name was noted.

Minute 99/21 Memorials: Following the previous month's request to plant a tree with plaque in PC Lan, a further request had been made to place a bench with plaque at Pont lake.

Minute 100/21 Finance: The Clerk confirmed that the funds of £50,000 had been transferred from the Cambridge Building Society into the HSBC.

Minute 103/21 Clerk's Report: The Remembrance benches will arrive within a few days the floral planters have been installed in Pontycymer and Blaengarw and the new bin and tik tak dog bag dispenser has been installed in Bettws.

Miners' Lamp: Washbourne Services Llangeinor are going to free off the lamp so that the sleeve can be removed to clean inside.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted and approved. It was agreed that the Clerk would send the correspondence from the PCSOs to Councillor M Jones, that the Chair, Councillor Lloyd, would write to the new sergeant regarding attendance at meetings and reinstating PACT meetings. It was agreed to allow the bench at Pont lake.

112/21 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR JANUARY 2021

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

Resolved: The information was noted.

113/21 PLACE MAKING CHARTER

A Placemaking Wales Charter has been launched. The aim of the Charter is to strengthen the focus on Placemaking in policy and practice in Wales and it outlines six placemaking principles.

Councillor Dendy suggested the Community Council should sign up to the Charter and this was discussed.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to request this as an item on the T&CC Forum agenda. It was agreed in principle but a final decision would be made following its inclusion as an item at the T&CC Forum.

114/21 ACTIVE TRAVEL

Councillor M Jones highlighted the details of the consultation which closes on 4th April.

Resolved: It was agreed that the Members would consider the needs of their wards and submit their feedback.

115/21 ASSET TRANSFER

Lovell's had contacted the Community Council to offer the play area in Llangeinor as an asset transfer. This was discussed.

Resolved: It was agreed to explore this idea further. The Clerk would contact Lovell's for further information.

116/21 FINANCIAL REQUESTS DEFERRED IN 2020/21

A list of deferred requests had been distributed with the papers along with the original correspondence. All requests were discussed and considered.

Resolved: It was agreed to donate £25 to the following: Bridgend Carers Centre, Hope Rescue, Wales Air Ambulance and Cerebral Palsy Cymru. It was also agreed that the Community Council would purchase 4 defibrillators and 2 cabinets; each ward would be charged for 1 defibrillator and the cost of the 2 cabinets would come out of the general funds.

117/21 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1.Payments:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the payments up to 16th March 2021 totalling £9,292.34 The balance carried forward was accepted.

It was noted that the Stationery/Printing/Admin budget line was over budget, this is due to the invoicing system crossing two financial years ie the invoice is for the period up to 20th May 2021.

2.Income:

Bank interest of £112.42 had been received from the Cambridge Building Society.

Resolved: The payments for March 2021 were approved and authority was given to make the payments. Other information was noted.

118/21 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Rod Shaw had sent his apologies and a written report. Updates included Garw Schools, BCBC Council meetings, Electoral reform, Living in Wales, CAT on 3 sporting facilities in the valley and a COVID update.

Councillor M Jones gave an update for Bettws including funding for the Welsh nursery and the lease on the bunkhouse.

Councillor Dendy gave an update for Blaengarw including BCBC meetings, dog mess issues, fly tipping etc.

Councillor Griffiths also gave an update including fly tipping, litter issues, dogs off the lead in PC Lan.

There was no Llangeinor update.

Resolved: All information was noted. The Clerk was asked to refer the mattress on the banking in Pantygog.

119/21 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair said how good it was to see the COVID numbers coming down.

120/21 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:

Footpath Issues: These were discussed, the ones in PC Lan need more investment and higher grade paths.

Grass Cutting Bettws and Blaengarw: Bleaf would not be operating their grass cutting service again this year, the Clerk asked if Members wanted her to make the same arrangements as in 2020.

Employment Committee Vacancy Llangeinor Ward: Councillor D Davies would take on this role.

Training: The Warden had expressed an interest in attending an Invasive Species and a Biodiversity Records course. Councillor Davies has completed her Code of Conduct training.

Garw Valley Rocks: This has now been installed by the monument in PC Lan and looks very effective.

Monument PC Lan: The Clerk had contacted Rebecca Buck who would liaise with Karl regarding the repairs.

Footpath Map: The Clerk had contacted Ramblers Cymru who were happy to produce the map free of charge. A representative had met with the Warden and Clerk and the Warden had walked the route with her.

Issues this Month: Following heavy rain sewerage running through parts of the park at the edge of Church Street, this had been referred to NRW.

Lighting columns and the Miners' Lamp not working - again these have been referred to BCBC.

Stone Wall: Large gaps in the stone wall in Llangeinor have been reported to BCBC for inspection.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk was asked to ask the Warden to visit the Bettws ward to see if there were jobs which needed doing. The Clerk would obtain quotations for the footpath work in the park to aid a further discussion. It was agreed to engage a contractor to cut the two areas of grass in Bettws and Blaengarw. It was agreed that the Warden should do the training.

REACH: The Clerk asked for feedback by Friday 19th March on the consultation document circulated.

121/21 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 Consultation
- Off street parking places (civil enforcement) Order 2013 (Amendment no 3) Order 2021.
- IRPW Annual Report - no changes for T&CCs
- Review of Remuneration Framework for T&CCs
- Plantlife event
- Request to place a memorial bench at Pont Lake
- Offer of volunteer support to maintain the bike trails
- Enquiry re allotment plot
- Cyber Security Guide
- Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act
- Go Compare request
- Colliery Spoil Biodiversity Initiative
- Resignation by Councillor R Clatworthy

Resolved: All correspondence and action of the Clerk was noted. It was agreed that the memorial bench at Pont lake could go ahead, that the Go Compare request be declined, that the request to carry out an amphibian and reptile survey in the park could go ahead. Councillor Clatworthy's resignation was declared and accepted.

Note: At 8.46 pm Councillors Dendy did not take part in the planning item and her connection to the virtual meeting was muted.

122/21 PLANNING MATTERS

1 planning request had been included in the meeting papers, 3 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.

123/21 UPDATE FROM THE EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE (STAFF CONFIDENTIAL)

The Employment Committee had met and made two recommendations. These were discussed and it was agreed that Councillor M Jones would make further enquiries from BCBC and report back to the next meeting.

Note: Standing Orders were suspended at 9.00 pm

124/21 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

- Rights of Way
- Plant! Site behind the Co-op

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 April 2021 via Zoom at 6.30 pm. This will be an ordinary meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.08 pm