



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNEDOL CWM GARW

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT BLAENGARW WORKMEN'S
HALL ON MONDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2019 6.30 PM**

Present: Councillor R Stirman (Chair)

Councillors: G Andrews
R Clatworthy
S Dendy
H Griffiths
C Lloyd
M Thomas

Apologies: Councillors M Jones, R Jones, M Trowbridge and
G Walters

No apologies received from Councillor C Gillard-Sage

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

114/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Ms S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters Llynfi Afan Wind Farm	Member BCBC Committee Member
Mrs R Stirman	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member BCBC

115/19 TO RECEIVE THE SOUTH WALES POLICE/CRIME FIGURES

PCSO M Rees gave an update on progress and issues over the past month. The Clerk tabled a graph and narrative of the December 2018 figures. Questions were asked on the anti-social behaviour which was mostly via social media. Concern was raised regarding speeding cars in the valley and what action the police are taking.

Resolved: The information was noted.

116/19 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2019 ORDINARY MEETING AND THE FEBRUARY 2019 EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes of both meetings were presented for approval.

Resolved: Both sets of minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and the Chair duly signed the Minute Book.

117/19 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JANUARY 2019 ORDINARY MEETING AND THE FEBRUARY EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

Minute 101/19 Upper Garw Valley Workshop

The Clerk reminded Members that the workshops will take place on 28th February 2019 in Blaengarw Workmen's Hall.

Minute 102/19 Acknowledging LGBT Month as a Council

The Clerk reminded Members to stay behind after the meeting for a photo to put on the website.

Minute 106/19 Finance & Accounts

The breakdown of the Bettws ward funds had been delayed due to BCBC not providing Christmas invoices. The Clerk had provided the available figures to the Bettws Councillors with an estimate for dressing the Christmas tree.

Minute 109/19 Correspondence

The Clerk has written to OVW to ask them to consider holding meetings in north and south Wales instead of mid Wales as requested. A response has been received from the Chief Executive saying that this would be an agenda item for the next Larger Councils Committee meeting and he'll let the Clerk know the outcome thereafter. He also informed the Clerk that this topic had been discussed a couple of years ago and at the time the Committee had decided to retain meetings in Mid Wales, but OVW are happy to raise it again.

Minute 110/19 Employment Committee Recommendations

The Warden has requested a meeting with the Employment Committee and he has been invited to attend a meeting this week.

As regards the Warden's appraisal that has been carried out by the Clerk with the Chair present in previous years and the Chair has carried out the Clerk's appraisal.

Minute 111/19 Finance Committee Recommendations

The Clerk had invited RES to the March meeting to discuss possible funding, but the invitation was declined as the funding is not open to Community Councils only to registered charities and voluntary groups.

February Extraordinary Minutes:

There were no matters arising from these minutes

Resolved: The updates and action of the Clerk were noted. Councillor S Dendy would make further enquiries regarding the RES funding.

118/19 **BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES AND WARD REPORTS**

- Bettws - Councillor C Lloyd
-
- Blaengarw - Councillor S Dendy
-
- Llangeinor - Councillor R Stirman
-
- Pontycymer - Councillor R Clatworthy

Resolved: The updates and information given were noted. Councillor Clatworthy asked that the request for a donation towards the Men's Shed in Pontycymer be included as an agenda item for the March meeting and this was agreed.

119/19 FRIENDS OF PARC CALON LAN

The Chair, Councillors Dendy and Lloyd, the Clerk, Warden and two members of the public had met with representatives of the Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park to find out how their Friends Group works, how it was set up etc.

Resolved: The meeting with the Maesteg Group was very helpful and they had forwarded copies of the forms and policies they have in place which they'd agreed the Friends of the Garw Valley Group could use. Following a discussion it was agreed that the Group would be set up independently of the Community Council and once the group were set up the council would provide them with a wish lists of jobs they would like carried out. It was agreed that the group would liaise with the council before any work was carried out on the council's leased land. All Councillors present at the meeting agreed to become volunteer members of the group.

120/19 SCHOOL GOVERNOR FFALDAU SCHOOL

Councillor G Walters' term of office had come to an end in January.

Resolved: It was proposed that Councillor Walters remains the council's representative governor at Ffaldau School, but as Councillor Walters was not at the meeting the proposal and vote would be deferred to the March meeting.

121/19 REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR BRIDGEND

The Clerk had copied the relevant pages of the Review for Members.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to see clarification from BCBC on how the changes to the Bettws ward would affect the Community Council and it would be discussed at the March meeting under Matters Arising.

