

124/15 **Information about the Bridgend Community Transport Scheme**

Mr Graham Cartwright from Bridgend Community Transport Scheme attended and gave a presentation about the different transport options provided by the scheme. It is targeted at individuals who would have difficulty in using public transport and don't have access to a vehicle of their own. In addition, not for profit community groups are able to use the scheme and receive a discount.

The Members thanked Mr Cartwright for his presentation and he left the Meeting.

125/15 **Information about the Blaengarw and Pontycymmer summer playschemes**

Mr Dean Protheroe did not attend the Meeting and so this item was not discussed.

126/15 **Minutes of the September Ordinary Council Meeting**

Resolved: the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15th September 2014 are a true record and the Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

127/15 **Minutes of the October Ordinary Council Meeting**

Resolved: the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 20th October 2014 are a true record and the Chairman duly signed the Minutes.

128/15 **Matters arising from the October 2014 Full Council Minutes**

102/15 (89/15) – V2C has now given permission for the daffodil bulbs to be planted along the grass verges of Heol Pandy, Llangeinor.

106/15 (iii) - Clerk to BCBC (Planning) – requesting information on the enforcement action being taken by BCBC regarding the highways planning conditions for the development on land off New Street, Pantygog. The houses have been brought into beneficial use but the highways upgrades that were planning conditions for the housing have not been performed by the developer. BCBC has replied stating that the Highways Officer considers the drawings unworkable and there is no financial capacity for the Local Authority to undertake the production of suitable drawings. Therefore, no further action can be taken by the Planning Department. However, the Highways Development Officer met with the developer's Consultant on 23/10/14 to discuss drawings and technical matters. The Consultant will now prepare the necessary drawings. To date, the drawings have not been received by BCBC.

The Members requested that this item is put on the Agenda for the January 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting.

108/15 – presentation of Council plaques to the two bronze Commonwealth Games medallists – the Chairman will present the plaques in the January 2015 Ordinary Meeting. The Clerk will send out the invitations.

110/15 – Street lighting, Doctors' Surgery car park, Pontycymmer – the Clerk spoke to Mr Steve Cottrell after the Meeting to request the lights are repaired. Mr Cottrell said his team would investigate. The Clerk sent a chasing email on 4/11/14 and spoke to the Street Lighting

Manager. BCBC have confirmed over the telephone that they will maintain the lighting in this car park.

114/15 - Parking problems outside Stowcroft, Bettws – the Clerk has spoken with Mr Jason Jenkins, Highway Network Manager at BCBC, to request further bollards are installed either side of the driveway to prevent cars parking on the area inside of the bollards. Mr Jenkins is to make investigations and report back to the Clerk on what further measures BCBC can provide.

129/15 **Finance & Accounts**

- a) The reconciliation of the Council's Bank Accounts as at 31st October 2014 was confirmed.

Cllr Mrs D Griffiths, in her capacity as Chairperson of the Finance Committee, informed the Members that she had been to see Mr Gary Jones, Head of Democracy Services at BCBC regarding the establishment of a Finance Committee. Mr Jones will act as the interim Clerk for this Committee. Mr Jones gave Cllr Mrs D Griffiths guidelines to bring back to the Council and Cllr Mrs D Griffiths informed the Members that the Committee will only make recommendations and not make any decisions. All decisions will be made by the Full Council.

Mr Jones felt that the Committee decided on in the October 2014 Ordinary Council Meeting was too large and that only one Member from each Ward was necessary plus the Chairperson. Cllr Mrs D Griffiths said that the meetings may need to be held in the day and therefore the recommendation was that the Finance Committee should be comprised of:

- Blaengarw – Cllr C G Andrews (nominated as Vice-Chairman)
- Pontycymmer – Cllr Mrs H Griffiths
- Llangeinor – Cllr G Davies
- Bettws – Cllr M Jones

Cllr Mrs D Griffiths requested that the Clerk provides hard copies of the last three years of Finance and Accounts to Mr Jones.

Cllr W Hillier requested that his objection is noted in the Minutes as he cannot put his name forward to represent his ward due to the possibility of the meetings being held in the daytime and that he is unable to attend due to work commitments. Cllr Hillier requested that it is minuted that he felt the process was undemocratic and he would have liked the opportunity to have been involved in the Finance Committee.

The matter was put to a vote where 7 Members voted in favour of the above Committee structure with Cllr C G Andrews being elected as Vice-Chairman and two Members voted against the proposal. Therefore, it was:-

Resolved: that the above Committee structure is adopted and Cllr C G Andrews is appointed as the Vice-Chairman

The Council requested that there is a rolling Agenda item every month to receive recommendations from the Finance Committee.

Resolved: with all Members present in agreement, there will be an item on every Agenda from the January 2015 Ordinary Meeting onwards “To receive a report and recommendations from the Finance Committee”.

- b) The Meeting received and adopted the list of payments and receipts from 1st October to 31st October 2014.

Total payments £4,793.52
Total receipts £3,200.00

- c) The Meeting received the Receipts & Payments Account from 1st April to 31st October 2014.

- d) Purchase of a grit bin for Heol y Felin, Bettws - the Members requested that Cllr Mrs M Thomas approaches BCBC as a Borough Councillor to enquire why they wouldn't refill a grit bin purchased privately by the Community Council (approximately half the cost of the price quoted by BCBC)

Resolved: Cllr Mrs M Thomas is to make enquiries at BCBC and feedback to the Council at the next Meeting.

- e) Request for financial assistance towards the cost of the 2015 National Eisteddfod
Resolved: item is left on the table

Cllr D Griffiths requested that all future correspondence is sent to him in hard copy rather than via email. The Clerk noted the request and will send paper copies of all correspondence/documentation in the future.

- f) Request for financial assistance from Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales
Resolved: that the Council in accordance with its powers under s137 LGA1972 should incur expenditure of Twenty Five Pounds (£25) 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

- g) Request for financial assistance from Bridgend Castle Players
Resolved: item is left on the table

- h) Maintenance of the CCTV camera, Pontycymmer Square
Resolved: the Council will meet the cost of the call out charge (estimated cost is £130)

130/15 Clerk's Report

1. Fire damage outside Parc Calon Lan Visitors Centre – youths have caused a small amount of fire damage to the ramp and area outside the cabin over the weekend of 1st and 2nd November. The Police have been informed and know the group of persons involved. The Police are continuing to monitor the area.
Item 1 was noted.

2. Storage of old Community Council files – there were old files being stored in a locked room of Blaengarw Rugby Club. This room was broken into and the files have been taken. The Clerk has the following records at home:

- a. Annual Returns dating back to 1992
- b. Bank statements from 2006 onwards
- c. Minutes from April 2009 onwards
- d. Invoices/receipts from April 2010 onwards

The Members discussed this matter at length and it was:-

Resolved:- that the Police are to be informed. In the future, all old files are to be stored at the Glamorgan Archives in Cardiff.

131/15 Correspondence

1. BCBC – Budget Review Consultation – advising of the Community engagement workshops being held.
Cllr Mrs M Thomas informed the Members that these were very poorly attended events
2. BCBC (Transport) – invitation to a public engagement meeting on 26/11/14 at 16.30pm in the Garw Valley Leisure Centre, Pontycymmer to discuss views, options and preferences in the Local Transport Plan. Invitation open to the public and Community Councillors
Cllr Mrs M Thomas informed the Members that this is a very important meeting
3. BCBC (Planning) – informing of the consultation re: Supplementary Planning Guidance running from 23/10/14 to 4/12/14.
4. BCBC – enclosing Agenda for the T&CC Forum on 27/10/14 and Minutes of the Forum held on 14/7/14
5. BCBC – invitation for two Members to attend the launch of the Bridgend Nature Keepers Project on 21/11/14 at 2pm in Maesteg Welfare Park Pavilion.
6. BCBC (Electoral Services) – review of polling districts, places and station 2014
7. Natural Resources Wales – information about trees in Wales’ towns and cities
8. One Voice Wales (OVW) – enclosing Area Meeting Agenda for meeting on 27/10/14 and Minutes of Meeting on 21/7/14.
9. Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine
10. Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod – providing feedback about the Eisteddfod
Items 1 to 10 are noted.

With the consent of the Chairman, the Clerk reported the following correspondence which had been received after the Minutes had been circulated and was provided for information purposes only (the three clear days’ notice as defined in Sch 12 para 26 of the Local Government Act 1972 could not be adhered to due to the timing of receipt of these items):

11. BCBC – invitation for 3 representatives to attend a budget workshop for Town and Community Councils at the Civic Offices on 5/12/14

Cllr G Walters and the Clerk expressed an interest and all Members present were in favour of these two representatives attending the workshop.

12. BCBC – informing that notifications of planning decisions will no longer be sent to Town/Community Councils or Ward Members.
13. BCBC – informing that the consultation of the draft Local Transport Plan commences on 12th November for six weeks.
14. Bridgend Valley Railway Company – thanking for the reply indicating that the Council will provide support and informing that the platform building exercise is 75% complete.
15. Welsh Government – informing that the Public Health White Paper consultation summary report is now available.
16. Marie Curie Cancer Care – request for financial assistance. This will be put on the Agenda for the January 2015 Meeting.
17. Richard Price Centre – request for financial assistance of £438.90 towards the cost of a pantomime
The Chairman informed the Council that he had given a donation to the Richard Price Centre out of his Chairman's Allowance.
18. Pencoed Town Council – forwarding a motion to be put forward at the next meeting of OVW regarding pensions. This will be put on the Agenda for the January 2015 Meeting.
19. Ms Leanne Tomlin – notifying of a charity Christmas Fayre in Bryncethin Memorial Hall on 29/11/14 at 12pm in aid of Cancer Research Wales.
20. OVW – details on upcoming training events
Items 12 to 20 are noted

132/15 **Planning Matters**

- i) P/14/702/FUL – application for a conservatory to the front elevation at The Cottage, Pontyrhyl – *no objections*
- ii) P/14/674/FUL – application for proposed horse stables at Cefn Gelli Fields, Bettws Road, Llangeinor – *no objections*
- iii) P/14/38/ADV – application to install 19 interpretation panels at various sites in the Bridgend County Borough area – *no objections*

With the consent of the Chairman, the Clerk reported the following Planning Applications which had been received after the Minutes had been circulated and was provided for information purposes only (the three clear days' notice as defined in Sch 12 para 26 of the Local Government Act 1972 could not be adhered to due to the timing of receipt of these items):

P/14/739/FUL – application for extensions and alterations to Fforchlas Cottage, Pontycymmer - *the Members do not require an extension of time to consider this application as there will be no objections*

P14/745/OUT – outline application for 26 building plots and access road and removal of modern barn on land north of Bryngarw Farm – *the Council is to request an extension to the deadline for comments*

133/15 Update on the Breathing Spaces land

Mr Jolley, Assistant Chief Executive at BCBC, will provide an update for the Community Council by the January Ordinary Council Meeting

134/15 Nomination for representative on the Bridgend Local Access Forum

Cllr G Walters expressed an interest in being nominated to be a representative on this Forum. ***Resolved: The Council supports Cllr G Walters with his nomination as a representative on the Bridgend Local Access Forum.***

135/15 Clearance of overgrowth on path between Bettws Club and Heol Dewi Sant, Bettws

Cllr D Griffiths informed the Members that the path hasn't been cleared. The Clerk is to make enquiries with BCBC.

136/15 Bridleways and pathways

This item was withdrawn as Cllr Mrs H Griffiths who tabled the item was not present.

137/15 To discuss the lack of lollipop lady in Blaengarw

No resolution was passed on this matter.

138/15 To discuss the presentation of a plaque to the representative from the Garw who played for Wales in the Indoor Cricket World Cup

Resolved: a plaque will be presented to this representative to recognise her wonderful achievements.

139/15 To discuss the correspondence regarding the building of a geo-thermal power station in Blaengarw

Resolved: the Council is not willing to support this proposal.

140/15 Items for the January Meeting

1. To discuss the validity of this Council's decision to reject Cllr J Szeligiewicz's nomination as Vice-Chairman in May 2014

The Chairman wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

141/15 **Date of the next Meeting**

Resolved: That the Council will next meet at 7pm on Monday 19th January 2015 at the Blaengarw Workmen's Hall

With business concluded, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.45pm

Chairman _____ **Date** _____