

MINUTES OF CWARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON 6th NOVEMBER 2019 AT THE BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE

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

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES: Cllrs H Taylor

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 2nd October 2019 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr L Baker and seconded by Cllr R Pearce-Higginson.

ITEM 4: ASSETS SUB COMMITTEE

Cllr A Howells read out his report (see attached). No real update on the grant situation. Cllr M Morgans received a text message from Mr Jon Morgan regarding the Johann Cruyff Foundation Disabled Fund. Applications to this site could apply for a 80k grant. Mr Jon Morgan is currently on leave.

A memorandum of agreement compiled for Cae Criced (copy attached). All in agreement. Cllr A Howells will now send to Bryn Rovers for signature. Cllr L Baker commented on the line marking statement and Cllr A Howells explained and all agreed with comments. Cllr R Pearce-Higginson asked if this will be replicated next year. Cllr A Howells said that it will be reviewed. Proposed by Cllr A Hicks and seconded by Cllr M Morgans that the agreement be sent .

ITEM 5: PRIDE IN THE COMMUNITY

Cllr M Morgans reported that winter planting has now been done in pots but not boxes yet. Not doing hanging baskets. Asked if all members could please walk the footpaths within their areas and report any issues to him on wicket gates, hand rails etc Highways have still not responded to the complaints about Llandeilo Road and Cwmgarw Road. Cllr J G Davies said that further consultation would need to take place before changing anything. Seats are being erected over the winter. Litter and dog fouling are still an issue. Cllr W Churchill said that the signs are being put up.

There is a tree overhanging the pavement on Llandeilo Road and the Station Rd Old bus shelter is leaking so needs replacing which is a County issue. Issue of dumping materials on Bryn Road but this is on private property. The structure being built on land at Bryn Rd is currently on stop and Cllr J G Davies has spoken to the Enforcement Officer.. Cllr A Hicks said that she has received complaints on the following: 43 Station Road black bin bags by the building attracting vermin. Enforcement Officers have visited. The collapsible post on the footpath near the Kids Club needs locking as cars are driving up the path. Is it practical to lock post ? A property at Heol y Gelynen are conducting a business from the premises which is an eyesore. Cllr J G Davies will take this on board. Tree issue has been reported. There is a mess outside the old Post Office with litter. The wall at the bottom of Quarry Rd and the steps have been smashed up. - been reported to the police. Horse Riders still using cycle path. Cllr S Thomas asked about plaques on the seats – this is in hand. Cllr M Morgans reported fly tipping by the Pensioner's Hall which is an ongoing problem. Cllr J G Davies said the person has been warned. Cllr V Morgan said that Cefnbrynbrain is not being cut by the roundabout. may not be our asset. Cllr A Strutt suggesting asking youth offenders to cut it. Cllr J G Davies had a complaint about parking at New Road, Ystradowen Carmarthenshire C.C Officer coming out to look at the problem. Cllr M Morgans said that he had a site visit with Andrew Morgan from the County on 11 June and he is still awaiting his report. Cllr V Morgan asked if councillors could attend this meeting – yes. The Clerk highlighted the footpath at the bottom of the Berrington which this Council has maintained since it was improved under the Job Creation Scheme in the 80's, however it was not registered on the definitive footpaths map. The current land owners holding full title to all the land wish to dedicate and adopt a public footpath at this location and in order to move the process forward the Community Council must agree to the proposal. All members agreed to the footpath dedication which the County will process.

ITEM 6: FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Cllr R Pearce-Higginson updated everyone on the overall state of the finances and appropriate minimum amount to keep as a reserve. The balance on 1 November '19 was £161,116. Agreed that a reserve amount of £50,000 sounded reasonable. Current commitment this year is approximately £57,000. Cllr A Howells said that we need to look at possible big commitments and we may need money to match fund grants. Possible projects were discussed – Flood lights at Maes Elwyn even though this is a County responsibility we may need to put a temporary measure in place as immediate necessity for group use. Cllr A Strutt suggested using Ystradowen on a temporary basis. Cllr J G Davies has passed this onto an officer to complete a report. The Clerk said that the lights have been checked by KDY Electrics and there is power going to them and he read out the electricians report stating that all the fuses have blown and we would need a specialist within this field to carry out the work. The C.C.C'S. energy team Officer attended and has taken the meter reading and handed the Electricians findings so the matter is in their hands Cllr L Baker suggested using work lights. All agreed to wait for County reply. If MIND don't like

the suggestion of using Ystradowen in the meantime, temporary lighting will be looked at. Cllr M Morgans agreed to speak to MIND.

The following spend were put to the committee for approval:-

1. Christmas Lighting – SSE have quoted on 3 locations which does not include Cefnbrynbrain due to unsafe underground electricity which is very unfortunate. Proposed to utilise the 9 existing garlands in Brynaman, is £4224.74 plus vat and £1387 + vat for bulbs. Cllr W Churchill asked if we could contact someone in Cefnbrynbrain to explain and agree that something will be put in place ready for next year. Cllr L Baker asked if we could use solar lights on trees and this will be looked at for Cefnbrynbrain. Total cost is £5611.74 +vat which also includes the removal of the cross-road light at the bottom of Berrington Hill. All agreed that this is a good way forward. Proposed by R Peace-Higginson and seconded by Cllr A Hicks. The switch on is scheduled for 30th November 2019. The Clerk being mindful of the financial regulations commend under Reg 11.1 for specialist service such as are provided by SSE that this regulation need not apply in this instance and we accept the only estimate in the sum of £4224.74 +VAT.

2. Various projects:

a Netting – portable/fixed for Bryn Avenue and Maes Elwyn sites due to footballs going into gardens. This will need to be discussed with the householders at Bryn Avenue and 2 houses at Maes Elwyn to identify what is needed. Agreed to speak to Bryn Rovers about splitting the cost. All agreed.

b CCTV at Maes Elwyn due to vandalism on the bowls area and dressing rooms. Members will ask the police at the PACT meeting tomorrow. Get costings. All agreed

c Chairs Chain of Office has come to its end of life. Cllr M Morgans proposed we look at costings of a new one possibly with a medallion which can be kept. Proposed by Cllr R Peace-Higginson and seconded by Cllr M Morgans that the clerk will look into costings. All agreed.

d Children's park at Bryn Avenue and some replacements at Ystrad Owen. Approximate costings would be 10k but not sure if this includes installation. Cllr L Baker pointed out that it was only for 2-7 years olds and could a wooden house be looked at for older children. Cllr W Churchill proposed that we start looking at quotes and Cllr M Morgans seconded. All agreed.

e Group will look at sites including the Cefnbrynbrain tennis courts.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None Received.

ITEM 8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Royal British Legion	Wreaths for Cenotaphs	80.00
Amberol	liners for baskets	60.54
Quids In	Baskets & Planters	1194.00
Designz	Dogs on Lead Signs	75.00
Turnock Lighting	Festoon, Bulbs etc	1164.40
K D Y Electrics	Checkout Floodlights & Meter	51.00
Wrenvale Nurseries	Contract Wk & Footpaths	5126.00
EDF Energy	Electricity –Ystradowen Pavilion	48.91
Urdd Gobaith Cymru	Tranche payment 2020 Eisteddfod	500.00

The Clerk read out an email he had received “dogs must be on lead” Reply from the council should state that we have responsibility in accordance with the law.

Discussions took place about footpaths maintenance. Cllr A Strutt suggested letting us know the dates of all cuttings All agreed.

Proposed by Cllr A.Howells seconded Cllr M.Morgans that the accounts be paid.

ITEM 9: TRANSPORT

Cllr A Howells is concerned that Carmarthenshire C.C. decided to relocate a cycle path on Cwmgarw Road which is causing danger as cars are parked everywhere blocking entrances. PCSO’s say to report this to CarmarthenshC.C Cllr J G Davies will arrange a site visit but there is no easy answer. Cllr M Morgans suggested calming humps. Traffic division based in Cross Hands should be dealing with this. Cllr M Morgans will ask tomorrow at the PACT meeting. Cllr J G Davies is meeting the environmental department on Friday so will ask about it then

ITEM 10; FOOD CLUB

Cllr D Belcher updated on the free food club. Neil Morgan, Health and Social have been unable to supply the figures requested for tonight’s meeting so this will be deferred until December’s meeting. Cllr L Baker sent Cllr V Morgan information on pay as you feel cafes where you pay what you want. The Maerdy Centre are currently doing this where people collect take away meals and anyone can use this facility which is based in Tairgwaith. Cllr J G Davies spoke to Carmarthenshire C C regarding a contact name for the food banks to ask them to come along to one of our meetings Cllr M Morgans will ask the one at G.C.G..

ITEM 11 BRYNAMAN SWIMMING POOL

Cllr A Hicks updated on the Brynaman swimming pool meeting which she attended. They are working really hard but the building has been broken into and is being used by drug users who have been gathering there. PCSO Dayton and Julie have had a site visit and the locks have now been changed. PCSO Dayton is sorting out insurance for the clean-up day as it is being filmed next June.

ITEM 12: CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk read out:-

Carmarthenshire County Council letter asking for any donations of new toys for gifts for children over Christmas. Cllr J G Davies will let them know that we do our own.

Cllr J G Davies read out an email that he had received from the Brynamman Lido regarding the clean-up and will keep us posted.

Pension Regulator –The Clerk confirmed that the Council has complied with the Act.
-----Noted.

Street light on Chapel Street. Received another email. Cllr R Pearce-Higginson suggested that we write to all the residents for their view and the decision must be unanimous.

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