

CYNGOR CYMUNED

YNYSYBWL & COED-Y-CWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

‘DRAFT’ MINUTES of the MONTHLY meeting of the Ynysybwl & Coed-y-Cwm Community Council Held

At

YNYSYBWL COMMUNITY CENTRE on Tuesday 6th July 2021

at 6.45pm

Clerk.....

PRESENT:- Councillors Mrs A Ellis, Mrs C Banwell, A Burnell, G Haines, RC Evans, C Jones, R Davies, H Osborne

1. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Cllr C Jones – item 13.1

Cllr A Burnell – item 9.3

Cllr G Haines – item 12.1

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies had been received.

3. PUBLIC BREAK

There was no public break.

4. POLICE

4.1 No police report had been received

5. TO APPROVE MINUTES

5.1 Minutes from the 1st June were proposed by Cllr Banwell and seconded by Cllr Haines

Minutes from the 8th June were proposed by Cllr Banwell and seconded by Cllr Haines

Minutes from the HR meeting on 16th June were proposed by Cllr Osborne and seconded by Cllr Burnell

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 To receive the report of the Community Warden

The two lots of dumped tyres that had been reported have now been cleared. The flats in New Road have been purchased and the rubbish outside is due to be collected shortly. Cllr C Jones stated that he disagreed with the format of the report as it contained no times of actions taken and he believed the employment of a Community Warden through RCTCBC was a waste of money.

6.2 Monthly defibrillator update from Cllr Haines

No defibs have been deployed and checks are up to date. Cllr Burnell informed members that a defib had been requested at Buarth y Capel. This is to be included on the September agenda. Cllr M Jones has been asked if one could be installed at the Community Centre but this would be unlikely as there is already one on the United Services Inn opposite.

6.3 Butchers Pool – Friends of Butchers Pool have forwarded the costs for the additional week of funding

Friends of Butchers Pool are requesting funding of £2000 for an additional week of opening during the summer holiday. The Chair had contacted Clive Thomas regarding a breakdown but hadn't heard from him by the meeting. Cllr Burnell proposed that the Chair make a decision on hearing from Clive Thomas and Cllr Haines seconded. A vote was taken with 6 for and 1 against.

6.4 Update on CCTV for Robert Street – quote received from Laser Security

A quote had been received from Laser Security. In a previous meeting it was agreed to make up the difference so it was **RESOLVED** to contact the Neighbourhood Watch to find out what that difference would be. The total quote from Laser is £874.60. It was asked if the owner of the building would be taking responsibility for the camera and this was confirmed.

6.5 Picnic area/nature reserve on Lady Windsor trail – update

The Clerk has spoken with Carl Davies and he has agreed to take down the trees that were pinpointed as potentially dangerous by the tree surgeon. Cllr RC Evans proposed that the Clerk be added to the sub committee for this group on her departure from the Community Council. Cllr Burnell informed members that the Woodland Trust is giving away trees for planting in November which could benefit this project.

6.6 NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers Day – update and feedback

The first NHS Day was deemed a success. The first attendees were there at 12pm and there were still people there at 4pm. Donations came from Sainsburys, Tesco and the Co-op. Any leftovers were donated to the Foodbank and the Community Centre. Cllr Haines thanked the Community Centre for the loan of the tables and boilers, the Vision group for the gazebo and benches and Clive Thomas for cleaning. The total cost for the day was £41. The Chair remarked that it was a good day and thanked everyone who volunteered and those who attended. Also, thanks to Elaine Rees for ringing the bells 73 times (for 73 years of the NHS) and Trerobart School and Cllr RC Evans for raising the NHS flags. Cllr RC Evans will leave the flag on the United Services Inn for the duration of the pandemic as long as the Royal British Legion are happy for him to do so.

7. CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

7.1 Broken glass in Green Park

The young son of Beth Leach was cut with broken glass while Beth was litter picking at the Green Park. There is a need to educate people on the dangers of not disposing of rubbish correctly. There are no signs in the park at present. It was suggested that we ask the Community Warden to check on the park. Cllr Burnell asked if the police can patrol there as has been done in the past. The Chair informed members that there are now youth detached workers at YRP and perhaps they could go to the park and speak with the young people there about disposing of rubbish correctly. It was **RESOLVED** to contact Louisa Addiscot about this. It was also **RESOLVED** to write to Lisa Austin of the RCT Parks Department.

7.2 Possible proposal for the Community Centre

The Community Centre has been approached by a group who wish to set up a playgroup for low income parents throughout the summer holidays on a Saturday morning, with the possibility of providing a packed lunch for the children. Tea and coffee would be available for the parents. The cost would be around £50 per week for the rent and a small start up to buy the food for packed lunches. The total grant would be around £500. Cllr RC Evans believed this was a good idea and thought it would also be of help to the Community Centre after being closed for such a long period of time. Cllr Haines commented that the £500 put aside for NHS Day has not been used so the money from that could be used for this. The organisers are covered with food and first aid certificates. They are also DBS checked. Cllr Banwell enquired as to whether the Bomb would be able to accommodate but this is not possible at the moment. Cllr Haines proposed to support the group, Cllr Burnell seconded.

8. CLERKS REPORT

8.1 Feedback from HR meeting regarding the appointment of new Clerk

Cllr Banwell offered her apologies for not attending the meeting on 16th June. The Chair, Cllr Burnell, Cllr Osborne and the Clerk were in attendance. It was agreed at the meeting that the duties will remain the same and the salary point would depend on experience and qualifications. The job advert will be posted in as many places as possible, including the YCC Facebook page and website, sent to all Clerks, One Voice Wales and RCTCBC. Closing date would be 23rd July with interviews on 4th August. The first Tuesday of every month must be made available. All enquiries should be directed to the Clerk and the Chair. Cllr C Jones expressed his concern at the lack of hours as he felt 16 per week was not enough to cover the work required. He felt that the office should be opened from 9.30am to 2.30pm, Monday to Friday. He also believed that the Clerk's role required a lot more time due to the duties involved and that the new person should be able to communicate so that members would know 'what is going on'. The Clerk asked Cllr C Jones if he thought she did not communicate at the moment and let people know what is going on. Cllr C Jones replied 'far from it but there is a lot more to be done'. Cllr C Jones' proposal was discussed at the HR meeting and it was felt that 16 hours were more than adequate. The Chair reminded members that the Clerk is not anyone's personal secretary, which seems to be the case at the moment with different individuals. As the hours are flexible, extra hours can be worked if the need arises. The Chair commented that the office is currently open 2 evenings to ensure inclusion, so that those who work in the day can visit the office in the evening if they so wish. Cllr Haines reiterated that Community Councillors should be taking on more responsibility. Cllr RC Evans asked if the hours can be looked at a later date, the Chair said that this would be written in to the advert. Cllr Davies wondered if there was a possibility that the Clerk could be called upon to assist the new Clerk when they start, the Chair stated that the current Clerk would need to be asked whether she would want to do this first. The Chair proposed that the HR committee's proposals be accepted, seconded by Cllr Davies. A vote was taken with 7 for, 1 against.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Childrens Commissioner Wales – Summer of Fun (Haf o Hwyl), activities for children and young people during summer 2021

Noted

9.2 Removal of yellow lines in Windsor Place

Cllr C Jones informed members that the notices in the Western Mail placed Ynysybwl in the Taf Valley rather than Cynon and wanted clarification that this is not illegal. The lines are being removed from outside the chemist. There were no objections to this.

9.3 Phillip Evans, YEP Secretary regarding events in place of Gwyl 2021

As the festival is not taking place this year, YEP has proposed putting on small events throughout the summer and are enquiring whether some of the festival budget could be used towards these, within restrictions. Cllr RC Evans said that the Bomb would be available for playscheme if they are allowed to open, but we would be looking at what can be done within restrictions. Cllr Burnell stated that the events are pending depending on what Welsh Government say, at the moment it's not practical to hold anything. Cllr Haines asked if we could agree on principle, then later on look at the events to see if it's feasible. Cllr C Jones proposed giving YEP £2000 to start with but this would not be possible without knowing what they will be using the money for. The Chair asked members for thoughts. If YEP came to the Clerk with a proposal for an event, that we can agree digitally, would members be happy for the Chair to confirm to go ahead. Cllr RC Evans asked if we can agree a figure but the budget for the festival is up to £7000 so we would not go above that, but would change what that budget is used for. All are in agreement to support the events. Cllr C Jones proposed £2000 given now. A vote was taken, 1 for Cllr C Jones' proposal, 7 for agreeing digitally. Cllr Burnell reminded members that any events would benefit local businesses.

9.4 Cllr Clayton Jones – letter of complaint

The Chair was unaware until yesterday (5th July) that a complaint had been made and therefore this item will be moved from the agenda forthwith to avoid all members being in breach of the Code of Conduct.

The Chair commented with the following:

'Now is neither the time or place to make that disclosure as well you know. I am ruling it out of order. Decisions on such referrals must follow due process and rests solely with the Ombudsman who will determine whether to investigate them or not. It is a breach of confidence in due process to defiantly seek to circumvent matters and this council will have no part to play in that.'

The Ombudsman's investigations are conducted in private. You are therefore asked not to discuss the details of the complaint with any potential witness or persons who may be involved in the matter, whether directly or indirectly, to avoid any prejudice to any investigation. Conduct of this kind may amount to a breach of the code.

9.5 Alwyn Evans – letter of complaint

The Chair read out the letter of complaint from Mr Alwyn Evans regarding the meeting of 8th June where the planning application for Gelli Road was discussed. As this is a confidential item and is not for public perusal at this moment in time. The Chair would like to instigate a complaints policy and invite Mr Evans to a meeting to discuss his concerns and to see if we could find a resolution. The Chair sought advice from the Monitoring Officer at RCTCBC when the letter was received and he confirmed that this is a YCC inhouse complaint. The Chair would like to have contacted Mr Evans earlier but as the letter was put on the agenda for this meeting, it had to be brought to council before anything could be done. It was **RESOLVED** to contact Mr Evans and invite him to a meeting. A complaints committee would need to be set up and the Chair asked for volunteers to sit on this committee. Cllrs Banwell, RC Evans and Burnell put

their names forward and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk set up a meeting to be held on any evening in the Community Centre.

9.6 Alan Hatch, Friday Friends group – request for funding

Friday Friends was set up after Drink Wise, Age Well, who established the group, ended. The Community Council provided some funding for the group around 2 years ago. Since the pandemic, their reserves have depleted and now the group has started to meet again they are looking for further funding. Cllr Burnell observed that he has been in the Community Centre on a Friday and that it is a busy group. He proposed paying the rent for the group as we did previously. The Chair stated that the rent can be paid directly to the Community Centre by BACS. Cllr Davies enquired as to whether the group has a constitution and this was confirmed. He then asked if they could apply for a grant (£137), the Chair commented that this would not be needed as they would fall under the Wellbeing budget, Social Inclusion. Cllr Davies wondered if, as they are constituted, it would be better for the CCs auditors for them to apply for the grant. The Chair said there would be nothing to stop them doing this in the future. Cllr Burnell suggested paying the rent from July to March, Cllr Banwell proposed paying £1200 and asking them to complete a £137 next year. Cllr Davies seconded. All were in favour.

9.7 Introduction to RCT Together Community Development Team

Noted. Cllr C Jones believed that RCT are trying to offload responsibilities to others. The Chair suggested that if members are sceptical, we should invite the team to one of our meetings.

10. TO CONSIDER:

Town & Country Planning Applications

Planning application: 21/0856/10

Construction of a garden shed (retrospective) at 131 Dan y Cribyn, Ynysybwl, Pontypridd, CF37 3ES
There were no objections

Planning application: 21/0875/10

Raised decking area to the rear (Retrospective) at 51 High Street, Ynysybwl, Pontypridd, CF37 3EE
There were no objections.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Two extra payments were added to the original amount of £5092.18.

The Clerk (purchase of 2 NHS flags for NHS Day)	17.96
Cllr Haines (items purchased for NHS Day)	<u>40.25</u>
TOTAL	<u>58.21</u>
GRAND TOTAL	£5150.39

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the accounts for payment

12. GRANT AID (S137)

12.1 Community Speedwatch

The request for funding can come under the Wellbeing budget. The group are looking for £200 for a body camera. Cllr Burnell suggested the Community Council purchase for the group. Cllr RC Evans proposed purchasing 2 to offer more security, Cllr Banwell seconded. These will then become assets of YCC. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase 2 cameras.

13. TO CONSIDER (Items brought to the Agenda by members of the Council)

13.1 Recent problems with the Ynysybwl to Pontypridd and return bus service

The bus service has recently become slightly better but it was **RESOLVED** to write to the Traffic Commissioner. There is currently a shortage of drivers due to staff leaving for another company or Covid. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to Tony Richardson of RCTCBC to ask which routes are subsidized.

13.2 Christmas lights switch on/Christmas lights and tree for Coed y Cwm

Cllr Burnell informed members that YEP are planning Santa's Journey and requested that the light switch on be on the same day as has happened in previous years. This would take place on a Wednesday and the suggested date was 1st December as it was felt 8th December would be too late for the lights switch on. All were in favour of this date. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact Centregreat.

