



**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 7.00 PM**

**The meeting was conducted remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Present:** Councillors: G Ead (GE), S ap Hywel (SaH), T ap Hywel (TaH), P Owen Griffiths (Chair), J Scriven (JS), SJ Skivens (SJS), SL Skivens (SLS), L Whittle (LW)

**Also present:** Cllr Margaret Sargent (MS), Helen Treherne (Clerk)

**Minute   Item discussed  
Number**

**129.      To note members' attendance and to receive and approve apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed Councillors to the meeting and welcomed County Borough Councillor Margaret Sargent, who was attending as an observer. Apology received from Cllr A Pennington and apology accepted.

**Resolved: To accept apology for absence**

**130.      To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda**

No declarations of interest received.

**131.      To approve minutes of virtual meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021**

Councillors approved the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

**Resolved: To approve minutes of 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 as a true record**

**132.      To discuss Matters Arising**

The Chair informed Councillors that the litter pick in Castell Maen would take place on the first Saturday in March. (Ref: minutes 21.01.21, item 114.1).

**Resolved: Noted**

**133.      To discuss Police matters**

There was no Police presence, as per agreement and there were no Police matters to be discussed.

**Resolved: Noted**

**134. To discuss items/issues brought up by Councillors/COVID-19 update**

JS reported that there was no street sign for the lane between First and Second Avenue. JS to inform Clerk of numbers required on sign and Clerk to contact CCBC Highways Department.

JS reported that CCBC had taken down every other swing in Trecenydd Park due to COVID-19. The roundabout had also been removed, but a spike had been left and the cone covering the spike had been removed. Clerk to contact CCBC to ask when the park equipment would be replaced and asking when the children could return to the park.

SJS reported that an assault had allegedly taken place in the lane in Trecenydd. Clerk to contact Police to ask for an update.

LW reminded Councillors that anyone over the age of 16 now had the right to vote. It was agreed that the Youth Ambassador, in conjunction with the Chair, would prepare a press release for the Caerphilly Observer.

**Resolved:**

- 1. JS to inform Clerk of house numbers for sign in Trecenydd.**
- 2. Clerk to contact CCBC re: park equipment.**
- 3. Clerk to contact Police for update on alleged assault.**
- 4. Youth Ambassador/Chair to prepare press release re: right to vote.**

**135. To receive verbal reports from Chairs of following committees:**

**135.1 Playscheme Committee – 08.02.21:** The Chair of the Committee reported that the Committee had discussed whether the summer playschemes should go ahead and had agreed that they should, depending on COVID-19 Government restrictions at the time. A lead-in period was required in order for the Clerk to prepare for the playschemes, but they could be cancelled at short notice if necessary. The Committee also discussed other possible events and these would be discussed at future Committee meetings.

**Resolved: Clerk to make preparations for summer playschemes**

**135.2 Events Committee – 10.02.21:** The Chair of the Committee reported that the Santa event had been reviewed. The event had been very successful and positive feedback had been received from residents. Key learning points had been discussed and agreed and a checklist for future events had been approved in order to ensure the safety of all concerned. The Clerk had also been asked to investigate the possibility of a Christmas lunch/afternoon tea for OAP's. The Committee had also discussed the planting of living Christmas trees within the wards.

**Resolved: Noted**

**135.3 Newsletter Committee – 17.02.21:** The Chair of the Committee reported that the future of the newsletter had been discussed. The newsletter had been very successful in the past, but did come with at a cost and was time-consuming. The development of a blog-type facility on the website and a Facebook page had

been discussed, with more frequent information being delivered. The development of an annual report had also been discussed. A Councillor said that the newsletter and blog facility were not mutually exclusive and that both could be done, as some residents did not use modern technology. The Chair of the Committee suggested that articles still be prepared for the newsletter until a decision had been reached by the Committee. A Councillor added that if the Community Council wanted to reach residents, it should be using social media. A Councillor agreed that the blog was a good idea, but added that it could become a lot of work. A Councillor said that the comments facility could be turned off on the Facebook page and that posters could also be placed on notice boards instead of the newsletter. A Councillor said that more notice boards would be needed for this as the Community Council only had one notice board. The Chair of the Committee added that the Community Council needed a variety of means of communication. A Councillor said that articles could be placed in the Caerphilly Observer. It was agreed that the Newsletter Committee would discuss options and report back to a future meeting.

**Resolved: Newsletter Committee to discuss options**

**135.4 Top Shops Working Group:** A meeting of the Top Shops Working Group had taken place and the Chair of the Working Group had prepared a short report for Councillors. There had been several issues over the years at the Top Shops, including absent landlords, for which there was a court case pending, anti-social behaviour, drug-dealing, drug-taking, affray, crime activity, arson, criminal damage, littering. Five recommendations had been made by the working group:

1. Clerk to arrange further meeting.
2. SS to compile report for next Community Council meeting.
3. SD to lead the working group.
4. MS, SD and PO to forward any contact details they have to SS.
5. Clerk to send link to MS for next virtual Community Council meeting.

Councillors agreed that no funding should be given by the Community Council until CCBC had done all it could to contact the owners and force them to take responsibility. It was also agreed that the working group should move forward and that it should include wider representation from CCBC, the Police etc.

**Resolved: Clerk to arrange further Top Shops Working Group meeting and Chair of Committee to report back to next Full Council meeting.**

**136. To receive Youth Ambassador report**

The Youth Ambassador reported that she was in the process of preparing a video to be played in the school assembly, which introduced herself and gave her contact details. A Councillor added that 16 and 17-year olds now having the right to vote was positive news that could be shared by the Youth Ambassador, as young people were not having the greatest of times at present.

**Resolved: Youth Ambassador to prepare video and report back to next meeting**

**137. To discuss planning applications**

The following planning applications were discussed:

- 137.1** 20/1051/FULL – 13 Bryn Siriol, Penyrheol, Caerphilly  
- erect first floor bedroom extension
- 137.2** 20/1094/FULL – 9 Blaen Ifor, Caerphilly  
- erect first floor extension over garage
- 137.3** 20/0024/FULL – Nelson’s Pharmacy, Nantgarw Road Medical Centre, 4 Beddau Way, Caerphilly  
- install ATM-style medicine dispenser
- 137.4** 21/0032/RET – 44 Sword Hill, Caerphilly  
- Retain and complete erection of single dwelling
- 137.5** 21/0037/FULL - 29 St Cenydd Road, Trecenydd, Caerphilly  
- Erect single storey rear extension
- 137.6** 21/0045/FULL – 4 Clos Gwernydd, Caerphilly  
- Replace rear ground floor pitched roof sections with flat roof terrace/balustrade

**Resolved: In the general interest of the community, no objections to be made by the Community Council**

**138. To discuss correspondence received**

No correspondence received.

**Resolved: Noted**

**139. To discuss requests for grants**

**139.1 Urdd Gobaith Cymru**

**Resolved: In the interest of benefit to the community, a donation of £200 to be awarded**

**132. To approve payments**

- 132.1** Clerk’s salary – February/March 2021
- 132.2** Clerk’s expenses – February/March 2021
- 132.3** Clerk’s pension – February/March 2021
- 132.4** Inland Revenue – February/March 2021
- 132.5** Members’ expenses – February/March 2021

**133. To agree items to be discussed at next meeting**

No items identified to be discussed at next meeting.

**Resolved: Noted**

**134. To agree date of next Council meeting**

Date of next meeting was agreed as Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Meeting to be held virtually due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

**Resolved: To agree date of next meeting as Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00 pm.**

The meeting was concluded at 9.00 pm