



## Cyngor Cymuned CWARTER BACH Community Council

General meeting held virtually on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

**Present:** Glynog Davies (chairperson),

**Ward Llynfell:** Vera Morgan (vice-chairperson), Tony Strutt, Andrew Dady

**Ward Cwarter Bach:** Scott Davies, Sarah Hopkin, Rhian Moses, Bethan Griffiths, Lisa Thomas

**Ward Brynaman:** Jordan Griffiths, Ruth Heyes,

**Temporary clerk:** Susan Thomas

**Member of public:** 2

**1. Chairperson's welcome:**

**2. Declaration of interest:** No.

**3. Apologies:** Mair Thomas, Tom Addey

**4. New Clerk:** (in camera) The appointments committee having interviewed one suitable person, Julia Bell, had no hesitation in recommending her for the post of clerk of Cwarter Bach Community Council. Vera proposed that we accept Julia for the post, Rhian seconded. All in favour of the proposal. The chair welcomed Julia warmly to the Community Council. When she starts, Julia can be shown around the various wards by relevant ward councillors.

**5. Minutes of meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> January.** Tony proposed that they were correct, Bethan seconded, all accepted the proposal.

**6. Matters arising:** Andrew has a contact from Cwmllynfell who checks defibrillators. Sarah said that so far nothing had arrived, hopefully it will arrive soon. Tony asked if the ambulance station in Cefnbrynbrain could take one on their wall? It seems that they also supply and check defibrillators.

**7. Finance Committee report - re precept:** Figures given by Susan:

£212, 940 in the bank at the moment

£ 18,049 left to pay before April

£ 46,880 on maintenance sorely needed

£148,011 left, of which

£ 50,000 given by Celtic Energy (2017), leaving

£ 98,000 in reserves

Various concerns were raised about the current financial climate of our community and was it wise to raise the Community Council precept. Last year we had not raised the precept, and the Welsh Audit Office had asked why this was so, as we had spent more than our allowance the previous year. There are a number of outstanding maintenance jobs that need doing fairly urgently.

Rhian proposed raising the precept by 5%, Ruth seconded. Vera proposed an amendment for not raising the precept at all, Jordan seconded. Voting on the amendment was 2 for, voting on the original proposal was 9 for. The proposal to raise the precept by 5p in the £ was passed. Andrew asked that the extra maintenance allowance was given to the urgent needs of all Wards.

**8. Matters from Wards**

a) **Llynfell:** Wrenvale has started on the small jobs- removed slabs, re-soiled and re-turfed area where the shelter was removed, they have started work on the benches, moving 2 benches, reinstalled benches - 2 metal and 1 plastic,- donate one metal bench that was removed to Bryn Rovers. All steel benches were paid for by our Community Council.

Tree report has been done and will be circulated. To be discussed and must be acted upon. Ash dieback is the responsibility of the County. (But they will only deal with trees that are close to a road, therefore our responsibility if they are on our land)

Work on the landslip starts on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb, which is good news.

There are still attempts to find the missing see-saw which had gone to Carmarthen CC.

Would the Council consider getting the probationary boys to cut back overgrowing verges on playground footpaths?

Glynog to try to get signs to stop illegal dumping on Community Council lands. This is a major problem throughout the County. If we know the culprits, then we can send them an enforcement order.

Lease at Cefnbrynbrain tennis court was never signed, so not our land.

Any painting work needs to be identified now.

Wooden flower boxes need clearing, troughs around Black Mountain Centre need clearing.

Handrails are County Council responsibility.

Tarmac needed for path at Ystradowen. Quote to follow.

- b) **Cwarter Bach:** Handrail at Tŷ'r Cwm has been reported to County Council and Countryside Council. They are looking into this. Gates are landowners' responsibility. We can send complaints, as individuals, to the County Council about footpath concerns. Maps of our footpaths are being copied and laminated.

**Tarmac** quotes have been received for the footpath in Maes Elwyn. Discuss in finance committee meeting.

Bollard at bottom of path to Mountain Road may need changing, also place bollard at entrance to lane to old tennis court.

Quotes received for changing panes at Clwb Plant. Grant work has been passed for the Clwb Plant.

Liaise on these for finance committee. All agreed.

- c) Brynaman: Lot of work has been done at Bryn Avenue Pavilion. All that's left is deep cleaning of both Pavillions.

9. **Accounts for payments:** already sent out: EDF Bryn Av £426.29; KDY water heater for Bryn Av and remove Christmas lights £1033; Stephen O'Sullivan for various works at Bryn Av £1380. Bethan proposed that we pay these bill; Tony seconded. All agreed.

Proposed to pay for evening meetings at Community Centre, all agreed.

10. **Correspondence:** East Pit liaison Committee: Glynog, as County Councillor, and Andrew, as community member, are already on this committee. Gwaun Cae Gurwen CC feel that a member of either our Community Council or theirs should be on a new Nature Conservation Steering Committee (Pwllffawtkin) for the area. Glynog proposed that a member of both Cwarter Bach and GCG Community Councils be represented, Vera seconded. All agreed to contact Celtic Energy and GCG.

Planning 03346, Arfryn, anyone who is concerned can respond directly to this.

Problem on County Council path at Cefnbrynbrain, responsibility of householders bordering the path. We, as a Council, cannot get involved with boundary disputes.

County Council Chairperson's nominated charity – request for donation. Pass to donations section next month.

OVW apprentice scheme, shall send around.

CAVS activities, shall send around.

2 people have expressed concerns about a) the state of the path from Mountain Road to play park at Maes Elwyn; b) the bollard on the path going from the play park towards Mountain Road, that is, at the moment, permanently down. Both issues are being addressed.

Letters of congratulations has been sent to a) Hannah Jones, mentioned last month; and b) also, to Jac Morgan who has been selected for the Welsh rugby squad.

11. **AOB:** none

12. Finance meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> February (add Bethan to Finance committee)

**Next General meeting** 9<sup>th</sup> March (now changed to 2<sup>nd</sup> March). Both on zoom.

**Meeting ended at 8:01**