



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWM GARW

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Bettws Life Centre Monday 16th June 2014

Members Present:-

Councillor G Davies (Chairman)

Councillors: C G Andrews; D T Griffiths; Mrs D Griffiths; H Griffiths; W J Hillier; T Jenkins; M Jones; J Szeligewicz; M Thomas and G Walters.

Police: None

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and was chaired by Councillor G Davies.

No. ***Minute***

34/15 ***Apologies for Absence***

The Members ***resolved*** to note the apologies received from Cllrs F Hughes and S Maclaren.

35/15 ***Declarations of Interest***

Cllrs M Jones and M Thomas – all BCBC matters

36/15 ***Police Matters***

Apologies had been received from the Police as they were unable to attend. Statistics were received and circulated for all four wards.

Cllr Jones informed the Members that he'd visited Aberkenfig Police Station to discuss Police support for the Community Council and provided the basis of those discussions to the Councillors. The Sergeant will look to attend a Community Council meeting in the near future.

37/15 ***Minutes of the May 2014 Full Council Meeting***

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19th May 2014 are a true record

38/15 ***Matters arising from the May 2014 Minutes***

None

39/15 ***Clerk's Report***

1. Pontycymmer Steps – the official opening went well and there was an article in the Glamorgan Gazette. Cllr D T Griffiths requested that an official photographer is appointed for future events as not all the Community Councillors present were in the photos.

2. Breathing Spaces land – Mrs Emanuel (Head at Blaengarw Primary) contacted the Clerk regarding the school using the playing field on a regular basis. The Clerk informed the Members that until the Council’s solicitor has been provided with a copy of the grant offer letter given to Blaengarw Play Development Group Ltd, this matter is on hold (claw-back conditions need to be considered carefully). The Clerk is waiting to receive this from Cllr Pugh.
3. Public toilet, Parc Calon Lan – the Clerk has emailed Cllr David Sage at BCBC to enquire about the possibility of grant funding to install a permanent toilet facility in Parc Calon Lan. Also, at the SLCC Conference that the Clerk attended, there was a stand by the company ‘Danfo’ who specialise in public toilets. The representative is willing to attend the July meeting to discuss the matter further if required.
Mr John Clarke, Streetscene at BCBC has stated that he is willing to attend the Community Council meeting to discuss the urinal in Llangeinor.
Resolved: the Clerk is to invite Mr John Clarke and a representative from Danfo to give a presentation on the costs of providing a toilet facility.
4. Plant! – the Clerk informed the Council that she’d met with Mrs Travers from the Plant! scheme to discuss the various sites. Mrs Travers suggested blocking access at two out of the three points of entrance to the site behind the Co-op in Pontycymmer as the trees are not progressing well there due to acts of vandalism. This matter was discussed with Mr Liley, the Council’s Land Agent, and he is not keen to do this but instead has suggested in the next planting season that some larger trees should be planted.
Resolved: the Council will arrange to have some larger trees planted in the next planting season.
5. Cut fencing in Darren Fawr – the Warden has informed the Clerk that the fencing has been cut again and he caught a quad bike in the forestry on the 13th June.

40/15 **Correspondence**

1. Garw Valley Heritage Society (GVHS) – thanking for donation
Item 1 is noted
2. GVHS – asking permission for use of the Visitor Centre on 6th September for the Open Doors event.
Resolved: permission is granted for use of the Visitor Centre
3. Clerk to Police – requesting an immediate response for the letter sent in March.
4. Clerk to Police – requesting a reason why no apology for absence was received for the May Council Meeting and why no statistics had been received for Pontycymmer and Blaengarw. The Police have apologised and will ensure that an apology is sent in future if a representative is unable to attend.
5. Police – crime report for damaged bench by Blaengarw lake. The warden has purchased new timber to repair the bench.
6. Police – informing that Groundwork have been notified of damage to A Frames in Pontyrhyl and a boulder that’s been moved in Llangeinor
7. Clerk to BCBC – outlining concerns regarding only one point of entry and exit for vehicle users to/from the Garw Valley. Cllr Phil White has replied stating that funding restrictions prevent a major highways project to provide another access road.
8. BCBC – temporary road closure – lane from Coytrahen to Bettws Road, Brynmenyn overnight on 30th July to undertake bridge inspection

9. BCBC – temporary traffic order on Bridgend Road, Pontyrhyl to undertake water mains diversion. Welsh Water has also notified the GVCC of this.
10. Clerk to BCBC – finalising the brown tourism signs scheme
Items 3 to 10 are noted
11. NRW – response to letter re: motorbikes in Garw Forestry
Resolved: the Members are to keep records of all instances of illegal bikes to use as evidence when corresponding with NRW. The Clerk is also to request that the Police patrol the Braichycymmer/Pontyrhyl area on Sundays from 11.30am onwards.
12. NRW – informing that they are investigating a large group of off-road motorbikes in the Garw on weekend of 7-8th June. The next Legal Forest Riders ride is on 22/6/14.
13. TJ Services Wales Ltd (Mr John Lewis) - requesting that the urinal on Llangeinor Square is refurbished and is offering his workforce to assist with the regeneration
Items 12 and 13 are noted
14. Clerk to BCBC (Highways) – chasing an update on the s106 Agreement signs for the Bettws to Llangeinor Road (Cefn Gelli'r Farm). BCBC have advised that work is due to commence 9/6/14.
Resolved: Cllr Jones is to chase up this matter with BCBC
15. BCBC – asking if the Council is willing to carry out the routine maintenance work again this year on the Community Route. BCBC will pay £600 for this work.
Resolved: the Council is willing to undertake this work for the £600.
16. BCBC – Notice of proposal of “Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places” – the only area affected in the Garw Valley is outside the shop in Llangeinor which will have a limited waiting time of 20 minutes (Mon-Sat 8am-6pm) and no return within 40 minutes.
Resolved: the Council supports the proposal and the Clerk is to inform BCBC of this.
17. Post Office – informing that a decision has been made to move to new premises and branch modernisation in Bettws
18. Cllr M Jones – writing to BCBC regarding the possibility of providing plastic road coverings on grass verges in Bettws. Cllr Jones commented in the meeting about the number of complaints that he'd received about the grass cutting in Bettws.
19. Clerk to BCBC (via Cllr R Jenkins) – requesting that manhole at the top of Pontycymmer steps is replaced. BCBC accused the cement lorry of causing the damage. BCBC initially refused to replace it but have now given the go-ahead for it to be replaced.
20. Clerk to HMRC – reclaiming VAT for 2 months to 31/5/14.
21. Maesteg Children's Choir – invitation for Chairman and Consort to the concert on 27/6/14.
Items 17 to 21 are noted
22. Streetmaster – advertising a bench to commemorate the First World War
Resolved: this item is to be placed on the Agenda for July
23. Land Registry – informing that the easement matter will now be referred to the Tribunal. The Clerk is seeking advice from BCBC on this.
24. One Voice Wales – enclosing “The Voice” magazine – available from the Clerk
25. BAVO – enclosing ‘Involve’ magazine
26. Clerk to Premier Building Services – thanking for the excellent job done on Pontycymmer Steps
Items 23 to 26 are noted.
27. BCBC (Governor Support) – asking for a representative to be appointed on the temporary governing body for the amalgamation of Bettws and Tynyrheol Primary Schools.
Resolved: Cllr D Griffiths was nominated and elected.

28. Reach – invitation to celebration event on 15/7/14

Resolved: the Clerk is to write to Reach to stating that they are disgusted that money is being spent on an event such as this when front-line services are being cut back.

41/15 Planning Matters

BETTWS

Applications

P/14/355/FUL – application for a single storey side extension and rear garage at 74 Pen-y-Mynydd – *no objections*

Decisions

None

LLANGEINOR

Applications

None

Decisions

None

PONTYCYMMER

Applications

None

Decisions

P14/187/OUT – permission granted for 2 detached houses with garages on land north of 12 Bridgend Road, Pontycymer

BLAENGARW

Applications

None

Decisions

None

42/15 Requests for financial assistance

There were two requests received in advance of the meeting and one on the night. The request received at the meeting will be considered in the July meeting.

1. Y Bont – a donation of £100
2. Ogwr Talking Newspaper – a donation of £50

Resolved: that the Council in accordance with its powers under s137 LGA 1972 should incur the above expenditure, which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the

area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure

43/15 Nomination to attend One Voice Wales Meetings

One nomination was received – Cllr J Szeligiewicz

Resolved: Cllr Szeligiewicz is elected to represent the GVCC at One Voice Wales meetings

44/15 Public Health White Paper re: Public Toilets

Resolved: the Clerk is to respond to the Welsh Government to support the proposal that a duty should be placed on local authorities to develop a strategy for the provision of and access to toilets for public use in the area.

45/15 S106 Agreement Road Signs, Bettws

Resolved: Cllr Jones is to chase this matter up with BCBC

46/15 Finance & Accounts

1. The Clerk presented accounts for approval totalling £8,120.19

Resolved: That the accounts were approved for payment

2. Members ***resolved*** to note the Receipts and Payments Account prepared for the period 01/04/14 to 09/06/2014

47/15 Items for the July Meeting

1. Upkeep of Pontycymmer Cemetery (HG)

48/15 Date of the next Meeting

Resolved: That the Council will next meet at 7pm on Monday 14th July 2014 at the Bettws Life Centre

With business concluded the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.10pm

Chairman _____ ***Date*** _____