



CYNGOR CYMUNED
PENYRHEOL TRECENYDD ENERGLYN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, 15th OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.00 PM
The meeting was conducted remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Present: Councillors: W H Allen (BA), Susan Dickens (SD), G Ead (GE), S ap Hywel (SaH), T ap Hywel (TaH), P Owen Griffiths (Chair), SJ Skivens (SJS), SL Skivens (SLS), L Whittle (LW)

Also present: Gavin Clifton (Police Inspector), Amelia Penny (PCSO), Helen Treherne (Clerk)

Minute		Action
93.	To receive Chair's welcome and to receive and approve apologies for absence	
	The Chair welcomed Councillors to the meeting. Apology received from Cllr J Scriven and apology accepted. Resolved: To accept apology for absence	
94.	To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda	
	No declarations of interest received.	
95.	To approve minutes of virtual meeting held on 15th October 2020	
	Cllr Allen said that he had been present at the last meeting. Further to this amendment, the minutes of the virtual meeting held on 15 th October 2020 were approved as a true record. Resolved: To approve minutes as a true record	
96.	To discuss matters arising	
	There were not matters arising.	
97.	To discuss Police matters	
	Inspector Gavin Clifton and PCSO Amelia Penny were in attendance and reported that the Neighbourhood Team had been carrying out nightly patrols around Castell Maen area, including the underpass. Several stop and searches had been made and officers had engaged with the younger children. Anti-social behaviour around the Mill Close area had also been dealt with. There had been car break-ins in the Hendredenny area and leads were being followed. There had been anti-social behaviour in Penyrheol on bonfire night, whereby youths had thrown stones at a CCBC vehicle and also at fire fighters. Inspector Clifton said that it was hoped to get community involvement next year in order to get the safety message across.	

	<p>The Chair thanked the Inspector and PCSO for attending.</p> <p>Resolved: Noted</p>	
98.	<p>To discuss items/issues brought up by Councillors/COVID-19 update</p> <p>GE reported that a family had been made homeless by their landlord and had moved into crowded accommodation in Penyrheol. An application for re-housing had been made to CCBC in July, but they had not heard anything. The Councillor was advised to inform the family to give authorisation to one of the county borough councillors so that they could act on their behalf. Many residents needed rehousing at the moment. Some houses would become available on the new Cwm Ifor site in the new year.</p> <p>SJS reported that a County Borough Councillor from the Aber Valley was trying to get a crossing patrol warden reinstated outside a school. Since the crossing patrol warden outside Cwm Ifor Primary School had finished, he had not been replaced. There had been two recent collisions outside the school, as vehicles passed the school at speed and there were also water drainage problems at the crossing. CCBC's Cabinet had made the decision not to replace crossing patrol wardens. Councillors felt that this was scandalous, as children's lives could be at stake. CCBC had not investigated any other option. It was agreed that SJS would draft a letter for the Clerk to send to CCBC.</p> <p>Resolved: SJS to draft letter to send to CCBC</p> <p>LW reported that the new housing estate at Hendredenny was to be called DeClare Gardens. It was felt that Welsh names within the county borough were decreasing. It was agreed that LW would draft a letter for the Clerk to send to Redrow, conveying Councillors' disappointment in this decrease.</p> <p>Resolved: LW to draft letter to send to Redrow</p> <p>The Chair reported that he had attended the virtual Community Council Liaison Committee meeting. CCBC's Public Survey would be coming out soon and two consultation sessions for Community Councils were to be held, which he would attend. The Chair asked that Councillors forward any items they would like discussed at the consultations.</p> <p>Resolved: Councillors to forward items for discussion to Chair</p> <p>SD reported overgrown trees between the Dip Garage and the Bowls roundabout. Clerk to report to CCBC.</p> <p>Resolved: Clerk to report overgrown trees to CCBC</p> <p>TapH reported that the 'Public Footpath' sign at the bottom of the driveway to Ty Canol Farm at the top of Hendredenny had been removed and the sign above the farm, along with the stile, had been gone for some time. CCBC had agreed to get the sign reinstated and</p>	

	<p>raise the issue with the landowner.</p> <p>The Chair again raised the issue of Aneurin House falling into disrepair. Meetings had taken place and an attempt was being made to get CCBC or the landlord to do considerable repair work. It was agreed that a working group would be set up to look into these issues and would comprise of SJS, LW and SD and it was also agreed that County Borough Councillor Margaret Sargent - who had also been previously involved – would be asked to join the working group. It was agreed that the Group would do some preliminary investigations/work asap and then meet in January. Group to seek quotes for the work.</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working group to be set up, consisting of SJS, LW and SD. 2. County Borough Councillor Margaret Sargent to be asked to join the group. 3. Preliminary investigation/costings to be carried out and first meeting to take place in January 2021 	
99.	To discuss food banks	
	<p>The Chair reported that he had attended a virtual meeting, along with Cllrs Skivens and Whittle, with the Trussell Trust Operations Manager and Caerphilly Foodbank’s Manager. Cllr Skivens then provided an updated report.</p> <p>The Operations Manager had reported a 21% increase in poverty over the past 12 months, with a further increase expected over the Christmas period. Caerphilly Foodbank had helped 85 families from the wards in the last 12 months. It was agreed that the Community Council could become involved with referrals, assist with collections/deliveries etc. The foodbanks associated with the Trussell Trust were independent charities in their own right, but were supported by the Trussell Trust.</p> <p>LW reported that he had referred a family to a food bank recently. Residents from the wards also visited the Bedwas food bank. LW had visited the food bank and would be volunteering every week. He had also put organisers in touch with a potential satellite food bank in Abertridwr/Senghenydd. LW said that the volunteers were doing a fantastic job.</p> <p>SJS wished to record Councillors’ thanks to LW, who was not only on the working group, but had committed to volunteering.</p> <p>The recommendations arising from the report were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillors from PTE should be encouraged to visit and may wish to act as volunteers and work within the foodbanks. 2. PTE could develop ongoing support to the foodbank held at the Connect Life Church Centre in Caerphilly. Initially as a regular monthly financial contribution, while it can demonstrate it supports people from PTE. This should be monitored and should be a set amount. The initial minimum amount be set at £100 a month 	

