



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL CWM GARW

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY 19th APRIL 2021 AT 6.30 PM

Present: Councillor C Lloyd

Councillors:

G Andrew
D Davies
S Dendy
H Griffiths
M Jones
R Jones
G Lloyd
M Trowbridge
G Walters

Apologies: Councillor Gillard-Sage and
Councillor M Thomas

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

125/21 Apologies (as above)

MEETING OF COUNCIL - 19th APRIL 2021

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.

126/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

127/21 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2021 ORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes were presented for approval.

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

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

Minute 111/21 Consider Matters Arising from the February Meeting:

The Clerk gave an update on the delivery and installation of the remembrance benches, which will be installed by a contractor. Licences had been received.

Minute 113/21 Place Making Charter:

A request has been made to place this on the T&CC Forum agenda.

Minute 115/21 Asset Transfer:

A plan of the land offered by Lovell had been distributed for consideration.

Minute 116/21 Financial Requests Deferred in 2020/21:

The Clerk confirmed that the defibrillators and cabinets had been purchased and will be installed shortly.

Minute 120/21 Clerk's Report:

Ramblers Cymru have accepted the Community Council's suggested short, family walk to be published in a leaflet. It will be part of a suite of 30 routes that illustrate pathways suitable for families across the Valleys Regional Park. As soon as they are published GVCC will receive a supply for the Visitor Centre. The idea behind the scheme is that the 30 route leaflets will look similar to help promote each other and bring connectivity.

Minute 121/21 Correspondence:

The Clerk confirmed that the Memorial Bench donated for Pont Lake will be delivered and installed in the next week or two.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted and approved. It was agreed to hold a site meeting at the Lovell site to look at the land.

129/21 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR FEBRUARY 2021

The Clerk had distributed a graph and narrative of the crime figures for February 2021 with the meeting papers. The figures for Bettws are a concern. Sgt Watts has agreed to attend a future meeting.

Anti-social behaviour to the Warden by a member of the public was noted.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk would invite Sgt Watts to the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to speak to the Warden regarding the anti-social issue, reporting it and supporting him.

130/21 TO ELECT A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ONE VOICE WALES AREA COMMITTEE

Resolved: As the committee representatives will be discussed at the Annual Meeting in May 2021, it was unanimously agreed to defer this item to the May Annual Meeting agenda.

131/21 RIGHTS OF WAY

Councillor Dendy updated Members on some Rights of Way matters affecting Blaengarw.

Resolved: It was agreed that Members would let Councillor Dendy know if they had any Rights of Way issues.

132/21 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1. Payments:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the payments from 16th to 31st March 2021 totalling £50,587.15 and the payments for April 2021 totalling £4,820.75. The balance carried forward was accepted.

2. Income:

A donation towards a bench for Pont Lake of £551.00 had been received before 31st March 2021 and a Rights of Way claim for 2020/21 of £3,550 and match funding from the T&CC Fund and a contribution from Awen Cultural Trust for the refurbishment of the exterior of Bettws Life Centre had been received in the new financial year of £20,112.30.

3. Year End:

The Clerk explained the unaudited balance for the year ended 31st March 2021.

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

133/21 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Rod Shaw had sent his apologies and a written report. Updates included referrals, anti-social behaviour, fly tipping, the Food Pantry Scheme and the Calon y Cwm charity, the Community Council's Upper Garw Action Plan/REACH consultation, Covid update and elections.

Councillor M Jones gave an update for Bettws and thanked the Clerk for her work on the Bettws Life Centre refurbishment. Councillor R Jones asked for further information on the CAT for Blaengarw Cricket Club.

Councillor Dendy gave an update for Blaengarw and said there'd been an increase in referrals, litter continues to be a big issue and that BCBC would have a dedicated fly tipping team starting this summer. She informed Members that BCBC are working on a map of bins and asked if the bins in PC Lan can be emptied on a Friday as well as a Monday.

Councillor Griffiths also gave an update for Pontycymer including litter problems and anti-social issues in the night around Pontycymer. She also requested that the top gate at the Plant! site behind the Co-op be locked to try and reduce dogs being left off lead to leave dog mess in the area.

Councillor G Lloyd gave an update for Llangeinor, including the wall repairs identified by BCBC. Hanging baskets would be erected along the wall between the two shops in Llangeinor in June and a donation of £1,5000 had been agreed from ward funds for the Llangeinor Community and Wildlife Gardens.

Resolved: All information was noted. The Clerk was asked to write to thank Awen for their partnership in working on the BLC project. The Clerk would check the bin emptying schedule for PC Lan. The Clerk was asked to speak to the Warden about locking the Plant! site gate.

134/21 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair gave an update on the response from SW Police to the request to attend meetings and reinstate PACT meetings and she gave information on the assisted collection service Keir offer.

135/21 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:

Bins Pontycymer: The missing bin at Federation Lane will be replaced by BCBC asap. The missing bins from the square; one is being replaced the other is being refurbished.

Projects 2021/22: The mechanical maintenance to the MTB blue trail will commence on or just before 17th May 2021. The noticeboard for the Visitor Centre has been delivered and will be installed asap.

Vacancy Pontycymer Ward: There had been no call for an election so the vacancy will be filled by a co-option process. The closing date for applications is 7th May and will be decided at the May Ordinary Meeting. To date 1 application has been received.

Coal Dram Offer: An offer had been received today to purchase a traditional steel frame at a cost of £1,000 and the iron frame and chassis of an old oak planked dram needing renovation at a cost of £250.

Garw Railway Cycle Path Work: An update was given by the Clerk on the work carried out by volunteers near Oakdale crossing in Llangeinor.

Issued raised this month: Highways have inspected the large gaps in the stone wall on Heol Llangeinor and an order has been raised for some repairs to be undertaken as soon as resources permit. In addition an injury to a child who caught their fingers in the gate at Y Wern play area has been reported to BCBC.

REACH Consultation: The consultation is now live and closes on 23rd April. Uptake to date has been good.

Royal Protocol: On the announcement of Prince Phillip's death the protocol was uploaded onto the Community Council's website for the 8 days of mourning.

OVW/SLCC Conference for Clerks: The Clerk requested attending this conference at a cost of £45 which will be split 3 ways between 3 councils.

Resolved: All the information was noted. Authority was given for the Clerk to attend the Conference. The Clerk was asked to find out what the plan is for the old Garw Grammar School site.

136/21 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:

- T&CC Forum request for agenda items
- Consultation - Local Authority Power to Trade
- Digital Connectivity Survey
- Thank you emails for donations from Hope Rescue, Bridgend Carers Centre, Wales Air Ambulance and Cerebral Palsy Cymru
- Enquiry from resident regarding Pontycymer Cemetery
- Macmillan Cymru financial request
- Information from the Garw Railway Society on work to the cycle path
- Email from a resident regarding the condition of the steps at the Black Bridge
- Letter from RES on the Upper Ogmere Wind Farm and Energy Storage Facility
- Request from resident regarding land behind Church Terrace, Blaengarw
- Two emails from Councillor Shaw regarding a community path barrier and land near the Charterhouse
- Request from Mudiad Meithrin to publish their poster for Welsh classes on our website.
- Active Travel Barrier Consultation

Resolved: All correspondence and action of the Clerk was noted. It was agreed that the enquiry ref. the cemetery be referred to BCBC, that the financial request be deferred to next March 2021, that the land behind Church Terrace is maintained but no trees are to be cut back and that the poster re Welsh classes be published on the website. It was noted that whilst the council needed to be compliant in the barrier consultation, it may give off road motorbikes easier access to the land, proper enforcement needed to be put in place alongside the changes. The Clerk would

Speak to the Warden about clearing up the litter in the trees opposite the Charterhouse.

Note: At 7.57 pm Councillors Dendy did not take part in the planning item and her connection to the virtual meeting was muted.

137/21 PLANNING MATTERS

4 planning requests had been included in the meeting papers, no decisions and no appeals had been received. 1 email from Planning Aid Wales had also been circulated.

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

138/21 STAFF CONFIDENTIAL INCLUDING LOGS

Resolved: It was agreed to hold an Extraordinary Meeting in May/June 2021 to discuss matters further and to include the Warden's view in the discussions.

139/21 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY 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, 17th May 2021 via Zoom at 6.00 pm. The Annual Meeting will be held at 6.00 pm followed by the Ordinary Meeting at approximately 6.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.03 pm