



**CYNGOR CYMUNED
PENYRHEOL TRECENYDD ENERGLYN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, 16th MARCH 2023 AT 7.00 PM
AT PENYRHEOL COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: Councillors: R Barry, J Davies-Ellis, S Dickens, G Ead, E Llewellyn, A Minton, J Scriven (Chair), SJ Skivens, L Whittle

Also present: PCSO Sarah Barbour, Jessica Jones (Youth Forum), Helen Treherne (Clerk), PCSO Elliot Williams

**Minute Item discussed
Number**

The Chair welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

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

Apologies for absence received from Cllr S L Skivens and apology accepted.

Resolved: To accept apology for absence

199. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Cllr Ead declared an interest in item 212 as he was a member of the Planning Committee.

Resolved: Noted

200. To approve minutes of previous meeting

Councillors approved minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th February 2023.

Resolved: To approve previous minutes as a true record

201. To discuss Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Resolved: Noted

202. To discuss Police matters

Natalie Lang was in attendance to discuss the revival of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. It was hoped to increase the number of coordinators in the Caerphilly borough. By joining Neighbourhood Watch, residents could learn how to protect themselves and the community from becoming victims of crime. Schemes in Torfaen were involved in Community Speed Watch, litter picks etc. There was also a leaflet available on where to report different issues (ie Police, Fire Service, Council etc). It was hoped to build community spirit via the scheme. Neighbourly interaction and looking out for neighbours had decreased in recent years. All coordinators would receive a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator bag. Organisers were running a scam campaign, a campaign with

SmartWater, Go Safe Speed Watch etc at present. The coordinator would be the main point of contact. They were also working with Keep Wales Tidy regarding recycling, community gardens etc. Cllr Whittle suggested that they start on older estates, as there were generally older people living on those estates who may feel more vulnerable. The Clerk was asked to advertise the scheme on the Community Council's Facebook page and website. Cllr Dickens said that the 101 response time was slow and was informed that there were different ways of contacting the Police and it was normally quicker to direct-message via social media.

PCSO Elliot Williams reported that there had been an increase in Acute Behavioural Disturbance (ABD) in the community, normally related to drug/alcohol abuse etc. There was ongoing anti-social behaviour in Y Gelli'r Felin and the CCBC Community Support Wardens were carrying out additional patrols. A warrant for a dangerous dog had been served in Hendredenny, along with a report of a neighbourhood dispute. There were complaints regarding cars speeding through Trecenydd. Cllr Whittle had requested chicanes. Cllr Scriven added that a car had been stolen when a resident had gone back into the house after defrosting the windscreen. There had also been car thefts in Trecenydd. Cllr Skivens reported that he had contacted Royal Mail regarding the dangerous dogs issue and it was hoped that they would work with the Community Council and Gwent Police. He had also contacted dog clubs and the RSPCA. It was planned to do an open introduction on 27th April to launch the initiative. PCSO Williams reported that Skateboarding UK would be using Penyrheol Community Centre the following day for free skateboarding sessions. He added that Sargent Jon Pursey was retiring. Councillors wished him the best of luck and said that he had been very proactive in the area. Cllr Dickens also wished to thank PCSO Williams for his hard work in the community and said that he was also very proactive.

Resolved: Clerk to advertise Neighbourhood Watch on website and Facebook page

203. To discuss items/issues brought up by Councillors

Cllr Dickens reported that the state of the former Aneurin Sports Bar site was very concerning. The building appeared to be in the process of being demolished and there was no hoarding in situ. It was also felt that the building had now become a fire hazard. Cllr Scriven, in his capacity as County Borough Councillor, agreed to email CCBC's Environmental Department to discuss further.

Cllr Whittle reported that he had received a request to upgrade Hendredenny park and he had contacted CCBC.

Cllr Skivens asked Councillors to attend the dangerous dogs initiative on 27th April. He had updated the project plan. Gwent Police would be holding an open air event in Aneurin Park. Councillors agreed to provide financial support for educational leaflets.

Cllr Llewellyn reported that there was a large area around Hendredenny up for sale. Councillors agreed that, due to the topography, it would be difficult to build on and hence was being sold as agricultural land. Councillors agreed that this would be monitored.

Resolved:

- 1. Cllr Scriven to contact CCBC's Environmental Health Department regarding the former Aneurin Sports Bar.**
- 2. Cllr Whittle to liaise with CCBC re: Hendredenny park upgrade.**
- 3. Councillors to attend dangerous dogs initiative launch if available.**
- 4. To provide financial support towards dangerous dogs initiative leaflets.**

204. To discuss Community Empowerment Fund

Cllr Ead reported that CCBC had now decided that the Community Empowerment Fund would be reduced by 50% instead of being completely withdrawn. Organisations would be encouraged to apply over the next year.