	<p>3. All Councillors should be encouraged to lobby for the reduction of poverty across our area and in the UK in general.</p> <p>4. Further developments should be reviewed for development of assistance to foodbanks provision, ie collection points, assistance with deliveries, guidance to other provisions at locations within PTE area.</p> <p>5. PTE should advertise the foodbank provisions and guidance on how to access this support via communication and social media facilities.</p> <p>PG went to visit. Still operating and using the donation.</p> <p>Resolved: To carry out the above recommendations, including giving £100 per month to Caerphilly Foodbank (to be reviewed in the new financial year) and a one-off payment of £250 to the Bedwas Foodbank</p>	
100.	To approve quarterly financial statement	
	<p>Councillors approved the quarterly financial statement and resolved that the budget should remain unchanged, until Finance Committee met to discuss unspent budget.</p> <p>Resolved: To approve quarterly financial statement and Clerk to arrange Finance Committee meeting</p>	
101.	To discuss planning applications	
	<p>The following planning applications were discussed:</p> <p>101.1 20/0798/FULL – 12 Dulas Island Close, Caerphilly - Erect conservatory to rear of property</p> <p>101.2 20/0831/FULL – 6 Heol Rhos, Caerphilly - Convert garage into living accommodation and erect single-storey extension</p> <p>101.3 20/0857/FULL – 54 Skomer Island Way - Erect first floor extension over existing garage</p> <p>101.4 20/0838/FULL – 1 Drawbridge Close, Caerphilly - Erect single storey extension</p> <p>101.5 20/0868/TPO – Land adjacent to 1 Bryn Derwen - Carry out various tree works</p> <p>101.6 20/0913/FULL – 21 Clos Cwm Garw - Erect part two storey and part single storey extension</p> <p>Resolved: In the general interest of the community, no objections to be made by the Community Council</p>	

102.	To discuss correspondence received	
	<p>The Clerk reminded Councillors that she forwarded correspondence from CCBC regarding COVID-19 as she received them.</p> <p>Correspondence had also been received as follows:</p> <p>102.1 Email from Repair Café Wales re: Repair and Reuse Fund.</p> <p>102.2 Email from CCBC re: draft IRP Report.</p> <p>102.3 Email from CCBC re: COVID-19 business grants.</p> <p>Resolved: To note the above correspondence</p>	
103.	To discuss Santa event	
	<p>The Clerk reported that the professional Santa had been in talks with representatives from a large local authority, who had decided not to carry on with their Santa tour due to COVID-19. LW had contacted CCBC's Chief Executive to seek advice. It was agreed that LW would follow up this request. It was also agreed that the Santa event should be cancelled, should CCBC advise against carrying out the event. When advice was forthcoming from CCBC, it was agreed that the Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk would decide whether or not to carry on with the event. A risk assessment had been carried out and it had been agreed that Santa would be travelling around the streets of the ward on a sleigh pulled by a 4X4 vehicle, but no gifts would be handed out, as the risk was deemed too great.</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LW to liaise with CCBC to seek advice on carrying on with Santa event. 2. Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk to make final decision – on receipt of CCBC advice - regarding the Santa event. 	
104.	To discuss requests for grants	
	<p>A request for a grant had been received from:</p> <p><u>Energlyn Community Resource Centre</u></p> <p>Resolved: in the interest of benefit to the community, a donation of £500 to be awarded (Local Government Act 2000, s.2 – Wellbeing)</p>	
105.	To discuss Clerk's pension	
	<p>The Chair reported that he had consulted with various bodies and had been informed that Community Councils had a responsibility to contribute the minimum amount of 3.5% towards a pension for the Clerk. The Clerk was placed in a breakout room whilst Councillors discussed the item. The Clerk was called back into the meeting and was informed that the Community Council would contribute 7.5% towards the Clerk's pension. The contribution would be added to the Clerk's NEST pension. The Clerk thanked Councillors.</p>	

	Resolved: Community Council to contribute 7.5% towards the Clerk's pension, to be paid in the Clerk's NEST pension	
106.	To approve payments	
	<p>The following payments were approved:</p> <p>Clerk's salary – November and December 2020 Clerk's expenses – November and December 2020 Inland Revenue – November and December 2020 Members' expenses – November and December 2020 Playworks – payroll - £20 Royal British Legion – wreath for Remembrance Sunday - £18.50</p> <p>It was agreed that the Chair/Clerk would conduct business over the Christmas Recess, as per the Financial Regulations/Standing Orders.</p> <p>Resolved: To approve the above payments and Chair and Clerk to conduct business over the Christmas Recess</p>	
107.	To agree items to be discussed at next meeting	
	<p>The following items were agreed for next meeting:</p> <p>Aneurin House project</p> <p>Resolved: Noted</p>	
108.	To agree date of next Council meeting	
	<p>Date of next meeting was agreed as Thursday, 21st January 2021, following the Christmas Recess. Finance Committee meeting to be held at 6.00 pm.</p> <p>Resolved: To approve date of next meeting as Thursday, 21st January 2021</p>	
	The meeting was concluded at 9.00 pm	