

MINUTES OF CWARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

HELD ON 5TH FEBRUARY 2020 AT 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
Cwarter Bach Ward: Cllrs L Baker, R Pearce-Higginson
Llynfell Ward: Cllrs A Strutt, A Dady, D B Belcher
Minute Taker: Karen Lewis

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES: Cllrs A Howells, A Hicks

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 8th January 2020 were accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr R Pearce-Higginson and seconded by Cllr M Morgans.

ITEM 4: ASSETS SUB COMMITTEE

The Chairperson wished Cllr A.Howells a speedy recovery after his spell in hospital. Cllr M Morgans informed members that the Sub Group hadn't met since the last meeting. however, members were informed that the County Council were meeting with himself a representative from the Cruyff Foundation, Mr Jon Morgan and the Brynaman CP School head teacher on 12th February 2020 to discuss grants for the Maes Elwyn project.Members would be updated at the next meeting.

Cllr W Churchill wanted clarification on a minute in the last meeting regarding setting up a publicity sub committee which hasn't been done. She was not aware of action being taken but is supportive of such sub-committee but would like someone else to take the lead and suggested having action points in all future meetings. Cllr L Baker agreed to be the lead and a meeting will be convened on 26th February 2020 at 6pm in the Black Mountain Centre. Agreed to attend Cllrs W.Churchill, A.Strutt, M Thomas, S.Thomas, R.Pearce Higginson and H.Taylor.It was proposed by.Cllr W Churchill that all future items should have a discussion followed by a conclusion following on with action points. Cllr R Pearce-Higginson seconded. . Cllr J G Davies reported that the issues on Mountain Road and the pot holes in Rhosaman have now been rectified.

Assistance for the Clerk was discussed. Although he was asked to bring a list of his responsibilities to the meeting, he felt that after 37years it is time for change and will tender his resignation as Clerk within the next 12 months. In the meantime it would

be worthwhile going forward for a Sub- committee to discuss this vacancy. Maybe a post could be advertised for someone to shadow the Clerk. Cllr J G Davies agreed and proposed May AGM in situ and advertise for a deputy clerk to assist with a view of taking over. Item to be put on next month's agenda to draw out line of duties. Cllr A Dady suggested finance sub-committee put money to one side and make recommendation to full meeting. Cllr M Morgans said that they would need to know number of hours. The Clerk currently works 15 hours per week from home. ACTION: To put on next month's agenda. Clerk needs to be bilingual.

ITEM 5: PRIDE IN THE COMMUNITY

Cllr M Morgans informed members that they have met a couple of times this month. There are still concerns over footpaths. He thanked the Clerk for sending out the list of 10 paths Cwarter Bach are responsible for. These seems to come under Pride in the Community's budget but should be separate and we need to make sure that our 10 are pristine. We need to be more proactive. The Clerk wrote to CCC on 15th January 2020 about us taking them over for some remuneration and this would also create employment. Footpaths have been moved from highways budget which means that they are no longer a statutory obligation. Cllr M Morgans is still receiving complaints regarding footpaths. Cllr H Taylor suggested asking the community if they are happy to raise the precept for the upkeep of the extra paths. Agreed to wait for CCC response. Cllr M Morgans asked how many are actually used. Cllr S Thomas said that there are a lot that weren't on the list.

Cllr M Morgans brought up dog fouling again especially on the upper end of Brynamman down Maes Elwyn path into the park. There are only 2 dog wardens for the whole of the county who we never see. We could ask them to do one visit per year. Cllr A Strutt said that he had spoken to the Council and they said they would send someone around. He will get another sign done stressing the problems that foul droppings cause. He will get a price ready for the next meeting.

Agreed that for the summer flowering Wrenvale will do the hanging baskets on Station Road and the Centre. Businesses will be asked if they wish to partake and contribute £20 per basket. Quids In will fill the troughs and large pots dotted around. Seats are now mostly in place. Broken seat in Cefn Bryn Brain needs to be taken away and ask manufacturer if it can be repaired. Another 2 seats to be ordered for Station Road and by the park. Budget 8 – 10k in place. Plaques are going on each of the seats. Cllr M Thomas asked for a list of where the seats are being situated. ACTION – Cllr W Churchill will do this once they are all in place.

Discussion over Cefnbrynbrain tennis courts as this site needs clearing. Cllr A Dady said that it is not Celtic Energy's land as it is common land. The surface needs cleaning and a cost of 12k to resurface. We are liable if someone falls. CCC put new fencing there. The Clerk will speak to the Estates Department in Caerphilly. Wrenvale has a power washer if we want to go ahead and clean. It was also suggested that older seats and surrounding areas be power washed. Cllr A Strutt said that sand needs to be brushed into the areas after power washing. Cllr M

Morgans will speak to Wrenvale. Cllr V Morgan asked for Wrenvale's hourly rate – reasonable. There are still 2 benches in lock up. Cllr A Strutt wants one to replace broken one. Cllr J G Davies proposes each Cllr send an email to M Morgans stating all locations within their area for power washing and Nigel may need to be taken around the sites. Cllr M Morgans will ring Nigel tomorrow. He will also ask him for a price to paint railings and wicket gates. Cllr A Strutt suggested getting a price for maintenance of the information signs which are currently falling down. Cllr J G Davies asked whose initiative these signs were originally from. He will ask CCC if they know.

ITEM 6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - OBSERVATION

No planning applications received.

For info – if Maes Elwyn is to be expanded planning permission will be required

ITEM 7. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Wrenvale Nurseries	Contractual Work	1212.00
EDF	Electricity Ystradowen pavilion	49.79
United Ink	6No Cartridges for Printer	150.77

Payment proposed by Cllr M Morgans and seconded by Cllr L Baker

ITEM 8. CLIMATE CHANGE

Cllr H Taylor requested this item be put on the agenda for discussion. She had picked up a leaflet from Llangynnor Community Council on their activity for climate change. They devised a scheme on carbon usage and applied for grant funding to plant trees to offset environmental costs of street lighting. Can we think of something to take this forward as this is everyone's responsibility? Cllr J G Davies said that there are 21 questions from the public on environmental issues already been asked to be discussed in next week's meeting. Cllr H Taylor has some ideas to take this forward as the community will need support, guidance and facilitation to proceed. There are transport issues – can we ask people to car share more, sharing of tools and garden equipment, plastic usage. We need to involve the community to see what would motivate them to change these things in their lives and think of solutions. We could help facilities these ideas. Cllr H Taylor is asking for declarations of support. Cllr L Baker said that it might be an idea to invite Wrap Cymru to a meeting. Cllr D Belcher felt it was better to start at a lower level like maybe recycling. Cllr V Morgan suggested discussing this in the publicity group meeting. Cllr H Taylor said that every little helps and people are quite inventive and flexible. Cllr A Strutt is going to find out about grants available for hedging etc. Cllr W Churchill thinks this is a fascinating discussion but how do we move it on. Cllr M Morgans said that we need to target 2 things per year to tack ie rubbish recycling and dumping would be a great start and get schools involved in planting trees. Cllr H Taylor is happy to structure something going forward.

ITEM 9: CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk updated everyone:-

Bryn Rovers requested a meeting next week. Agreed 10th February at 6.30pm in BMC. Attending Cllrs A Strutt, A Hicks V Morgan and M Morgans. An agenda was requested prior to the meeting.

Correspondence from Rhian Jones, support for community event to celebrate 75th anniversary of VE day on 8th May 2020. Looking to put on a variety show on 7th May at the Brynamman Cinema who have donated space. Looking for volunteering support and guidance in backing the event. Cllr A Dady suggested that she attend next meeting to explain exactly what she is looking for.

CCC revised LDP published. There are drop in sessions on 10th February in Dinefwr Bowls Club Ammanford 10am – 1pm or 2pm – 7pm.

Cllr A Dady said that one of their trustees read in the local press about grant funding for vehicle charging points in car parks. They had previously been refused but Cllr J G Davies will chase this up as it's the first he has heard. Funding stops in March.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 2020 AT 6PM
AT BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE**