

- MINUTES OF CWARTER BACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD REMOTELY ON 4th NOVEMBER 2020

PRESENT: Cllr H.Taylor **presided.**
Clerk: **A. Pedrick.**
Brynaman Ward: Cllrs W.Churchill,S.Thomas,J.G.Davies.
Cwarter Bach Ward Cllrs A.Hicks.H.Powell,A.Roberts.
Llynfell Ward: Cllrs T.Strutt, A.Daddy,D.B.Belcher,V.Morgan.
Members of the Public 1No

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES

Cllrs M.Thomas (long term),Liz Baker.

ITEM 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Declarations by members of personal interest to be verbally.

ITEM 3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS:

The minutes of the last meeting held on 7th October 2020 was accepted as a true record on the proposal of Cllr S.Thomas seconded Cllr T.Strutt.

ITEM 4 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR MEL MORGANS

The chair reported on the above resignation and members had already expressed their sadness in loosing a committed and enthusiastic member who had served the Community with dignity and integrity over a period of thirteen years. After the letter of resignation was read Cllr J.G.Davies said that Cllr Morgans was a man of the people and his contribution to the whole of Cwarter Bach was an example for all to follow. The vacancy will be reported to the County Council who will initially advertise the Notice of Vacancy for the Brynaman Ward. Should there be no applications the vacancy will be filled by co-option.

At this point Cllr D.B.Belcher complained that the Ystradowen Community Centre Trustees had been grossly misrepresented by Council. Following another heated debate, the matter will be on next months agenda for discussion.

ITEM 5 FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee had met on the 20th October and it was agreed that a Term of Reference be written and adopted for this committee. In order to scrutinize grant applications under Sec 137 of the Local Government Act it was agree that a standard Grants Application Form be introduced. The Clerk had circulated members with a specimen form which was for discussion, furthermore it was agreed that Cllrs H.Taylor, S.Thomas and T.Strutt be appointed internal auditors. The 2021 /2022 Budget be discussed at the next Finance meeting. Following a grant application received from the Brynaman Kids Club some six months ago and agreed that this was a valuable asset to the community it was proposed by Cllr T.Strutt seconded Cllr W,Churchill that a sum of £400 be donated in accordance with Sect 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

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ITEM 6 ASSET SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee had met on the 02 /11/20 and Cllr T.Strutt was nominated as chairperson.Members had met to discuss the agenda prior to representatives of Bryn Rovers joining the meeting.The matters under discussion were 1.Written permission to use Cae Criced for the foreseeable future,even on a rolling 12mths basis.2.Written permission to install CCTV plus financial help towards the installation.3.Permission to install railings /fencing around field with hard standing surface around field. 4.Installation of 2 Dugouts.

The Chair reminded the Club that this was not the preferred site with members having highlighted the deficiencies of the ground and location, indeed there could be options i.e.Maes Elwyn site and an approach to the R.F.C. to share facilities. The Club Chair stressed the importance of agreement on these requests in order to apply for an Active Wales Grant which would boost the standing of the Club, however, it was noted during preliminary work to a dressing room shower that the flooring of the whole building was in a deplorable state and needed further investigation.Suggested that the County Building Inspector inspect the Changing Rooms and report back.The mini football pitch drainage had been cleaned and there would be less soil needed on the pitch. Again the cost of electricity was questioned as was Benches for the park. After much discussion members felt all these requests were a matter for full Council.

After the Chair had requested for more members to join this sub committee Cllrs H.Powell & S.Thomas agreed and as well use outside experts.It was decided that a Maes Elwyn Project Committee be set up comprising of Cllrs A.Roberts,H.Taylor, W.Churchill ,T.Strutt and A.Hicks again with outside experts. It was noted that the 55K Cruyff Foundation Grant had been ring fenced, however, as there had not been an application the proposed C.C.C.Grant 70K was not ring fenced.The County Councillor to concur with the Director of Finance in regards to finance policy.Noted also that a Business Plan had been received from Mr Jordan Griffiths.

When discussing the Club's requests, members had some doubts on the various issues, however, it was proposed by Cllr T.Strutt seconded Cllr V.Morgan that the Barrier Surround be installed as long as it can be removed, similarly the installation of Two Dug Outs. Cllr A.Daddy proposed that CCTV installation should be allowed provided the regulations regarding children and the public are confirmed and conform to regulations, Cllr J.G.Davies seconded the motion. The financial help towards installation be further discussed. The news that the Cae Criced Dressing Rooms needed major repairs and improvements was met with shock and it was proposed by Cllr J.G.Davies seconded Cllr H.Taylor that a survey of the whole building be made by an appropriate Officer of the C.C.C. A site meeting at Cae Criced with the AFC scheduled for Monday 9th November '20 at 2.30pm.

A complaint of surface damage at wicketgate on footpath at Maes Elwyn had been dealt with. Another complaint of an overgrown hedge encroaching the pavement leading to school children stepping onto the highway at New Rd,Brynaman be investigated. The Clerk will speak with the landowner at 76,Cwmgarw Rd,Brynaman.

ITEM 7 APPOINTMENTS SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

The above committee had NOT met to discuss the short listing of applicants for the post of Clerk to the Council.

Following the initial advertisement 5 application packs had been sent to candidates, however, only 2 had been returned and completed by the closing date.

The feeling among members was whilst one was unexperienced, the other was not bilingual. In the meantime the County Councillor will approach the Director of Finance Mr Chris Moore at Carmarthenshire County Council seeking advice.

ITEM 8 PRIDE IN THE COMMUNITY

With the resignation of Cllr M.Morgans it was proposed to add Cllr H.Powell and Cllr A.Hicks onto this sub committee. Again it was important to have Terms of Reference for the group. There followed a debate on the siting of the seat on the bridge adjacent to the old PO which drew children who emptied their litter into the river causing pollution. It's a huge dilemma as this bench is well used by the elderly as well as the young. Again it was noted that a rubbish Bin is sited by the seat. Seats to be discussed by this committee next meeting.

ITEM 9 TENNIS COURTS & INFORMATION BOARD CEFNBRYNBRAIN

This item was not discussed and will be on next months agenda,

ITEM 10 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC SECOND WAVE

Cllr H.Taylor discussed ways to support the community during this pandemic

ITEM 11 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

A further quotation from KDYelectrics for placing garlands on lamp posts at Brynaman Square was £925 as he had to source a cherry picker van with an operator (it is a two man job for safety) . It would cost £475 to erect with straps for fixing and £450 to dismantle.Proposed by Cllr J.G.Davies seconded Cllr A.Hicks that we accept the quote and also pay for a transformer costing £78.07 Agreed that the 4th December'20 be the lighting of the decorations.

ITEM 12 CELTIC ENERGY COMMUNITY BENEFIT

The 50K benefit award was given to this Council on 5th May 2016 and all the grant applications to be administered through Neath Port Talbot Council. At that time Mr Paul Hinder placed notices at all the relevant places within Cwarter Bach. The 50k remains in our Deposit Account.

There followed a heated discussion but nothing was resolved, this item will be placed on next months agenda.

13 BRITISH LEGION SERVICE

It was noted that the usual commemorative service will take place at Brynaman on Sunday 8th November at 12,00 noon at the cenatoph. Our Chairperson will place a wreath on behalf of the Council to remember the fallen similarly a wreath will be placed at Cwmllynfell Hall where the arrangements are somewhat different this year. Two wreaths have been collected for the service.

14 ACCOUNTS

The following accounts have been passed for payment

1,KDY Electrics Transformer for Christmas Lighting	£ 78.07
2, Brynaman Kids Club Donation	£ 400.00
3. SLCC Enterprises Ltd Job Advertisement	£ 258.00
4. Wrenvale Nurseries & Landscapes Contractual Work	£2492.00
5. One Voice Wales Chair's Fees for Courses	£ 60.00
6.British Legion Poppy Appeal 2 No Wreaths	£ 80.00
7.H M Revenue & Customs Tax to 20/10/2020	£ 657.08
8. E D F Energy Electricity at Sports Pavillions	£ 119.03
9. Cllr Helen Taylor Chairpersons Allowance	£ 350.00

The meeting ended at 9.15pm.

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