

## **MINUTES OF CWARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **HELD ON 15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019 AT THE YSTRADOWEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** Cllr V Morgan presided  
**Clerk:** A Pedrick  
Brynaman Ward: Cllrs W Churchill, S Thomas, J G Davies, M Morgans  
Cwarter Bach Ward: Cllrs A Howells, R Pearce-Higginson, H Taylor, L Baker  
Llynfell Ward: Cllrs A Dady, D B Belcher  
Minute Taker: Karen Lewis

**ITEM 1: APOLOGIES:** Cllrs A Lewis, A Hicks and M Thomas

**ITEM 2: DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Declarations by members of personal interests form was circulated.

**ITEM 3: MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr R Pearce-Higginson and seconded by Cllr M Morgans.

Matters arising – Item 3 – Vacancy in the office of Councillor. The Clerk informed members that there had been no request for an election for the Llynfell Ward pursuant to Sect 87 of the Local Government Act 1972, consequently, under Sect 116 Local Government(Wales) Measure 2011 the Notice of Co-option was displayed within Cwarter Bach with a closing date of 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019. One person had already shown an interest.

Item 8 number 5 – The Clerk has put together the EDF electricity bills which have been unresolved since Asset Transfer and the County Councillor will take up the matter with the department and Officers involved.

**ITEM 4: ASSETS SUB COMMITTEE**

Cllr A Howells updated everyone. Sub-Committee have attempted to complete the application form for the People and Places Grant. Mrs Derith Powell has offered to help but the last meeting was cancelled. Hopefully there will be another meeting next week. Mr John Morgan is also arranging a meeting next week regarding Maes Elwyn. Hopefully Cllr A Howells will have a more positive report at the next meeting. The Clerk has received a response from Bryn Rovers regarding fees for the use of grounds for next year. Their preferred option would be to pay an annual sum by monthly instalments, and they quote a sum of £1400. They are also requesting further works to be undertaken at Bryn Avenue Park. Council need to cover their costs and Bryn Rovers have a restricted budget so we need to revisit this again. We need to ensure that our ground is looked after and maintained. Their request for

fencing should be down to them and they could apply for grant funding. We need these facilities to be used, Cllr J G Davies commented and we want to further sport within our community. We need to total up all of our maintenance costs. The insurance for the fields is down to us but the playing insurance is down to the organisations using them.

Also letter received from Mr Gareth Smith, football club saying that there are areas on the field which are worn and needs some attention and maybe re-turfing. Agreed to ask Wrenvale.

#### **ITEM 5: PRIDE IN THE COMMUNITY**

Cllr M Morgans updated the meeting by saying that the baskets and boxes are going to be changed and the winter plants from them will be on sale at the Black Mountain Centre on Saturday morning between 10.30-11.30 am. Replanting existing baskets and boxes, Quids In have agreed at price of £10 per basket and businesses will be asked to pay this back. Some pots will be refurbished by first week in June. The seats will be erected soon but a couple need a concrete base. Older seats will be power washed and a couple will be replaced. Cllr S Thomas said that grass has grown around the seats opposite Brynteg Dentist and it is CCC responsibility. CCC are only cutting twice per year now. Cllr J G Davies will email CCC to cut this area urgently. Cllr M Morgans asked if CCC could provide us with a list of grass cuttings and dates. Cllr J G Davies thought they could provide this. There are two troughs on Ystradowen square which needs cleaning out and taken to Quids In.

#### **ITEM 6: PLANNING**

No Planning applications received.

#### **ITEM 7: ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following were agreed for payment. Cllr J G Davies proposed Cllr S.Thomas seconded.

SSC Christmas lighting	£ 185.76
EDF Electric Maes elwyn	£ 41.64
EDF Electric Ystradowen Pavilion	£ 101.19
J H Lewis Water Heater,Bryn Ave Park	£ 125.52
JH Lewis New Pump Ystradowen Park	£ 393.60
Zurich Insurance Annual Insurance Policy	£1,771.62
EDF Electric Ystradowen pavilion	£ 64.06
Mr A. Llewellyn Internal Audit 2018/19	£ 140.00
Wrenvale Contractual Work	£3,312.00
Quids In Baskets for Y'dowen Centre	£ 110.00

Agreed that once EDF bills have been sorted that we look for a new supplier.

Brynamman Kids Club wall has been vandalised and will have to be rebuilt, the police have been involved. approx cost will be £300 and the work needs to be done asap. The Club are thinking of installing CCTV cameras. The post needs to be locked as there are now cars driving onto the field. Cllr W Churchill will take this forward to PACT meeting. The Clerk asked if bus shelters are Community Council responsibility as he had received a complaint about Station Road shelter. Cllr J G Davies will ask CCC if they will replace this Bus Shelter.

## **ITEM 9: CORRESPONDENCE**

The following letters had been received and were read out by the Clerk:-

1. For info – letter received from Lyn Roderick, Womens cycling tour held in Carmarthenshire on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and will be coming through Brynamman.
2. Letter received from Dr Gilby on the closure of the Cwmllynfell surgery as not fit for purpose. There is a public meeting being held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7pm at Cwmllynfell Hall. Community Councillors should attend and show their concerns.
3. The Internal audit report was presented to members and there are no matters to bring to the attention of Council. Total balances and reserves at the end of the 2018/2019 financial year was £132,276.
4. Correspondence from Grant Thornton gave notice of the External Audit for the financial year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and the completion of the Annual Return. Again the Clerk reported on the statement of income and expenditure / receipts and payments and Annual Governance Statement which all members approved and consequently was signed by the Chairperson Cllr V Morgan.
5. Email from Lles Brynaman Well-being. Mental Health issues and they are a family from Brynaman raising awareness of suicides and are looking to raise monies to open a centre. Ffion Harris has raised £740. Letter to be discussed by the Finance Sub-Committee. Many organisations have signed up to this and they meet on Mondaay evenings at the Brynaman Church Hall between 7-9pm and are in the process of drawing up a constitution and opening a bank account. All agreed that we should support.
6. Request from Ystradowen Community Centre for monies towards 20% match funding against an application sent to Mynydd Y Betws Wind Farm for new windows and boiler for the centre to become more energy efficient. Total cost is £13,110 so looking for £2,622. Cllr A Dady and Cllr D B Belcher left the room as they had declared an interest. Application was discussed and Cllr A Howells was concerned that we would be setting a precedence for match funding grants in the future. The Centre had already received a £6,000 grant when the kitchen was fitted. Members wondered whether given a £5,000 grant towards the running costs of the centre if they could take the money from this? Cllr H Taylor asked if the Centre could do any fund raising? Cllrs A Dady & DB Belcher returned to the meeting and Cllr J G Davies was requested by the chair Cllr V Morgan to report to them on the members

feelings and decision. Cllr W Churchill said that the Community Council are fully supportive of the grant application but cannot support match funding. Cllr A Dady and Cllr D B Belcher were very disappointed on the outcome. A meeting will be arranged with both centres regarding grant funding applications and until this Council have a decision on their own grant applications then they are not in a position to support any small grants as this could be looked at as double funding.

7. Letter from CCC regarding Code of Conduct Training. Members should all take up on the training opportunities. Carmarthen County Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and Llanelli Town Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019. All members made a note of these dates and signed up for training.
8. Email received about support for a better playground at Bryn Avenue and are there any plans for improvement. In response members agreed that they will consider this through the finance and asset sub-committee meetings and will look into it further.
9. Draft Annual accounts received from the Black Mountain Centre for 2018/19 which will be signed off in July/August 2019. Encouraging figures with an increase in turnover from 191k to 236k. They are requesting their donation early on in the year as this is when the cash flow is at its most vulnerable. Proposed by Cllr W Churchill and seconded by Cllr J G Davies to give donations of £5,000 to Ystradowen Community Centre and £10,000 to the Black Mountain Centre immediately. All members in favour.
10. Cllr J G Davies asked to convene meeting for the forthcoming Urdd Festival which is coming to Llandovery Carmarthenshire in 2021. Public meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.30pm Aelwyd yr Urdd Brynaman .All welcomed.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019 AT  
THE BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE AT 6.30PM**