Resolved: Noted

205. To receive reports on meetings/events attended by Councillors

Cllr Davies-Ellis reported that she had attended the Events Committee meeting. Cllr Scriven reported that he had visited the foodbank at the Presbyterian Church. Cllr Skivens had also attended the foodbank and had attended meetings regarding the dangerous dogs initiative. Cllr Llewellyn had attended the Events Committee meeting.

Resolved: Noted

206. To receive verbal reports from Chairs of committees

206.1 Events Committee held on 13.02.23: Cllr Llewellyn reported that the Committee had discussed the Christmas events, ie Brunch with Santa at Penyrheol Community Centre on 2nd December and at Trecenydd Community Centre on 3rd December. The Committee had also discussed the Christmas Concert and Tree of Life event on 2nd December.

Resolved: Noted

207. To discuss Communications, Website and Social Media

There were no issues to be discussed regarding communications, website and social media.

Resolved: Noted

208. To discuss CIL Funds

The Hendredenny Drive landscaping project was progressing and Councillors would determine the ongoing cost to the Community Council. The drainage survey for the proposed pump track was also being arranged.

Resolved: Noted

209. To discuss way forward for Biodiversity action plan

Cllr Minton reported that he had arranged a meeting the following week with CCBC to discuss the proposed biodiversity action plan and all Councillors would be welcome to attend. Appropriate areas of land would need to be identified. Councillors agreed to carry out a walkaround on each estate to determine appropriate areas for ecological purposes. Cllr Minton to report to next meeting with next steps.

Resolved: Cllr Minton and Councillors to meet with CCBC and Cllr Minton to report to next meeting with next steps

210. To discuss summer playschemes

Councillors discussed the registration system and resolved that the first come, first served system was the best system at present. Online application was discussed, but Councillors felt it would not be fair to those who were not online. Registration sessions were held at 6.00 pm, to give residents time to get home from work in order to attend.

The online option would continue to be discussed, but the face-to-face registrations would continue for this year.

Resolved: Face-to-face registrations to take place this year

211. To discuss remit of Youth Forum

Councillors and Jessica, a member of the Youth Council, discussed what kind of issues the Youth Council may like to discuss at meetings and Jessica agreed to speak at the school assembly to inform students of the Youth Council's purpose.

Resolved: Jessica to speak at school assembly and report back to next meeting

212. To discuss planning applications

212.1 23/0085/NOTT – Communications site at Grid Ref 314341, Nantgarw Road, Caerphilly

Resolved: In the general interest of the community, no objections to be raised to items 212.1

213. To discuss correspondence received:

213.1 Email from Aber Valley Heritage regarding 10th Anniversary of the opening of the Welsh National & Universal Mining Memorial Garden on 14th October 2023.

213.2 Email from CCBC regarding water fountain in Aneurin Park.

213.3 Email from One Voice Wales regarding Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual report.

Resolved: Noted

214. To discuss non-attendance of Community Councillor

The Clerk informed Councillors that Cllr M Watts had not attended a Community Council meeting for five months. The Local Government Act 1972 stated that when a Community Councillor fails to attend any meeting for six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance, they cease to be a member of the Community Council, unless the Council accepts a reason for the failure to attend before the six months period expires. The Clerk therefore recommended that the Council:

- a) Considers whether there was a reason for potential non-attendance for six consecutive months to avoid forfeiture of office by Cllr Watts; and
- b) That subject to a reason being approved, an extension be specified to the period of non-attendance allowed before forfeiture of office applied.

Councillors were informed that Cllr Watts was currently in poor health due to Multiple Sclerosis and was unable to attend meetings at present. It was therefore resolved to grant Cllr Watts an extension of three months.

Resolved: To grant Cllr Watts an extension of three months

215. To discuss requests for grants

No applications for grant received. Cllr Skivens to contact The Trussel Trust regarding satellite options for a foodbank.

Resolved: Cllr Skivens to contact The Trussel Trust

216. To approve the following payments:

- 216.1** Clerk's salary – April 2023
- 216.2** Clerk's expenses – April 2023
- 216.3** Clerk's pension – April 2023
- 216.4** Inland Revenue – April 2023
- 216.5** Members' expenses – April 2023
- 216.6** Two bus shelters in Hendredenny (from CIL funds) - £8076

Resolved: To approve the above payments

217. To agree items to be discussed at next meeting

No additional items to be discussed at next meeting.

Resolved: Noted

218. To agree date of next Council meeting

Date of next meeting was agreed as Thursday, 20th April 2023 at 7.00 pm, preceded by Finance Committee meeting at 6.00 pm.

The meeting was concluded at 9.15 pm.