

MINUTES OF CWARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE**

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

The meeting commenced with a presentation from Karen who is a volunteer at the Gwaun Cae Gurwen food bank.

**ITEM 1: APOLOGIES:** Cllrs H Taylor and D B Belcher

**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 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr A Hicks seconded Cllr L Baker.

**ITEM 4: ASSETS SUB COMMITTEE**

Cllr A Howells updated the meeting. Since 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 meeting, Cllr David Jenkins Executive Member for Corporate Services and Finance for CCC met with us regarding applying for grant funding from CCC. The impression he gave was that we could apply in the current financial year. However, a further meeting took place with Carolyn Owen from CCC to discuss grants and she said that the 'well was dry'. She provided information on other grants available and suggested going back to the Community Group option to apply for grants for the Community Council. We now need to evaluate our next step. Last Monday a meeting took place with three members from Holland regarding the Cruyff Foundation and Mr Jon Morgan. They had a look at the site and visited the school. No promises were made but following the meeting Mr Jon Morgan rang Cllr M Morgans saying that it looked very promising and will forward application forms. They were very impressed with the school. 100 pupils there are special needs and Mr Lee James the Head Teacher gave a good synopsis. He informed them that the pupils only get 1 hour a week of leisure time and 2 hours in the summer time as they haven't got the space for them to play. Also mentioned was the new MIND and Walking groups. No figures were mentioned. Mr

Jon Morgan is also following other contacts through WRU etc. Planning permission could be required for the site, the Clerk will liaise with the planning authority.

Following last month's Council meeting a meeting took place on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 with Bryn Rovers. No confrontation as was expected. They are concerned about the Ball Netting on both sites which we agreed to and consultations and quotations are being looked at. Agreed to have a site meeting to see where their goal posts can be kept. They are looking for a long lease of Cae Cricket which we are not prepared to give but we have asked them to find out what the minimum time period is they require. They asked if the children's park could be re-sited as their future plan is to progress through the leagues where they would then have to provide a stand. Agreed that we wanted to keep control of the site. The suggestion to relocate the park to the old Cornish unit building compound. needs further discussions. Members also felt that there would be objections to a Stand at this location and in all probability. felt that it could take Bryn Rovers 4+ years to get to this position anyway. Cllr V Morgan suggested asking the people within the ward if they wanted the park relocated. If the park moves we would need more money for the floor surfacing. Cllr M Morgans asked if the park equipment could be moved in the future if need be. Cllr W Churchill said that the proposed site is in a mess and would CCC take responsibility for the clearing. Cllr J G Davies suggested speaking to the council about the site. Proposed by Cllr A Howells that we use the current site and this was seconded by Cllr S Thomas. All members agreed.

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

Cllr M Morgans asked which 10 paths are our responsibility. The Clerk will list the footpaths maintained by the Community Council and circulate to members. In the meantime write to CCC requesting to maintain all footpaths within Cwarter Bach provided we are financially rewarded. The Clerk reiterated that footpaths were a statutory obligation of CCC. A quote for a handrail on f/p 60/13 discussed last month be not entertained as it is a County footpath. The Clerk has spoken to Martin Murray who is arranging to carry out replacement hand rails.

It was suggested that the Council should start taking photographs of groups that receive donations. We should also advertise this on our website. Could do a regular advert in the local newspaper. Cllr A Howells suggested having a drive for publicity and an area for displaying minutes and news etc. Suggested to set up a body to report to the next meeting to improve publicity of Cwarter Bach. Cllrs S Thomas, M Thomas, W Churchill and R Pearce-Higginson agreed to do this. Plaques donated by and in memory are being put in place. Cllr A Strutt asked if Ystradowen can have one of the old steel benches. Agreed. Cllr W Churchill mentioned to Cllr J G Davies about the highway pot holes in Rhosamman. Cllr A Hicks mentioned the water coming down Mountain Road from the Old Vicarage. Cllr J G Davies has taken photos. The pavement is always soaking and it is dangerous.

Next meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 10.30am. Cllr V Morgan suggested going for a walk as part of this meeting along some footpaths.

## ITEM 6: FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE- REPORT

The Clerk presented his report from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 meeting:-

A sum of £7,000 had been set aside in the financial estimates earmarked for donations/financial assistance under the local Government Act 1972 Sect137 ie benefit to the local inhabitants. Following the previous meeting there remains £4,050.

Three applications have been received to date :-

1. Ammanford Talking News
2. Cancer Information and Support Service
3. Age Cymru Sir Gar

Listed below are the estimated outstanding amounts to be paid in this financial year:-

1. Footway lighting	10,564
2. Salary	2,050
3. Christmas lighting	3,455
4. Wrenvale nurseries	1,600
5. EDF energy	450
6. CCC Led lights F/P	2,500
7. Donations	4,050
8. Contingency	5,331
TOTAL	30,000

Allowing for a £50,000 Emergency Fund, the current financial balance is £130,404. Donation to the Pride in the Community donation was discussed and all agreed that this would increase from £6,000 to £8,000

### 2020/21 Precept

After much deliberating and not wishing to burden the ratepayer it was resolved to increase the precept from £99173.61 to £104,173.61 which relates to a cost of £107.66 on a Band "D" property an increase of £5.16. It was proposed by Cllr A.Howells seconded Cllr T.Strutt that this be accepted.

Quotations for equipment for two parks had been received and following the Celtic Energy Grant being not viable it was agreed to continue with the purchase of equipment for Ystradowen Park and Cae Criced. The quotations read as follows :-

Ystradowen Park Equipment and installation £18,496.25.

Cae Criced Park Equipment and installation £18,310.35. Option 2.

The work to be completed within this financial year.

The Post Office donation was discussed. Cllr M Morgans presented figures and expressed that this is a community benefit. After discussing this it was clarified that the shop and post office were separate entities with separate accounts and audit have confirmed the legalities on the funding position. Cllr A Strutt wanted clarification on our legal rights as we did not want to be seen as subsidising a business. We currently donate £5,000 a year and without the support the post office

would not be viable. Cllr J G Davies suggested donating the money to the Centre instead of the post office Cllr W Churchill proposed that we change the format of the donation to BMC to £15,000 and this was seconded by Cllr A Hicks. All agreed. Cllrs M Morgans, J G Davies and M Thomas declared an interest

**ITEM 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - OBSERVATION**

Conservatory Replacement at Pencae, Bryn Rd, Brynaman. No objections.

**ITEM 8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Marie Thomas*	200.00
EDF for Cae Criced Electricity	76.92
HMRC Tax to 5/1/20	405.90
EDF Ystradowen Pavilion Electricity	49.79
Wrenvale Contractual Work	876.00

\*Vouchers have been purchased for Mrs Derith Powell but she is yet to receive it as her mum is unwell. Cllr A Hicks has arranged to meet her on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 10am at the BMC.to make the presentation. All members are welcomed to attend.

**ITEM 9: CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence received from the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the 2020/21 Police Precept Consultation. The average Band D property currently pays £248.56.The PCC wishes to raise Band D precept by £2.----Noted.

PACT – advertising ‘have a cuppa with a coppa’ in the Ystradowen Community Centre during the day time from next Tuesday. PACT meeting will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at BMC as no one attended the January meeting.

Cllr A Howells asked for an agenda item for the next meeting –assistance for Clerk.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2020 AT 6.30PM  
AT YSTRADOWEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**