



GARW VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWM GARW

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT BETTWS LIFE CENTRE ON
MONDAY 16TH JULY 2018 AT 6.30 PM

Present: Councillor R Shaw

Councillors: G Andrews
R Clatworthy
J Davies
S Dendy
C Gillard-Sage
C Lloyd
M Jones
R Jones
R Stirman
G Walters

Apologies: Councillors M Thomas and G Walters

Also Present: Mrs A C Harris, Clerk

26/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Mr G Andrews	Finance - Ffaldau School Alarm	Governor Ysgol Cwm Garw
Mr R Clatworthy	Finance - Ffaldau School Alarm	Governor Ysgol Cwm Garw
Ms S Dendy	All Bridgend County Borough Matters	Member BCBC
Ms C Lloyd	Finance - Ffaldau School Alarm	Governor Tynyrheol School
Mr M Jones	All Bridgend County Borough Matters Finance - Ffaldau School Alarm	Member BCBC Governor Bettws School
Mr R Shaw	All Bridgend County Borough Matters Finance - Ffaldau School Alarm	Member BCBC
Mrs R Stirman	All Bridgend County Borough Matters Finance - Ffaldau School Alarm	Member BCBC Governor Bettws School

27/19 TO RECEIVE MR NEIL ALLCOCK FOR A PRESENTATION

This item did not go ahead as Mr Alcock could not attend.

28/19 TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOUTH WALES POLICE

PCSO Dulson gave an update on progress and issues over the past month. The Clerk tabled a graph and narrative of the May 2018 figures.

Resolved: The information was noted.

29/19 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2018 ORDINARY MEETING

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

30/19 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JUNE 2018 ORDINARY MINUTES

Minute 18/19

Item 8: Discuss the Promotion of the Community Council's Work

This was discussed and it was agreed that each ward would get together to submit a first draft for their ward and submit to the Clerk by 31st August. The Clerk would then collate the information and obtain a first draft of the design and present at the September meeting. Three quotations had been received for the design and delivery of the newsletter the most cost effective being United Graphic Design. A fourth company was suggested.

Item 9: Events Committee

The 5 schools had been approached and 4 replies had been received. However it was suggested that arrangements are made for this to start in the summer of 2019.

Minute 21/19

Item 1: Ffaldau School Alarm

Further information had been obtained regarding funds raised towards this project and following a discussion it was unanimously agreed to pay the cost of the alarm excluding vat £3,271.

Resolved: The information was noted. Each ward would submit a first draft of their newsletter page and the Clerk would obtain a fourth quotation and obtain a full first draft design by the September meeting from the company which gave the cheapest quote. The Clerk along with the Events Committee would progress the School Community Achievement Award. The Clerk was given authority to donate £3,271 to Ffaldau School to cover the cost of their school alarm.

31/19 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES AND WARD REPORTS

- Bettws - Councillor M Jones
-
- Blaengarw - Councillor S Dendy
-
- Llangeinor - Councillor R Shaw
-
- Pontycymer - Councillor H Griffiths

Resolved: The updates and information given were noted.

32/19 AGENDA ITEMS

Item 8: To Consider Council Meeting Venues

The lack of venue for the Llangeinor Ward was discussed.

Resolved: It was agreed to look for a suitable venue to include the Llangeinor Ward into the schedule of meetings.

Item 9: To Approve and Adopt the Updated Standing Order

A draft update had been circulated to all Members. All items in bold are statutory and therefore cannot be changed. Changes since the last update were in red and reflect changes in recent legislation.

Item 10: To Consider the Council's Financial Donations Policy

Several options were discussed including deferring requests until March each year, dealing with requests as they are received and consider supporting one charity a year.

Item 11: To consider the Role of the Community Councillor and what Councillors would like to achieve by the end of 2018/19 and over the next 3 years

At the June meeting the Chair had asked all Councillors to give this item some consideration and to feedback at the July meeting. Each Member gave their response. It was agreed that there is a lack of clarity by the public on what services are provided by the Community Council and what's provided by BCBC. There were concerns about finance given the cuts by the Local Authority and the need to financially plan for the future. There were concerns that by carrying out some of the work BCBC used to do it is in effect a double taxation; the costs associated with Parc Calon Lan was raised.

Item 12: To Consider Water Refill Stations

Members had been provided with information on this scheme and it was agreed that it is one that should be pursued for the valley.

Resolved: The Clerk would look into venues for Llangeinor meetings. The Standing Orders were approved and adopted subject to the alteration on page 9 heading 3w to say 2.5 hours not 3.5 hours. It was agreed to defer any decision on changing the policy until March 2019 and look at what requests we receive up to that date. The Clerk was asked to write to BCBC to pass on the information about the water refill stations.

33/19 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS INCLUDING INTERNAL AUDIT AND CERTIFICATION

1.The accounts submitted totalling £6,245.28 for approval at the July 2018 Full Council Meeting were read and approved. The balance carried forward to August 2018 was £106,871.13. It was noted that £0.03 bank interest had been received.