122/19 COMMUNITY AWARD 2018

No nominations had been received.

Resolved: The information was noted. Members decided not to extend the deadline for entries and to run the award again the following year.

123/19 COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES POLICY

A discussion on how councillor allowances will be paid going forward was discussed.

Resolved: It was agreed that a policy was needed to cover the return of money if a Member resigned or was disqualified, if there was a death and when payments would be made in the year. The Finance and Resources Committee were asked to discuss this further and to make their recommendations to full council in March.

124/19 PONTYCYMER CEMETERY

Councillor H Griffiths gave a brief update on the condition of the cemetery. It was agreed that the grass needs to be cut more often than it is at present by BCBC.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation to cut the grass once a month during the growing season. It was agreed that this would be a Garw Valley Community Council initiative and the cost would not be borne by the Pontycymer ward funds.

125/19 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

Payments February 2019:

The Clerk requested authority to pay the £18,405.65 of payments for February as detailed on the February papers. The balance carried forward to March is £ 56,214.30 (which includes a balance c/f of £2,166.07 from BCBC payment for the bus stops in Bettws as £2,833.93 of the original £5,000 has been spent this month)

The Clerk had revised the budget and added in a budget line for the £5,000 from BCBC as income and revised the balance.

It was noted that £86.48 cash had been banked from the Visitor Centre opening over the summer and £225.60 had been received from the Co-op for the purchase of one Christmas motif

Savings:

The Clerk informed Members that some of the expected costs for Christmas decorations and lighting had been less than expected in the wards of Bettws, Blaengarw and Pontycymer due to errors the Clerk had found on the invoices that didn't match the quotations given.

Revised Net Tax Base:

The Clerk informed Members that she had received correspondence from BCBC informing the council that the net tax base originally approved in November 2018 of 2259.62 was going to council on 23rd January 2019 to be re-approved at the revised net tax base of 2259.61. The emailed asked the Clerk to contact them if she had any concerns. As it had no impact on the precept requirement submitted in January, there were no concerns.

Resolved: The February 2019 payments were approved and authority given to make the payments. The savings made on the Christmas decorations were noted.

126/19 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had not attended any events on behalf of the council in this month.

127/19 CLERK'S REPORT

Parc Calon Lan:

The Clerk tabled a list of work undertaken by the Community Warden in the month, including work raised on the Risk Assessment.

Clerk's Report:

Clerks Meeting at BCBC

The Clerk had represented the council at the recent Clerks Meeting at BCBC and the agenda items included the review of electoral arrangements for Bridgend, CAT, and Collaborative Working, Items for the T&CC Forum, Budget Proposals and Council's Forward Work Programme.

Visitor Centre Car Park Lease

The Clerk was meeting with the council's solicitor to discuss the on-going outstanding issues with the lease.

Resolved: The information was noted.

128/19 CORRESPONDENCE

The items of Correspondence were noted, the Clerk drew attention to the consultations, surveys and invitations for this month. Of particular note was correspondence from two residents and four funding requests from the Llangollen International Eisteddfod, Marie Curie Cancer Care, the Children's Air Ambulance Wales and for a donation towards the opening of the Men's Shed in Pontycymer.

Resolved: Three funding requests would be deferred to the March meeting for consideration. As noted in minute 118 above, the request for funding towards the opening of the Men's Shed would be an agenda item at the March meeting. The email from a resident regarding disabled access into Parc Calon Lan was noted and the Clerk would chase up the installation of the K barrier behind the Co-op as discussed with the Rights of Way department at BCBC last summer. The email from a second resident was to offer to use their internet for the CCTV camera on Pontycymer Square and the Clerk was asked to look into this. Item 16 NALC - National Salary Award would be discussed by the Employment Committee.

129/19 PLANNING MATTERS

A list of planning applications, decisions and appeals was tabled.

Resolved: There were no observations made about any of the applications, decisions or appeals.

MEETING OF COUNCIL - 18TH FEBRUARY 2019

130/19 TO DISCUSS STAFF CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (Public to be excluded)

Note: The Clerk left the meeting at 8.05 pm

131/19 ITEMS FOR THE MARCH 2019 ORDINARY MEETING

- Donation to Men's Shed, Pontycymer
- Additional Litter Bins

132/19 DATE & VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 18th March 2019 at 6.30 pm** at **Blaengarw Workmen's Hall**.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm