



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL CWM GARW

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT HALO LEISURE, PONTYCYMER
ON MONDAY 15TH APRIL 2019 6.30 PM

Present: Councillor R Stirman (Chair)

Councillors: G Andrews
R Clatworthy
S Dendy
H Griffiths
M Jones
R Jones
C Lloyd
G Lloyd
C Gillard-Sage
M Thomas
M Trowbridge

Apologies: Councillor G Walters

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk
PCSO M Rees

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The Chair welcomed Councillor Graham Lloyd to his first meeting.

152/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Ms S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters Friends of the Garw Valley	Member BCBC Member
Mrs H Griffiths	Pontycymer Men's Shed	Chair OAP Centre
Mr M Jones	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member BCBC
Mrs R Stirman	All Bridgend County Borough Matters Pontycymer Men's Shed Friends of the Garw Valley	Member BCBC Related to a Member Member

153/19 TO RECEIVE THE SOUTH WALES POLICE/CRIME FIGURES

PCSO M Rees gave an update on progress and issues over the past month. The January 2019 figures were distributed by the Clerk. Feedback was given on the recent scoping exercises in Llangeinor and Pantygog and concerns were raised about some issues. PCSO Rees asked Members to ask residents to phone in regarding issues.

Resolved: The information was noted.

154/19 TO RECEIVE KARL PATTERSON RE. ACTIVITY SCHEME PROVISION

Karl Patterson of Halo Leisure tabled a sheet with options regarding the Summer Activity Scheme. He updated Members on issues to progress setting up a scheme in Bettws.

Resolved: It was agreed that the Bettws Councillors would speak to Awen about using Bettws Life Centre and this would be an agenda item for May.

155/19 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2019 ORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes were presented for approval.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to make amendments: minute 134 - change the parking issues from Pantygog to the whole valley and minute 149 to add in the word

'above' to read 'the above recommendations by the Employment Committee...' The minutes were signed with the above provisos.

156/19 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MARCH 2019 ORDINARY MEETING

Minute 134/19

PCSO Rees had passed on the Council's concerns to BCBC re parking in the valley.

Minute 137/19

The Clerk had requested a snagging period for the bus shelters in Bettws from BCBC, but as the shelters remain BCBC's property they are responsible for any defects, repairs and maintenance so no snagging period is required.

Minute 140/19

The Blaengarw councillors will provide a litter bin request to the Clerk for the May meeting.

Minute 142/19

The Clerk had informed the Co-op that the council was holding an Easter Egg Hunt and they'd kindly offered to donate 17 eggs and a raffle prize. The marquee had not been purchased as a marquee of the size agreed would need several people to put up. It was noted that the Christmas lights on the tree in Bettws had not been removed.

Minute 143/19

The Clerk provided quotations for additional community council grass cutting at Pontcymmer Cemetery for discussion and consideration.

Minute 146/19

The Clerk had spoken to the Warden about the type of machinery he would need to carry out the grass cutting work requested in Bettws and Blaengarw, but the size of machinery he would need would not fit into his van. A discussion followed and the Blaengarw ward members agreed to continue paying for grass cutting for Glengarw out of their ward funds. The Bettws ward members were unhappy to continue paying for the grass cutting at Pen Parcau. It was suggested that costs were charged to PC Lan and following further discussion out of general funds. A vote was taken and there were 5 votes in favour of covering the costs out of general funds.

Resolved: The updates from the Clerk were noted. It was agreed to write to the SWP Inspector regarding Members concerns re motorcycling in the valley, to request a traffic audit and to raise the missing and faded yellow lines to BCBC. It was agreed that the Events Committee would look at purchasing a large gazebo rather than a

marquee. Councillor R Jones would arrange for the Christmas lights to be removed from the tree in Bettws. It was agreed to put grass cutting in the cemetery on the May agenda. The Llangeinor ward members agreed to pay for the Bettws ward grass cutting at Pen Parcau out of the Llangeinor ward funds for the year.

157/19 STAFF CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (PRESS AND PUBLIC TO BE EXCLUDED)

Matters discussed were of a confidential nature.

158/19 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES AND WARD REPORTS

- Bettws - Councillor M Trowbridge
- Blaengarw - Councillor S Dendy
- Llangeinor - Councillor R Stirman
- Pontycymer - Councillor H Griffiths

Resolved: The updates and information given were noted.