2.External audit and certification - the Clerk confirmed that the paperwork had been prepared following certification of the Annual Statement at the last meeting and has been submitted to the External Auditors.

3.The Finance Committee had met on 10th July 2018. The Chair of Finance Committee, Councillor J Davies, confirmed that no potential risks to the budget had been identified and recommended the following:

- The Clerk obtains a 4th quotation for the cost of design, printing and delivery of the newsletter and use the services of the cheapest.
- Recommend an increase to £1,500 per ward for Christmas lights in the 2019/20 budget so that each ward can at least cover the cost of a tree.

Resolved: That the action and information given by the Clerk was approved. The Receipts and Payments for July 2018 were authorised and accepted. All recommendations by the Finance Committee were agreed. Other information was noted.

34/19 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had attended Maesteg Town Council's Civic Service, had met with Sustrans regarding the cycle route and attended a meeting at Bryngarw House about the proposed Garw Valley Railway Visitor Centre.

35/19 CLERK'S REPORT INCLUDING UPDATE FROM WARDEN/PARC CALON LAN

Wardens Report

A list of work carried out by the Warden was read out.

In addition he had met with Alice Brown from the Tourism Department at BCBC to discuss the plans for him to lead a guided walking event of the Parc in September. He had also attended the meeting at Bryngarw House about the proposed Garw Valley Railway Visitor Centre, as had the Chair and Clerk. He had led a guided tour of the Parc for Community Council Members too.

Visit Wales had been in the Parc filming and photographing the MTB trails and walking routes. This is linked in with the guided walking event.

MEETING OF COUNCIL - 16TH JULY 2018

Clerk's Report

Visitor Centre Car Park Lease

The Clerk had chased up progress on the lease which has been delayed due to staff changes at BCBC.

Information Leaflets

The Council's leaflet stock has been removed from storage and delivered to the Visitor Centre.

Memorial Bench - Mrs Hollett

The Clerk and Warden had met with Mr Hollett to identify the preferred location for the Memorial Bench, which the Warden will install.

Entrances into the Park

A meeting will take place between the Rights of Way Manager, the Chair, Clerk and Warden on 26th July to check all entrances to the Parc are DDA compliant. In addition they would look at improving entry to Pont Lake via the direction of the Co-op as the frame restricts disability scooters and double prams.

Walk of Parc Calon Lan

Had been attended by 3 Councillors and the Clerk. It was informative and the Warden's knowledge of the Parc was impressive.

Christmas Decorations/Lighting

The Clerk had held meetings with all 4 wards to look at their Christmas decoration requirements for this year.

Maintenance Schedule for the Warden

The Clerk had held meetings with all 4 wards to look at what on-going maintenance was needed and will now pull together a full maintenance schedule for the Warden.

Accident in the Park

A cyclist had informed the Clerk that he'd injured himself in the Parc - see item 11 Correspondence. A copy of the letter was tabled for all Members.

Electric Car Charging Points

The Clerk tabled copies of a letter from BCBC in response to their letter regarding the need for electric car charging points in the valley.

MEETING OF COUNCIL - 16TH JULY 2018

Noticeboard Blaengarw

This has now been installed and Councillor Dendy will be the key holder if residents wish to put up a notice.

Service Plaque for previous Councillor Doreen Griffiths

The Clerk had invited previous Councillor Griffiths to the meeting to receive her plaque but she was unable to attend and asked that it be given to Councillor Jones to deliver. I also mentioned the planting of a tree in Parc Calon Lan in memory of ex Chair Derek Griffiths which she thought was a lovely idea given that he'd given so much of his time to the management of the Park.

Councillor Apologies

The Clerk reminded Members that all apologies should be made to the Clerk not via a 3rd party and a reason for absence given which would be minuted.

Resolved: All information and action by the Clerk was noted. The Clerk was asked to acknowledge receipt of the letter regarding the accident, to pass on the council's insurance details and wish him a quick recovery.

36/19 CORRESPONDENCE

Resolved: The items of Correspondence were noted, the Clerk drew attention to the consultations, surveys and invitations for this month as well as the letter from the cyclist regarding his accident in the Parc and an email from a resident of Llangeinor about the work he's been carrying out. Invitations to the Practical Insights for C&TCs and PSBs and the Annual OVW Conference were noted and the Chair would attend both and the Clerk would also attend the Practical Insights one.

No other action was requested on any items of correspondence.

37/19 PLANNING MATTERS

1. All applications, decisions and appeals information was noted.

Resolved: No objections were raised to any of the planning applications.

38/19 ITEMS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2018 ORDINARY MEETING

- Footpaths (RS)
- Remembrance Silhouettes (RC)
- Portacabin/toilets (CG-S)

Resolved: This was noted and the agenda would be kept open for items received during the month.

MEETING OF COUNCIL - 16TH JULY 2018

39/19 DATE & VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at Bettws Life Centre on Monday 17th September 2018 at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm