

## **MINUTES OF QUARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019 AT THE YSTRAD OWEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

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

**ITEM 1: APOLOGIES: Cllrs M Thomas, A Hicks, A Howells, R Pearce-Higginson**

**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 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr M Morgans and seconded by Cllr W Churchill. Cllr J G Davies abstained as he was absent.

**ITEM 4: ASSETS SUB COMMITTEE**

Cllr M Morgans informed the meeting that we were unsuccessful in our grant application for a Development Officer. Cllr A Howells will consult with Derith Powell when she returns from her holiday as to the reasons for the refusal and with a view to possibly re-applying on Derith's advice on how we address these reasons. This will be brought back to our next meeting for a decision. Cllr J G Davies thanked Cllr A Howells for the email and expressed his disappointment with the grant refusal. He suggested getting the information bureau involved and will arrange a meeting. Cllr S Thomas asked how the other Development Officer's jobs in Cwmaman and Llanon were funded. Cllr M Morgans has been trying to contact John Morgan regarding the big grant and is hoping to hear back from him this week to arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

A meeting with the soccer team regarding leasing the field will be rearranged hopefully next week as they have been unable to attend prior to tonight's meeting. Update on the footballs going into people's gardens at Bryn Avenue - Netting from Ystrad Owen was unsuitable. The goals have been reinstated to their initial place. Costings are being looked into for options. Cllr J G Davies reiterated that Bryn Rovers have to realise that we own the park and they have to adhere to our rules. Cllr A Strutt asked about the possibility of them having a sub-committee who in turn

will report to us on what they are doing but they will inherit all the costs of running the field. Cllr M Morgans said that this is something that is being looked into including the legal side. Cllr W Churchill said that this could be a problem as the children's playground is part of this.

Cllr W Churchill asked if she could order some more signs "not letting dogs off leads" as she has had a complaint that there has been aggression to local people when approaching dog walkers on Cae Cricket field. Agreed that 6 bilingual signs could be purchased.

Cllr J G Davies said that face book had had comments on the lack of children's playground at Bryn Avenue. The safety side of things need to be looked at first. A Pedrick said that we have previously had an inspection on park sites. It was agreed that we obtain prices for 3 types of apparatus. Cllr W Churchill said that the site is looking better now than it has in a long time. Wind Farm could be a possibility. Ystrad Owen park needs a new surface but this is likely to cost around £40,000. Cllr M Morgans proposed that these sites be looked at for costings and maybe we could apply for a grant and Cllr A Strutt seconding this. A Pedrick suggested contacting the company that did Maes Elwyn site and all agreed for him to contact them for quotations.

J G Davies has asked the question about the soccer team and after school club sub-leasing from us.

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

Cllr M Morgans reported that 2 boxes outside Black Mountain Centre have been damaged. This had been reported to the police but as no evidence gained the case has been closed. Cllr W Churchill will bring this to the PACT meeting tomorrow evening. These won't be replaced now as too late in the summer. They will be discussed in the next sub-committee meeting. Hanging baskets will hopefully be provided by Wrenvale next year but a meeting will be held between them and Quids In soon.

Seat erection is in the pipeline. Ystrad Owen want to relocate the metal one to the bottom of Pen y Graig Road instead of the wooden bench currently there. A more comprehensive report will be brought to the next meeting.

Cllr A Strutt said that there is a zip wire above the park and if he could get this taken away free of charge could he have permission. All agreed.

#### **ITEM 6: FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

Met on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and 9 applications were discussed:-

1.	Bryn Rovers AFC	£500
2.	St Catherine's Community Church Hall	£250
3.	Canolfan Lles Brynaman	£500
4.	Gwyl Cerdd Dant Llanelli A'r Cylch	Nil
5.	Cwmllynfell Hall play schemes	£250
6.	Carmarthen Federation of YFC's	Nil
7.	Eisteddfodd Gobaith Cymru Sir Gar 2021	£500
8.	Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales	Nil
9.	Carers Trust Crossroads Sir Gar	£150
TOTAL		£2,150

Proposed by Cllr M Morgans and seconded by Cllr L Baker

The Carers Trust awarded 1200 individual benefits in 2018/19. Requested that we ask for specifics in our area. A Pedrick will write inviting them to attend one of our meetings.

Christmas lights were also discussed and it was agreed that the main squares will have a lit up tree. Brynaman are looking at the old lights to put around lamp posts which SSE will deliver and erect. This will save us about £3,000. Agreed that the current cross street feature in Ystrad Owen will stay up for this year and will then be removed in the first week of January and no longer used. It costs £400 to take these down and £400 to put up.

## **7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Build a 4 bed detached house to the rear of Arwyn Road, Brynaman – no objections

Pegasus Group – notice of proposed planning development at Bryn Henllys for solar farm. Cllr M Morgans asked if we could send a letter to Powys County Council regarding compensatory monies available as this will affect Ystrad Owen.

## **ITEM 8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The following were agreed in retrospect payment:-

Welsh Water – Ystrad Owen	£86.55
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## **ITEM 9: AMAN VALLEY HOSPITAL REPRESENTATION**

Cllr A Howells requested this item for the agenda but due to his absence it was agreed that this be deferred to the next meeting.

## **ITEM 10: SOCIAL CARE IN THE COMMUNITY**

Cllr H Taylor requested this item for the agenda to discuss ways in which we could maybe spend our monies to care for the community. A suggestion was instead of spending on Christmas lights whether we could contribute towards those in need. Cllr M Morgans suggested the food bank in Gwaun Cae Gurwen which always struggle for donations in the summer. Cllr J G Davies said that we need to let the local people know of the food bank which is located in the library on a Friday between 10am – 12pm. Cllr W Churchill suggested that the food bank attend a meeting to explain the process in getting food. Cllr H Taylor felt that in our society we think what the solution is rather than asking what the needs are. Cllr A Strutt mentioned starting up a youth council for ages 13-18. This would be good as they would look at what children want. Cllr M Morgans said that there isn't anything available to children of that age during holiday times. Need somewhere they can congregate to meet up and maybe have some refreshments and a pool table. Cllr W Churchill asked if we could find a contact within the Ammanford school to get this started. We totally neglect the youngsters in our meetings. Cllr J G Davies will look into this.

#### **ITEM 11: CORRESPONDENCE**

A Pedrick read out:-

Passed around a book which he had received on the review of population constitutues and number of members per ward.

Complaint from a resident on Chapel Street about the street lighting.

Grant Thornton feedback on audited accounts. Annual return is in order of normal practices, however Council failed to comply with standing orders. Awarding contracts - standing orders are needed to avoid unlawful expenditure ie SSE Christmas lighting contract. Should have had 3 quotations through a tender process. Terms of reference needs completing for all sub committees. Also highlighted that the council are holding a high level of reserves.

Cllr V Morgan thanks A Pedrick for all his hard work on behalf of the council.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2019 AT 6.30PM  
AT BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE**