



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWM GARW

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE
BETTWS LIFE CENTRE ON 17TH JULY 2017 AT 6.30 PM

Present: Councillor H Griffiths (Chair)

Councillors:

Mr C G Andrews
Mr R Clatworthy
Mr J Davies
Ms S Dendy
Mr D Griffiths
Mr M Jones
Ms C Lloyd
Ms M Pinches
Mr C Sage
Mrs R Stirman

Apologies were received from:

Councillor W Hillier
Councillor M Thomas
PCSO M Rees

Also Present: PCSO J Dulson
Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

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A minute's silence was held at the start of the meeting to mark the passing of Councillor Derek Griffiths.

30/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Ms S Dendy	BCBC Planning Committee	Member
Mrs R Stirman	BCBC Planning Committee Garw Valley Railway	Member Member
Mr J Davies	Barrel Rolling Event	Owner Bettws Community Club

31/18 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 2017 ORDINARY MEETING

Councillor S Dendy asked that minute 19/18 be amended to make it clear that it was Councillor S Dendy and not Councillor R Clatworthy who suggested the school competition.

Resolved: The above amendment was agreed and the Minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record with this, the Chair duly signed the Minute Book.

32/18 TO RECEIVE MRS NORMA MORGAN FOR DEMENTIA AWARENESS TRAINING

Norma Morgan gave a Dementia Friends Awareness presentation which was very informative.

33/18 TO RECEIVE PAST COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS FOR A PRESENTATION

Mr G Davies, Councillor R Shaw and Mr J Szeliegiewicz attended the meeting to receive a small shield in recognition of their work on the Community Council during. A shield for Mr G Walters who could not attend would be passed on by the Chair.

34/18 TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES OF SOUTH WALES POLICE

RESOLVED:

The crime figures for June had been included with the papers for the meeting for information and PCSO J Dulson gave some further updates including the process of dealing with abandoned vehicles. There was a request for an update from PCSO M Rees

on speeding vehicles. Councillor M Jones had made a referral regarding the abandoned car by the surgery in Bettws. PCSO Dulson informed Members about ACES - Adverse Childhood Experiences and gave the dates of the next PACT Meetings.

35/18 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JUNE 2017 ORDINARY MINUTES

RESOLVED:

Freedom of Information Request

An invitation had been extended to Rob Jones of BCBC to attend the meeting to discuss this further, he was unable to attend he said that he's happy to answer any points arising from the meeting on this subject by the way of email if he can. Further to this a response has been received from BCBC and is tabled for your information. Councillor S Dendy updated Members on a Wind Farm event she'd attended.

Refuse and Recycling Collection

A copy of Mark Shephard's response to the Community Council's recent letter had been received and was included in the papers.

Newsletter/Residents Handbook

The Clerk is still awaiting a price for a 30 page booklet, in full colour for 3,000 prints. This was discussed further and the Clerk was asked to see if it could be produced in an electronic format.

Model Local Resolution Protocol for Community and Town Councils

The protocol has been endorsed by the Ombudsman and the Wales Monitoring Officer's Group and the intention is for the Council as a statutory body in its own right to deal with low level complaints about conduct. Members are still able to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer, but the intention is for low level complaints this would not be necessary. It was agreed to adopt this policy.

Social Media Policy

This had been distributed at the June meeting for consideration and it was agreed to adopt it.

Daffodil Planting

The individual wards requested daffodils and suggested where they'd like them planted. The work would be carried out a little at a time by the Warden. A total of 16 sacks were required.

Barrel Rolling Event

The Clerk had discussed the event with the organised but the Community Council now understood the event had been cancelled.

Resolved: The actions of the Clerk were noted. It was agreed that the Borough Councillors would meet to discuss the FOI further. The Clerk would order the daffodil bulbs and arrange their planting and that the two policies would be adopted.

36/18 AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED

To Consider Christmas Lights/Decorations Provision

- Llangeinor Ward - two trees as previous year
- Bettws - to meet with the Clerk to discuss on site
- Pontycymmer - to meet with the Clerk to discuss on site
- Blaengarw - same as last year but purchase two additional decorations

To discuss the Community Council's Representatives on Primary School Board of Governors

The Clerk updated Members on the information she'd found out to date. It was agreed that Community Council representatives on Boards of Governors should be serving Community Councillors.

Road Safety

Councillor R Stirman asked for this to be deferred to the September meeting.

Resolved: The decisions on Christmas were noted and the Clerk would work with the Bettws and Pontycymmer Members and action any decisions and meet with Centre Great. The Clerk would look into the Board of Governor representatives further and Road Safety would be deferred to the September meeting. It was resolved that Community Council representatives on Boards of Governors should be serving councillors.

37/18 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED:

That the report of the Clerk be accepted.

The Clerk presented accounts for approval totalling £6,960.87 and it was resolved that the accounts presented were approved. The balance carried forward to

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August/September 2017 was £95,191.64 this included a credit payment of £600.00 received in payment for the Community Path maintenance.

1. The Clerk suggested saving postage/delivery costs by sending out the monthly papers electronically to Members and tabling copies at the meeting.

Resolved: That the action and information given by the Clerk was noted. That the Receipts and Payments for July be authorised and accepted. It was agreed that the papers would be sent out electronically from September.

38/18 CHAIR'S REPORT

Nothing to report this month.

39/18 WARD REPORTS

Pontycymmer: It was agreed that not cutting the grass in the cemetery until after Father's Day was a mistake. It was noted that the bus shelter on Pontycymmer Square would be decorated.

Bettws: The Clerk was asked to write to Step by Step, Celli and G Sage to thank them for their contribution to the community. The quest for suitable land in Bettws for Community Gardens was still continuing.

Resolved: The Clerk would write as requested.

40/18 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE INCL. REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR R SHAW

Councillor Shaw updated Members on a number of things including problems with a particular motorbike in the area and he urged Members to keep reporting it. He talked about problems experienced with the new recycling scheme and what was being done to resolve them.

The Borough Councillors discussed pulling together a Community Access Plan and would meet to discuss this further.

Councillor S Dendy asked if the surface of the turning circle at the top of Railway Terrace could be considered for resurfacing.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk would make enquiries regarding the turning circle.

41/18 CLERK'S REPORT

Warden's Report

Work Undertaken

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- Events field mowed and prepared for Garw carnival.
- Rights of way work carried out in Pontyrhyl and Braichy y Cymmer areas.
- Strimmed around bench overlooking Pontyrhyl.
- Flowers planted in Parc Calon Lan.
- Currently in the process of strimming the entire MTB trail routes and footpaths in Darren Fawr.
- Parc Calon Lan and surrounds grass cut etc.
- Bettws cemetery wall, weeds strimmed away and weed killer applied.
- Stile above Darren Fawr vandalised yet again, repaired again

Outdoors Radar

The Warden had met with a journalist for Outdoors Radar who was writing an article on biking. The Clerk had tabled copies of it for Members to read.

Community Work on the list for this month in addition to routine planned maintenance

- Deep water and danger of drowning signs to be erected on wooden posts, 1 at either end of each lake
- 2 dog waste bins to be erected next to the two dog waste bag dispensers in Llangeinor football field and Pant y Gog play area
- Rights of Way work requested by BCBC on footpaths 37, 53 and 56. In addition the Bridleway 16 Moel Gilau area is overgrown.
- Request from Borough Councillor Shaw to cut back trees on the river bank adjoining the Co-op in Pontycymmer. The warden will assess to see if it's work he can carry out.
- Councillor Stirman has requested a tidy up of the path between the bus stop just above Lluest which leads to Pontyrhyl.
- The Clerk had requested the weeds on the land where the daffodils were planted near Braun's garage to be cut back.
- A list of planned routine maintenance for Bettws has been received from Councillor Jones and passed on to the Warden.

Rota for Opening Visitor's Centre

This has now been finalised and Councillors Stirman, Dendy and Sage will be covering the opening throughout the coming weeks. It was agreed to purchase a tea urn and sell refreshments at the Centre during this time. Councillor R Clatworthy said he may be able to obtain an urn free of charge.

Trail Camera

This was needed due to the on-going problems with vandalism to the stiles.

First Aid Course

The Clerk suggested sending the Warden on a course which specialises in lone working. This would cover self risk-assessment, how to self administer first aid and other aspects of health and safety for lone workers.

Tour of the Park and Lakes

This was postponed due to the Warden’s heavy workload before going on annual leave.

Resolved: All information was noted. The tour of the park and lakes will be re-arranged for early autumn. The Clerk would speak to Communities First about a lone working course. Authority was given to purchase a trail camera at a cost of approximately £120.

Standing Orders were suspended at 9.00 pm until 9.15 pm.

42/18 CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED:

No.	Sender	Details
1.	Plant!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter regarding marking Plant! 10 year Anniversary by holding an event.
2.	Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To place a memorial in Parc Calon Lan
3.	BCBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local election charges for Garw Valley CC Civic Sundays details Christopher Edwards Education Officer BCBC working in relation to the new recycling scheme concentrating on community engagement (see attached) Town & Community Council Forum meeting details 10th July 2017 Love2Walk Festival South East RET June newsletter Bridgend Reach Rural Development Programme - online survey which closes on 21st July 2017. The link to the survey is: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Bridgend_LDS_Evaluation Letter from Mark Shephard in response to the Community Council’s letter regarding the current refuse and recycling collection service
4.	One Voice Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-bulletin June 2017 Save the date - details of Annual Conference and AGM 30th September 2017 Sustainable Management Scheme Details of the Great Place Scheme in Wales

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area AGM Meeting - 10th July 2017 • Details of Welsh Government workshops for local government representatives on higher activity radioactive waste management and disposal • Revised School Organisation Code - consultation document and revised Code are available at https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/school-organisation-code. The consultation ends on 30th September 2017
5.	Matthews Confidential Shredding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the service provided by this confidential waste specialist
6.	Freedom of Information Request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A further request regarding costs at Parc Calon Lan and the Rights of Way
7.	Blaengarw RFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email asking how to apply for funding in relation to the Community Windfarm Grants for Blaengarw for Blaengarw RFC and Blaengarw Primary School
8.	Garw Valley Railway Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update re the Community Path
9.	Valley and Vale Community Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to request a donation towards a playscheme in Blaengarw.

With the consent of the Chair the following correspondence was added as it was received after the meeting's papers had been distributed

No.	Sender	Details
3.	BCBC continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email from Lindsay Harvey, Corporate Director - Education and Family Support thanking the Community Council for agreeing to contribute £8,000 towards the cost of the flood lights at the new Bettws Primary Schools site. • Letter in response to a Freedom of Information request from the Community Council.
4.	One Voice Wales continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public appointment of Independent Member (Information Communications Technology) Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board (application closing date 28th July 2017) • Consultation on the Welsh Revenue Authority having access to criminal powers (ends 2nd October 2017) link at: https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/welsh-revenue-authority-powers-tackle-tax-crime

Resolved: It was agreed that given the council has agreed a policy of no further memorials in Parc Calon Lan that the request would be turned down. The Clerk would write to Valley and Vale Community Arts to let them know that the Community Council had already agreed to support a playscheme this year and future requests should be received at the start of the year.

43/18 PLANNING MATTERS

RESOLVED:

Applications/Decisions Received:

Reference	Proposal	Location
Applications:		
P/17/562/FUL	Ground floor rear extension	36 Alexander Road Pontycymmer CF32 8HB
P/17/509/APN	Prior notification for a new agricultural building to store winter fodder	Celfyddifan Farm Bettws CF32 8UE
P/17/508/FUL	Construction of two wooden stables and a barn	Land off Bettws Road Llangeinor CF32 8PH
Decisions:		
P/17/400/DOC	Approval of details for Conditions 4, 5, 7, 11, & 15 of P/16/731/RES DOC agree	Land adjacent to Woodstock Stud Mountain Lane Llangeinor CF32 8PN
P/17/342/FUL	Loft extension with platform/balcony (fire escape bridge to garden) Conditional consent	34 Bridgend Road Pontycymmer CF32 8EH
Appeals:		
None to date		

Resolved: No objections were raised to any planning applications

44/18 ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2017 ORDINARY MEETING

RESOLVED:

- Road Safety (RS)

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45/17 DATE & VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will take place on Monday 18th September 2017 at 7.00 pm at Bettws Life Centre

With there being no further matters to discuss the Chair thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.15 pm.