

## MINUTES OF CWARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019 AT THE YSTRADOWEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

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

**ITEM 1: APOLOGIES:** Cllr 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 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr L Baker and seconded by Cllr A Hicks. Noted that Cllr L Baker suggested a wooden play structure and not a play house under Item 6.

**ITEM 4: ASSETS SUB COMMITTEE**

Cllr A Howells updated the meeting. Members met with Cllr David Jenkins, Executive Board member C.C.C. services today who suggested ways of getting grants in a different way. Should be in a better position to update at the next meeting. Cllr M Morgans has spoken to Mr Jon Morgan who is waiting to send off the lottery grant application and a lady from Amsterdam will be visiting on 6 January 2020 in respect of the Johann Cruyff Foundation Disabled Fund. Will discuss way forward at the next meeting. Cllr A Strutt informed members that Celtic Energy, through Neath Port Talbot have £140,000 available for grants at the moment.

The memorandum of agreement compiled for Bryn Rovers, Cae Criced has not worked out as we originally hoped. The Clerk received a letter from them asking for further information before signing the agreement. They wanted to see receipts for expenditure, questioned the length of time of the lease and whether we would be able to get store security for the team nets. Discussions took place as to why these things were needed and it was suggested that maybe they didn't have the finance. They cancelled the last meeting with Councillors. Cllr J G Davies suggested that we stop them using the current facilities until this is sorted. The Clerk has written to them for further dates. Proposed by Cllr A Howells to send them a date as we have been very flexible, meeting to take place before Christmas week commencing 16 December 2019. seconded by Cllr A Strutt. All in agreement.

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

Cllr M Morgans reported that he had phoned Wrenvale to chase them up about the seats and boxes so this is ongoing. The sub-committee have not met since the last meeting. Could all Councillors walk their footpaths. Railings need looking at on the bottom of the steps and wicket gates need installing at the top of the other steps at Tircwm Cefn Bryn Brain gate needs sorting. Cllr J G Davies said that new members should be informed of which paths are ours, and which belong to Carmarthenshire County Council. Discussions took place around regular cleaning of paths for health and safety reasons as they can be slippery and dangerous. Cllr H Taylor suggested putting warning signs up to make people aware. For information for Cllr J G Davies – Cllr W Churchill informed that at the top of Coronation Road the footpath access is completely blocked. Cllr J G Davies has already reported this. Cllr M Morgans suggested we write to the County Council and ask them for an allowance for the upkeep of all footpaths. The Clerk informed members that it is a highway function and as such is the remit of the County Council. We are currently getting £2,200 per annum towards the maintenance of the 10 paths we are responsible for. Cllr M Morgans is concerned about the County Council taken all the paths back in case the maintenance isn't carried out. The Clerk suggested that we hand them all back and Cllr A Dady agreed. Cllr A Strutt suggested asking Wrenvale for a price for the maintenance of all paths. The Clerk will write to Jake Morgan/Ian Jones County Council asking if they would give us maintenance monies towards all the paths. Cllr J G Davies was asked what his opinion would be on this and he replied saying that the paths are always put on the back burner and that a lot of Community and Town Councils are undertaking this work themselves. Cllr A Hicks said about the mess in the river by the old Post Office – it is not our responsibility.

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

The Clerk read out costings and recommendations on the proposed park apparatus from Sunshine Playgrounds

Bryn Avenue park which hasn't got any current facilities – Total cost £18,310

Ystradowen park – Total cost £18,496

Rhosamman park – the swings are in a poor state.

Sunshine Playgrounds stated that all sites should be maintained on a regular basis and anything that is 40% plus worn should be condemned. Report from the visit will also be sent to the Council.

Cllr J G Davies suggested applying to the Celtic Energy grant fund for Bryn Avenue which is a 20% match funded grant of up to £10,000. The Clerk asked if 3 quotes would be required as this is a specialist field. It was agreed to send in an application and see what the outcome would be. Proposed by Cllr W Churchill that we apply for this grant seconded by Cllr M Morgans. We will then look at Ystradowen Park once we have an answer on the Celtic Energy grant.

The Clerk stressed the importance of having a maintenance contract in place for these parks for health and safety reasons. Cllr J G Davies will follow this up with the County Council as we have paid them for site visits and have never had a copy of the reports. Cllr L Baker asked if we could use a company directly. Cllr M Morgans proposed we look at Kompan Ltd and Cllr W Churchill seconded. The Clerk has one quotation from Kompan. We are currently paying the County Council £140 per annum for an Annual Inspection. Cllr A Strutt said that he would look into cheaper equipment options for the Ystradowen park.

**ITEM 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - OBSERVATION**

Consent to display advertisement for Black Mountain Centre. -- No objection

**ITEM 8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Quids In Winter Planting	924.00
Wrenvale M'tenance November 2019	600.00
EDF Pavillions B'Ave & Y'dowen	79.07

**ITEM 9: CHRISTMAS LIGHTING**

There is a problem at Rhosamman due to the Cherry Picker not able to go on site. An alternative cherry picker is being looked into with SSE..The cross street lights at the bottom of Berrington Hill are not on.The Clerk will check with SSE. Cllr J G Davies said that he had received a phone call from a lady in Cefn Bryn Brain to say that she has a suitable tree for lighting. Solar lighting was mentioned in the last meeting. He will ring her back and say that it's been discussed and we will look at possibilities but we will be carrying out work on the electrical cable ready for next year. The Clerk will write a letter to Cllr A Dady's daughter r explaining this and she in turn will inform Cefnbrynbrain residents.

**ITEM 10: CORRESPONDENCE**

Food bank –Karen from GCG Food bank has agreed to make a 15 minute presentation to members at the next meeting.  
HSBC – The Clerk's signature was not accepted for Telephone Banking –Re submit. Cllr V Morgan reminded everyone that the Committee have still not bought anything for Mrs Derith Powell for her hard work completing the grant application. Agreed that Cllr A Hicks would sort this out.  
Cllr W Churchill told everyone that in the last PACT meeting the new PC spoke and informed all present that they were stopping the monthly meetings due to the room hire fee. They would now be offering weekly surgeries instead. Cllr M Morgans and Cllr W Churchill agreed that they could have the room free of charge at the Black Mountain Centre. They agreed to have another meeting this month and Cllr W Churchill asked everyone if they could please attend and show their support. Cllr J G Davies suggested writing to Mr Dafydd Llewellyn Commissioner to put our views forward. Cllr A Howells said that it is a 2 way things which will be lost. He mentioned CCTV to them for Maes Elwyn site which they would welcome. No further development on this yet. Cllr A Strutt will ask a security company to contact the Clerk to provide a quotation and the Clerk will chase up the quotation for Ball Netting for Maes Elwyn and Cae Criced.

Cllr V Morgan wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT 6.30PM  
AT BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE**