

MINUTES OF CWARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON 7th AUGUST 2019 AT THE BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE

PRESENT: Cllr V Morgan presided
Clerk: A Pedrick
Brynaman Ward: Cllrs W Churchill, S Thomas, H Taylor, M Morgans
Cwarter Bach Ward: Cllrs A Howells, R Pearce-Higginson, L Baker
Llynfell Ward: Cllr A Strutt
Minute Taker: Karen Lewis

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES: Cllrs M Thomas, A Hicks, J G Davies

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 meeting held on 10th July 2019 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr A Howells and seconded by Cllr S Thomas following amendments to item 5, Committee will meet with Nigel & Quids In, Item 6 Development Worker for Cwarter Bach, Item 10 Aldwyth Davies not Aldwydd and Cllr JGDavies had been invited to a meeting where Jeremy Miles AC was discussing health provision.

The minutes of a special meeting held on 30th July 2019 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr S Thomas and seconded by Cllr W Churchill. The meeting to discuss a governing document in relation to the grant for People and Places stage 1 application was accepted by members. The meeting last week was to formulise, accept and sign the document. All members should have a copy and the Clerk will action this by the next meeting. This document supersedes all previous documents, although some adjustments will need to be discussed.

ITEM 4: ASSETS SUB COMMITTEE

Cllr A Howells informed members that the application form for the development officer had been submitted and an acknowledgment received and we should expect to hear if it has been successful within 30 working days of the email dated 30th July 2019. Cllr A Howells thanked Cllr S Thomas for her hard work in helping with the computer input.

A meeting was held with Bryn Rovers AFC (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) on 17th July 2019 where the impact of the occurrence of the 6th July 2019 were discussed. It was emphasized upon Bryn Rovers that the Council as owners/lease holders of the ground have complete authority on when matches/events can be held. Unofficially, due to possible misunderstanding Bryn Rovers had gone ahead with

playing on 6th July in defiance of an email from the Council Clerk stating that the field should not be used on that day. It was again emphasized upon them that this was unacceptable and that in view of this, the match arranged for 27th July should not be played at Maes Elwyn. In view of the short notice, it was agreed that the match arranged for 20th July could go ahead. Bryn Rovers agreed to this. During the meeting it was agreed that an article of agreement regarding use of Cae Criced should be drawn up as soon as possible.

Cllr A Howells had received a phone call from Mr Haydn Jones (Bryn Avenue) whose house is directly behind one of the goal posts, complaining that the footballs were regularly coming into his garden. Cllr Howells went down to the field, where officials of Bryn Rovers were preparing to re-instate the goal posts. In the discussion that followed it became quite clear that a problem exists. Mr Jones feels as a resident of Cwarter Bach his rights need to be protected. Whilst Bryn Rovers are providing a valuable service to the community of Cwarter Bach a resolution to the problem is necessary. One suggestion which is agreeable to both Mr Jones and Bryn Rovers is the erecting of a netting to prevent footballs from entering the garden. Wayne Preston, Secretary of Bryn Rovers has provided names of 5 possible providers. Cllr A Howells feels this is a reasonable request and thinks that we should be making urgent enquiries with a view to installing this netting. Cllr A Strutt asked whether a fee for the use of the pitch had been agreed yet and whether the cost of this could be incorporated into it. Cllr M Morgans said that it is still being looked into at present and prices will be brought back to another meeting. Ystradowen Communities has some netting available in Ystradowen so members will arrange with Bryn Rovers and Haydn Jones to view. Cllr A Howells said that 2 weeks ago lads were trying to knock down the fence to get into the cricket field. Police are involved.

ITEM 5: PRIDE IN THE COMMUNITY

Invoice received from Quids In which will need querying. Flowers are now in place. Cllr M Morgans feels that it is awkward asking Wrenvale to do some of the jobs as he is not providing the flowers. Quids In have said from the start that they are unable to water the flowers as they have no facility.

Benches will be placed in position before the next meeting. Cllr V Morgan and A Strutt will liaise as to where to put the bench in Ystradowen. A couple more benches maybe required. Wording is required for the plaques. Cllr R Pearce-Higginson asked about the old seats – Wrenvale are disposing these seats.

Cllr M Morgans said that footpaths are still an issue and maintenance is required as soon as possible. Sub-Committee will look at this. A grant was given to maintain 10 most used footpaths but others are not being maintained. He asked if we could have money and responsibility for the remaining footpaths. Cllr R Pearce-Higginson thought this made sense but asked what the cost implications would be. Cllr A Strutt said that the community service provide free services for grass cutting etc as long as they are given a month's notice. Cllr A Howells agreed with Cllr R Pearce-Higginson and felt that maybe we could maintain once they are in a fit state to take on. Cllr L Baker said we could look at the ones we get regular complaints on. Proposed by Cllr M Morgans and seconded by Cllr R Pearce-Higginson that we write to the County

Council to ask if we could adopt all our footpaths. Cllr W Churchill asked about bridle paths as there are only 2 in the area. Cllr L Baker had received a complaint about footpath 60/12/3 which is overgrown at the bottom and never gets cut. The Clerk will speak to Wrenvale. Cllr M Morgans said about hedgerow very overgrown on Bryn Road. County Council issue, needs referring to County.

ITEM 6: ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following were agreed for payment:-

EDF Energy Bryn Avenue Park 15 mths Electricity	1013.00
EDF Energy payment Maes Elwyn pavilion	43.10
EDF Energy payment for Ystradowen pavilion	50.01
DL Builders pavilion roof repair Kids Club	160.00
SSE Christmas lights	38.67
Wrenvale Nurseries & Landscaping-Contractual Work	2184.00
KDY Electrics – safety check on power boxes	50.00

ITEM 7: CONSULTATION REGARDING REMOVING PUBLIC PAYPHONES

Correspondence received from Head of Planning on a consultation exercise to close and remove BT pay phones at all locations. Ystradowen box is on private land so they need to be asked. Proposed by Cllr M Morgan and seconded by Cllr A Strutt to keep them. All voted – 5 for, 2 against and 1 abstained. The Clerk to convey our observations to the County Council.

ITEM 8: CORRESPONDENCE

Code of Conduct Training

The Clerk circulated copies of training materials used by members and a discussion took place. Cllrs C Churchill and H Taylor had attended the training meeting and felt that it wasn't very useful, pages on power point were just read out. Cllr R Pearce-Higginson previously attended and thought it was good. Cllr H Taylor felt that they actively discouraged any suggestions. A specific meeting was suggested for Clerks.

The Clerk has written to the county public lighting department to inform them that we are signed up to the street lighting project. A list of all our lighting columns is available for information.

Correspondence received from St Catherine's Community Church Hall, Brynaman seeking financial assistance for maintenance costs. This will be placed before the next finance sub-committee meeting. Cllr A Howells suggested a representative attend a meeting to explain what is needed. Cllr R Pearce-Higginson can get information by the next finance meeting on 28th August 2019 at 6.30pm at the Black Mountain Centre. Cllr V Morgan asked if Cllr A Strutt could attend.

Polling station staff required – presiding officer and polling clerk as there has been a lack of interest. Embarking recruitment campaign for elections. The Clerk will put this on the notice board. Next scheduled election 7th May 2020. Cllr A Howells thinks that we should have a public notice board that can be seen. Discussion to be had with the Black Mountain Centre.

Cllr A Howells asked if friends of Amman Valley Hospital could be put on next month's agenda to discuss representation.

Cllr H Taylor mentioned public transport issues. Cllr W Churchill suggested someone attend a meeting of Council. The Clerk will try and find out who to ask? Lee Walter, Deputy Minister for the Welsh Assembly?

Cllr A Strutt had attended a solar farm meeting and wanted to know if he could meet them regarding community funds available. He can attend as a resident.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING 4th SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 6.30PM
AT YSTRADOWEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**