

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 20th APRIL 2023 AT 7.00 PM AT PENYRHEOL COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

Also present: Jessica Jones (Youth Forum), Connor Stone (Youth Forum) and Helen Treherne (Clerk)

<u>Minute</u> <u>Item discussed</u> <u>Number</u>

The Chair welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

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

Apologies for absence received from Cllr A Minton and Charlie Parfitt (Youth Forum) and apologies accepted. Cllr E Llewellyn took the Chair as Cllr Scriven would be arriving late.

Resolved: To accept apologies for absence

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

Cllr Ead declared an interest in item 231 as he was a member of the Planning Committee. Also, the Clerk, although she did not have a vote, wished to declare an interest in Item 232.1 as she was General Manager of Aber Valley Wolves Rugby League Club.

Resolved: Noted

221. To approve minutes of previous meeting

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

Resolved: To approve previous minutes as a true record

222. To discuss Matters Arising

A councillor asked if the Neighbourhood Watch officer could be asked to attend a further meeting. Clerk to arrange. (Ref: Minutes 16.03.22, Item 202).

Resolved: Clerk to arrange for Neighbourhood Watch officer to attend further meeting

223. To discuss Police matters

As per agreement, there was no Police attendance at this meeting. Cllr Skivens reported on the Community Council's Dangerous Dogs initiative, in partnership with Gwent Police. The first meeting of the initiative was planned for Thursday, 27th April and there would be attendees from a range of organisations in attendance to discuss the project plan and the

Signature of Chair: _____

Date: _____

way forward. It was planned to create an educational programme and to gather intelligence. Posters/educational material would be produced, along with an open-air event in the park. The community had lost two residents to dog attacks and there had also been other incidents. People had been prosecuted, but more needed to be done. Several councillors would also be attending on 27th April.

Resolved: Noted

224. To receive Youth Council report

Jessica and Connor reported that they had emailed all Heads of Year at St Cenydd Community School and had sent out surveys for all students to complete to ascertain the most common issues students had. They added that they would be happy to talk to students in groups and determine the three main issues. It was suggested that Councillors could also visit the school. Cllr Skivens informed the members of the Youth Forum about plans for the pump track.

Resolved: Noted

225. To discuss items/issues brought up by Councillors

Cllr Ead reported that there had been a lot of fly tipping and litter in the area and this would not be helped by CCBC changing to four-weekly bin collection, as this could lead to more fly tipping. There would be a big litter pick in May. The solar farm consultation was live and Cllr Ead agreed to draft a response from the Community Council.

Cllr Skivens reported that he had attended ongoing discussions at Energlyn Children's Centre, which was owned by Action for Children.

Cllr Scriven reported that he had received complaints about noise/bright lights from residents in Thomasville. It was agreed that the County Councillors would contact the residents.

Cllr Skivens reported that there were still issues in Golwg Y Coed with the build-up of earth/rubble. The owners had been told to remove this. Councillors were also concerned about the water running down from the Redrow estate in Hendredenny. Cllr Whittle had contacted the NRW.

Cllr Lllewellyn reported that she had received a complaint from a resident about having to wait two years to have a water meter fitted as the pavement could not be disturbed until then.

Resolved:

Cllr Ead to draft response regarding solar farm.
County Councillors to visit residents in Thomasville.

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

Cllr S L Skivens reported that she had attended the Playscheme Committee meeting. Cllr Dickens reported that she had attended the Playscheme Committee meeting and had attended a site visit. Cllr Whittle reported that he had made a site visit to Penyrheol Community Centre to discuss biodiversity matters. Cllr Scriven reported that he had visited the Presbyterian Church twice. Cllr S J Skivens reported that he had also visited the Presbyterian Church and would be contacting the Trussel Trust for advice regarding the foodbank.

Resolved: Noted

227. To receive verbal reports from Chairs of committees

- **227.1 Playscheme Committee held on 18.04.23:** The Acting Chair of the committee reported that no applications had been received for the Play Leader vacancy. Councillors were concerned that the playscheme would not be able to go ahead if a Play Leader with the relevant, new Playwork 3 qualification could not be found. In addition, out of the 22 playworker applications, none of the applicants had the required Playwork 2 qualification. The Clerk was asked to look into the possibility of having younger children in the one playscheme and older children in the other. Cllr Llewellyn also reported that shortlisting had taken place and interviews would be taking place in May.
- **227.2 Finance Committee held on 20.04.23:** The Chair of the Committee reported that the committee had reviewed the accounts, budget and quarterly financial statement and it was recommended that these be approved. Cllr Ead was in the process of completing the bank statement reconciliation for the financial year. The committee had also reviewed direct debits, standing orders and financial regulations in readiness for approval at the AGM. Banking arrangements had been reviewed and it was recommended that the Clerk continue to seek another bank in order to spread the funds, which included the CIL funds. The Clerk was also asked to enquire about possible insurance for the funds. As the committee had not been quorate, Councillors at the full meeting approved all of the above.

Resolved:

1. To approve the above recommendations.

2. Clerk to continue to seek another bank and enquire about insurance.

228. To discuss CIL Funds

Cllr Ead reported that they were still awaiting the pump track drainage report. Landscape work on Hendredenny Drive was awaiting a start date.

Resolved: Noted

229. To discuss quarterly financial statement

Councillors approved the quarterly financial statement.

Resolved: To approve the quarterly financial statement

230. To discuss way forward for Biodiversity action plan

As Cllr Minton had given his apologies, it was agreed to discuss at next meeting.

Resolved: To discuss at next meeting

231. To discuss planning applications

231.1 23/0016/DNS – Cwm Ifor Solar Farm

Resolved: In the general interest of the community, a Councillor to draft letter of response from Community Council

232. To discuss correspondence received:

- 232.1 Email re: Local Places for Nature questionnaire
- **232.2** Email from Senedd Insight re: Menopause in Workplace Wales conference

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Resolved: Noted

233. To note completion of 2021/22 audit

The Clerk informed Councillors that the 2021/22 audit had now been completed, with no comments or recommendations. The Clerk was thanked for her hard work in maintaining good financial records.

Resolved: Noted

234. To discuss requests for grants

234.1 Aber Valley Wolves Rugby League Club

Resolved: In the interest of benefit to the community, a grant of £400 to be approved

235. To approve the following payments:

- **235.1** Clerk's salary May 2023
- 235.2 Clerk's expenses May 2023
- **235.3** Clerk's pension May 2023
- **235.4** Inland Revenue May 2023
- **235.5** Members' expenses May 2023

Resolved: To approve the above payments

236. To agree items to be discussed at next meeting

Action for Children's Centre. Partnership initiative. Biodiversity Plan.

Resolved: Noted

237. To agree date of next Council meeting

Date of next meeting was agreed as Thursday, 18^{th} May 2023 at 7.00 pm, preceded by the AGM at 6.00 pm.

The meeting was concluded at 8.50 pm.