



CYNGOR CYMUNED **CWARTER BACH** COMMUNITY COUNCIL

d/o Swyddfa'r Post, Canolfan Y Mynydd Du, Heol Cwmgarw, Brynaman. SA18 1BU

✉ clerccwarterbach@outlook.com

MINUTES OF THE 'FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BLACK MOUNTAIN CENTRE AND ON A REMOTE BASIS VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH 2024 AT 6.30PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr. Jordan Griffiths (Chaired), Cllr. Helen Taylor, Cllr. Angela Campisi, Cllr. Andrew Dady, Cllr. Vera Morgan, Cllr. Rhian Jones, Cllr. Emlyn Hopkin, Cllr. Tom Addey, Cllr. Berian Jones, Cllr. Eifion Rogers (newly coopted)

ALSO, PRESENT

Mrs. J. Bell (Clerk) and 1 Members of the Public (MoP)

1. **To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr. Bethan Griffiths, Cllr. Mair Thomas, Cllr. Susan Thomas, Cllr. Richard Pearce-Higginson.

2. **Non apologies**

None

3. **To meet with Geena Ware, Community Engagement Officer, Pobl Group.**

Geena Ware discussed her two working roles with the council.

Firstly, she works for the Pobl group, along with C.C.C., in a role that offers support to individuals on a wide range of problems, from debts to gardening.

There are referral forms available for individuals to complete and she is able to do home or phone consultations.

She also works for Co-op shops; this year they are raising money for the Black Mountain Centre and Amman Valley Swimming Pool.

She is able to offer raffle donations and is happy to support any events within the Amman Valley.

4. **Declarations of Interest**
Jordan Griffiths – Bryn Rovers Committee Member
5. **Public Participation**
There was one MoP however there was no participation.
6. **To approve minutes of the previous meeting.**
7th February 2024 Full Council Meeting.
AGREED: The minutes were a true recording of the meeting.
7. **Matters arising from the minutes**
No matters arising other than what is already on the agenda.
8. **Summer Planting and to arrange a Balchder Bro Committee Meeting.**
Councillors agreed to meet on Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 5.30pm via Zoom, members were asked to bring ideas for planting to the meeting
9. **Planning Applications**
 - i.) **PL/07283** – Proposed change of use from commercial premises (empty for several years) to residential - 55 Station Road, Upper Brynamman, Ammanford, SA18 1SH
No observations
 - ii.) **PL/07315** - Proposed detached dwelling - Penlan Bungalow, Cwmllynfell, Swansea, SA9 2WA
No observations
 - iii.) **PL/07289** - Variation of Condition 3 on E/22416 (Amended plans) - 72 Mountain Road, Upper Brynamman, Ammanford, SA18 1AN
No observations.
10. **To receive an update from meeting with Adam Pearce, Celtic Energy.**
The clerk gave an update to the council on the meeting with Adam Pearce, (Avalon Glen, previously Celtic Energy) in which he confirmed they would now be doing the maintenance on their land at Cefnbrynbrain, and that the work that needs doing on the path above the tennis courts was in fact on their land and he would be arrange for the required work to be done. He also agreed to arrange a meeting between the council and the Commoners.

6.45pm Cllr. Angela Campisi and Cllr. Helen Taylor arrived at the meeting.

11. **To form a Christmas Lights Working Group and arrange a meeting date.**

Councillors agreed to give Balchder Bro Committee the task of organising Christmas Lights.

12. **To discuss Bryn Rovers requests**

Cllr. Jordan Griffiths declared an interest and did not take part in any voting decisions.

A discussion took place regarding Bryn Rovers requests (previously circulated) and what they hoped for their future at Cae Criced. Their preferred option was to have the pitch and changing room sub-leased to them. They had ideas about erecting a fence around the pitch, having a new changing room built and extending the car park area. They had also discussed building a kitchen area which could also be used by the community.

Councillors discussed the options and were concerned about children losing their play park in Brynman, they also believe community engagement is crucial going forward.

7.08pm Cllr. Emlyn Hopkin arrived

Vote carried for the council to take ownership of replacing the changing rooms.

6 in favour, 3 abstained

AGREED: The Asset Committee to create a business plan and explore the different options going forward.

Bryn Rovers request permission to extend Bryn Ave site car park by moving their container.

AGREED

Bryn Rovers request Permission to site and use small container with a view to provide refreshments on match days

AGREED

13. **Update on new savings bank account.**

The clerk informed the council that The Principality Building Society no longer offer accounts to community council, and that the best options seemed to be Nationwide and Unity Bank.

AGREED: Clerk to find best option and open an account.

14. **To approve the Grounds maintenance quotation forms**

The clerk had previously circulated a quotation form for grounds maintenance contractors to complete in order to gain a maintenance contract with the council.

AGREED: All were happy for the forms to be sent out to interested parties.

15. **To review and accept the conclusion and recommendations of the Audit Reports 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022**

Members had previously received the reports and following a discussion accepted the recommendations put forward. *Clerk to compile a report by the next meeting.*

AGREED: To check internal controls, Cllr. Vera Morgan agreed to be another councillor that would come in and check the accounts
It was also proposed to change the Internal Auditor.

16. **Matters arising from the Wards**

a.) Brynaman

Cllr. Eifion Rogers mentioned that he had connections with *Keep Wales Tidy* and he would like to arrange a 'litter clean' for April / May, and possibly a 'river clean' as there is a rubbish being thrown in the river down Cwmgarw Road.

AGREED

Cllr. Rhian Jones informed the council that the gentleman that fell outside the cinema recently is taking matters further.

Cllr. Eifion Rogers also mentioned that there appeared to be a landslide from the mountain behind Moriah Chapel.

This may be Neath Port Talbot land

b.) Cwarter Bach.

Maes Elwyn Park is full of weeds

AGREED: Contact Wrenvale

c.) Llynfell

Work has recommenced on Ystradowen Wall.

Cllr. Tom Addey asked if the council could chase up Cllr. Glynog Davies as he has been emailing him for 6 weeks, with no response. It is in reference to an historic planning application on land on the Carmarthenshire County Council Boundary.

AGREED

17. **To receive bank balances and financial update.**

Councillors received the bank balances and an account summary up to the 29th February 2024

18. **To consider Financial Assistance Requests.**

i.) The Kids Club

A request was submitted for £625 in order to pay a £300 electricity bill and £325 rental fees.

The council were reminded that their current grant policy was for £500 maximum

AGREED: To offer £500 and to let them know to contact the council if they need further support.

ii.) The Black Mountain Centre

The Centre requested £6500 in order to upgraded some of the computers, create storage space to store event equipment etc., café crockery and new flooring for reception office

AGREED: To amend the grant policy to £1000, and to hold a finance committee meeting in order to look at a policy for larger amounts with a possible 5-10% match funding.

This can then be adopted at the next full council meeting and the item can be revisited.

To inform the BMC of the decision.

Other generic requests had come in by letter from the organisations below:

Wales Air Ambulance

Marie Curie

Menter Bro Dinefwr

Carmarthenshire Ploughing Society

Gwaun Cae Gurwen Brass Band

AGREED: To forward the financial assistance application and grant policy to the above.

19. **Bills For Payment**

Welsh Water – Bryn Avenue - £340.22

Wrenvale Invoices Jan-Feb total - £960

SLCC Membership Renewal - £238

The Black Mountain Centre – Office Rental - £201.91

AGREED: To pay all of the above

The clerk advised that the Zoom renewal is £129.90 but she is looking into the costings of MSTeams

20. **Quotes.**

The clerk had received one quote for the work needing doing to the roofs at Maes Elwyn, Ystradowen and Bryn Avenue.

AGREED: To accept the quote for Maes Elwyn, to seek another two quotes for Ystradowen and to put Bryn Avenue on hold

21. **Correspondance.**

i.) A member of Ystradowen Communities had put a request in asking for the community council to cut paths in Ystradowen Playing field on his behalf this year and also the grass by the posts and footpaths.

AGREED: to ask the community group to put an application in for funding to cover these costs (The clerk had obtained an estimate £240 for the year)

ii.) A member of the community had written in regarding the closure of the carpark opposite the Black Mountain Centre.

Noted: Issue had now been resolved.

22. **A.O.B***

The clerk reminded members that unless the opt-out forms were completed for remuneration, councillors would receive a cheque or bank payment by the next meeting.

The clerk informed the members that she had sought quotes for legionella testing on the assets, as this hadn't been done since she was in post.

Cllr. Berian Jones informed the council that he had stood down as a Parent Governor at Ysgol Brynmanan but they had asked him to continue as a Council Governor

23. **Date of next meeting.**

Wednesday 13th March 2024 Balchder Bro Committee Meeting at 5.30pm via Zoom

Wednesday 3rd April 2024 at 6.30pm Full Council Meeting at Ystradowen Community Centre.

Meeting finished at 8.25pm

SignedChair

Date

Quarter Bach Community Council
Accounts to 29th February 2024
Summary Statement

Updated to 31st December 2023	Actual											Forecast	YTD Actual	Full Year Forecast	Budget	Under/Over spend	Earmarked		
	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24							
Receipts																			
Grants																			
HMRC VAT Refund					10,660											10,660	10,660		
Carmarthen CC precept x 3																			
Carmarthen CC footpath maintenance																			
HSBC Interest																			
Precept 3	38,284				38,284					38,284						114,851	114,851		
Kids Club		325													975	975			
Interest received			629			716				934					2,280	3,253			
Carm CC for Bowling Gr																			
Bryn R	999					1,547				587					2,546	3,132			
Misc Receipts	75					1,000				300					1,075	1,375			
Total	39,368	325	629		48,944	3,263		325		40,104		325	2,973	132,387	136,246				
Payments																			
Establishment Charges	9,656	4,931	2,245	8,722	4,159	8,115	4,954	5,176	11,273	10,833	6,146	9,257	42,781	85,466	166,182	(80,716)	85,350		
Administration - Salary	1,486	1,396	1,396	1,396	1,396	1,429	1,430	1,430	1,959	1,512	1,924	1,924	16,755	18,679	17,000	1,679			
Administration - HMRC PAYE/NIC	208	208	208	208	208	225	225	225	617	245	535	535	3,111	3,646	2,500	1,146			
Administration - Pensions	465	465	465	465	465	480	480	480	747	509	713	713	5,734	6,447	5,500	947			
Administration - Clerk's Expenses							59		335				394	394	200	194			
Administration - Honorarium													2,600	2,600	2,600				
Administration - Office Costs	633	10	10	29	223	10	101	205	10	10	49	500	1,289	1,789	1,200	589			
Administration - Room Hire	144				42			180				400	368	796	350	416			
Administration - Insurance		1,891											1,891	1,891	2,100	(209)			
Administration - Audit				150									150	150	400	(250)			
Administration - Training	70	35	38	38		158		60		280		500	679	1,179	1,500	(321)			
Administration - Subscriptions Open Spaces						45							45	45	50	(5)			
Administration - Subscriptions OVW	538												538	538	520	18			
Administration - Subscriptions SLCC	177												177	177	200	(23)			
Administration - Subscriptions Zoom		120											120	120	130	(10)			
Administration - Job Advert																			
Administration - Book binding																			
Amenities - Benches															2,400	(2,400)	2,400		
Amenities - Defibrillators															1,500	(1,500)			
Amenities - Flowers				910	1,820	360	360		1,910				5,360	5,360	5,200	160			
Amenities - Kids Club Wall																		2,000	
Amenities - Mee Elwyn												249	249	249		249			
Amenities - Park Upgrade															20,000	(20,000)	20,000		
Amenities - Perimeter Wall										8,000			8,000	8,000	16,000	(8,000)	16,000		
Amenities - Roof Kids Club															24,000	(24,000)	24,000		
Amenities - Roof Pavilion									900				900	900	10,000	(9,100)	10,000		
Amenities - Skateboard Surface																			
Amenities - Swing Gate																			
Amenities - Tar Path Mee Elwyn																			
Amenities - Tar Path Ystradowen																			
Amenities - Ystradowen	434												434	434		434			
Amenities - Ystradowen List																			
Amenities - Pitch Compost															2,000	(2,000)			
Amenities - Pitch Drainage										202			202	202	1,100	(899)			
Amenities - Pitch Netting																			
Amenities - Christmas Lights			95					164	31	26		1,620	1,936	1,936	6,000	(4,064)	6,000		
Maintenance - Buildings			28										100	100	20,000	(19,900)			
Maintenance - Park Equipment															2,000	(2,000)			
Maintenance - Park Grass				2,480		930	930		1,880				6,180	6,180	5,000	1,180			
Maintenance - Playing Fields		800		3,060		1,160	1,200	160	2,480			900	9,760	11,840	8,000	3,840			
Maintenance - Trees						3,000							3,000	3,000	1,000	2,000			
Maintenance - Weeds spray															1,000	(1,000)			
Survey - Trees																			
Water - Bryn Avenue	551					243							794	794		794			
Water - Ystradowen						70							70	70	200	(130)			
Carmarthenhire CC - Election	4,946												4,946	4,946	4,960	(14)	4,960		
Miscellaneous								1,502	1,123	200	150		2,974	2,974	1,500	1,474			
Finance - Bank Charges	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	55	60	82	(22)			
Footpaths & Seats															2,000	2,000	600	1,400	
Amenities - Footpaths															2,000	600	1,400		
Amenities - Miscellaneous																			
Donations		18,000	5,500	500		1,250	500	100	1,126						25,750	26,976	40,000	(13,024)	10,000
Grants & Donations - S19																			
Grants & Donations - S133		18,000											18,000	18,000	19,590	(1,590)			
Grants & Donations - S137			5,500	500		1,250	500	100	1,126				8,976	8,976	20,410	(11,434)		10,000	
Lighting	118	69	8,631	69	1,239	632	47	50	52	2,016	121	500	10,907	13,544	7,500	6,044			
Amenities - Changing Rooms	118	69											2,519	2,519	2,000	519			
Amenities - Street Lighting			8,562							1,963			10,525	10,525	5,000	5,525			
Amenities - Christmas Lighting															500				
VAT Paid on Invoices	87	387	1,718	1,286	375	1,115	516	383	1,546	466	1,008		8,886						
Misc Payments																			
					2										2	2		2	
Total	9,861	23,387	18,094	10,579	5,773	11,112	6,017	5,709	13,996	13,315	9,274	9,757	84,822	127,966	214,282	(86,294)	95,350		
Net Cashflow	29,497	(23,062)	(17,465)	(10,579)	43,171	(7,849)	(5,662)	(5,709)	26,108	(13,315)	(8,949)	(6,784)							
Opening Bank Balances	191,609	221,006	197,944	180,479	169,901	213,071	205,222	199,530	193,821	219,930	206,615	197,665							
Closing Bank Balances	221,006	197,944	180,479	169,901	213,071	205,222	199,530	193,821	219,930	206,615	197,665	190,881							
Balance Per Deposit Account	210,332	196,657	176,286	166,284	205,228	197,491	197,816	187,816	217,620	197,620	187,946								
Balance Per Current Account	10,674	2,287	4,193	3,617	7,844	7,732	1,715	6,006	2,309	8,994	9,720								
	221,006	197,944	180,479	169,901	213,071	205,222	199,530	193,821	219,930	206,614	197,665								