159/19 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL'S ANNUAL REPORT AND DRAFT ALLOWANCES POLICY

The Clerk had distributed the Payment to Members of Community and Town Councils Section of the Review Panel's Annual Report. The determinations were discussed and votes were taken.

Resolved: The Allowances Policy was approved and adopted. Determination 42 - optional payments to up to 5 members in recognition of specific responsibilities was not agreed. Determination 44 - payment of overnight subsistence expenses was agreed. Determination 45 - payment of financial loss allowance was not agreed (Councillors M Jones, G Lloyd and S Dendy abstained from this vote). Determination 47 payment to a Chair of Council was agreed and determination 48 payment to a Deputy Chair of Council was not agreed.

160/19 ONE VOICE WALS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The renewal was £1,107 and had been included in the budget, this was discussed. A vote on whether to renew was taken.

Resolved: Councillors M Trowbridge, M Jones, R Jones, M Thomas and R Stirman voted against renewal. The motion was carried.

161/19 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Payments April 2019:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the £21,224.68 of payments to the end of March 2019 and April 2019 as detailed on the April papers. The balance carried forward to May is an unaudited figure of £31,955.66.

Income:

- £0.09 bank interest had been received
- £1,925.00 Rights of Way agency agreement claim had been received

Claims:

The Clerk had submitted a claim to the T&CC Fund for the Bettws bus shelters and to the insurance for the work carried out whilst the Warden was on sick leave.

Moving Money:

The Clerk requested authority to move all monies in the 3 HSBC accounts into the Treasurers Account and to review the accounts again once the precept money had been received to ensure the council only keeps funds in 1 bank below the £85,000 Financial Services Compensation Scheme limit.

Resolved: The year end to March 2019 and the April payments were approved and authority given to make the payments. The income and claims were noted. The Clerk was given authority to move the money as requested above. In addition, the Clerk was asked to give a breakdown of the Pension Costs and NI & PAYE per staff member on the monthly payments sheet.

162/19 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had attended the opening of Ysgol Gynradd Calon y Cymoedd in Bettws; the school is great and it had been a lovely occasion.

163/19 CLERK'S REPORT

Parc Calon Lan:

The Clerk tabled a list of work undertaken by the Community Warden in the month.

Clerk's Report:

Visitor Centre Car Park Lease

The Clerk had met with the council's solicitor to discuss the on-going issue with the car park lease and updated members.

Cyber Insurance

The Clerk informed Members that this was currently a hot topic and would advise that it needed to be looked into to see if the council needs it, what it covers and how much it'll cost.

IConnect - Pension Training

The Clerk informed Members that she'd attended online training to learn how to input the monthly pension information into their new system. As well as preparing the pension remittance and sending payment each month, it is now a requirement to update the online system on a monthly basis.

Daffodil Bulbs

The Clerk asked Members if they wished to order bulbs again this year, how many and are there plans for planting.

Warden's Report

The Clerk had tabled a copy of the Warden's report including work undertaken, details of a guided walk he'd led, ward work carried out in Bettws and Shwt and issues with motorbikes on the MTB trails.

The Clerk tabled the monthly ward maintenance schedule the Warden carries out and asked Members if they were needed to amend anything.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk was asked to order the following daffodil bulbs: Blaengarw 2, Pontycymer 4, Bettws 4, Llangeinor 1, Parc Calon Lan 1. Councillors would carry out the planting themselves and the Warden would plant the 1 in Parc Calon Lan. The Llangeinor Ward added in an additional job to the maintenance schedule.

164/19 CORRESPONDENCE

The items of Correspondence were noted, the Clerk drew attention to the consultations, surveys and invitations for this month. Also, the request for help from a local University student regarding the monuments in the valley, the concern from a resident regarding off the lead dogs attacking other dogs on the council's leased land.

Resolved: Councillor H Griffiths agreed to help the student and Councillor R Stirman suggested she contact the Llangeinor Local History Group regarding the Miners'

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Lantern. The Clerk was asked to inform the resident that she should report the problem with off lead dogs to the police

165/19 PLANNING MATTERS

A list of planning applications was included in the papers. There were no decisions or appeals this month.

Resolved: There were no observations made about any of the applications.

166/19 ITEMS FOR THE APRIL 2019 ORDINARY MEETING

As above.

167/19 DATE & VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting which will be held at **6.00 pm on Monday 20th May 2019 at Halo Leisure, Pontycymer**, followed immediately after by the Ordinary Council Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.26pm