13.3 Questions for the Senedd members for future attendance at YCC meeting

The Clerk has written to the 3 Senedd members inviting them to a meeting and is awaiting a response. It was agreed in a previous meeting that members compile questions and bring them to a meeting for discussion. Cllr C Jones had been told that at least one of the members had received the Clerk's invite but no response has been forthcoming as yet. The Chair took the opportunity to remind Cllr C Jones that it is not his job to write letters on behalf of the Clerk and if he wants to write letters he must not sign them for somebody else. Cllr C Jones explained that the letters he had written were sent as a draft to the Clerk to give an idea of what was discussed. A heated discussion ensued where Cllr C Jones remarked to the Chair that 'you're not Putin'. He stated that if the Community Council did not want to 'go that way, that's fair enough, I can report it back next May'. The Chair stated that it was not Cllr C Jones' place to ask what the Community Council should be asking for. It was agreed that questions would be brought to this meeting of what we would like to ask the Senedd members. The correspondence that Cllr C Jones has written are questions that he would like asked. This is not a problem but letters should not be written on behalf of the Clerk, and she should not be used as a personal secretary. Cllr C Jones asked the Chair to show him where the signatures were and commented 'come on, you're good with a crystal ball'. The Chair pointed out that the Clerk's name was put on the bottom of the letter to Senedd members. Cllr C Jones admitted this and also that he had done the same for a letter to the Rugby Club. He also said that it would be up to him to tell people next May exactly what idiots we're talking about. The Chair asked Cllr C Jones if he was saying that we are all idiots. Cllr C Jones responded by saying that people who make complaints, in particular the Football Club, who then blame the Community Council for having no funding, ask him to write a letter with what they need to say, and the letter isn't delivered. The Chair asked for comments, Cllr Banwell asked what Cllr C Jones meant by 'expose in May'? Cllr C Jones said that there will be an issue in May. The Chair asked if Cllr C Jones was making threats as it sounded as if he was threatening every councillor in the room. Cllr C Jones stated that next May at the local elections, we can do anything or everything we

want as long as it's not libelous, including political parties, individuals and associations. The Chair stated that it sounded very much as if, next May, Cllr C Jones has an agenda that if people don't play ball with the way he wants them to play, then he will go out and do something because it's election time. Cllr C Jones said that he does not do things like that and that he will give people a chance to discuss the issues, if they don't want anything and they want to remain living where they live now, and nothing happens. The Chair remarked that this is not Cllr C Jones' decision to make, it is the decision of the residents who vote, irrespective of who they are. Cllr Burnell asked that the problems with the buses be added to the list of questions for Senedd members.

13.4 Bio Diversity plan – for discussion and approval by members

Cllr Burnell commented that a lot of work had been put into the plan. The Chair agreed that points suggested by Cllr Burnell will be added to the plan. Cllr Burnell felt that we could work with local businesses on using more recyclable items. All were in agreement that the plan would be accepted. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the plan.

13.5 Cannabis farm fly tipping at Llanwynno

The Community Warden has spoken with the Chair and has said that these are always reported to the police but rarely evidence is found. Unfortunately, there is very little that can be done unless they are caught in the act.

13.6 Fit and Fed and future youth activities

This was originally budgeted for 30 but has now increased to 90, which is good for the community, so the original numbers for packed lunches has also increased. Cllr Burnell asked, if the Co-op can supply pop and crisps, can the Community Centre supply filled rolls. The budget would be approximately £1 to £1.50 per roll. Cllr Banwell thought this a good idea, Cllr Burnell will put some costings together. As a follow on, quite a lot is happening with YRP during the summer, including painting the football dugouts on the Rec. There will be 4 sessions with professional people. There will also be a Circus Skills session using the circus performers that attended the fireworks display. An all day session would cost £650 for a full day. This group were the best value for money. Cllr Burnell asked if YCC could support these events. The Chair stated that she could not see a problem with these coming out of the youth budget. The Chair asked that Cllr Burnell send final costings to the Clerk and proposed that these events are agreed digitally. The events would be in conjunction with YRP. Cllr Burnell has asked Albert at the Print Shop to price up a board with the logos on so any photographs would show who is involved with the activities.

13.7 Grass cutting in the village and non collection of clear bags

The grass cutting has been sorted. Cllr Sue Pickering informed Cllr Banwell that the grass cutters are working their way around the village.

13.8 Ynysybwll Community Speedwatch

Discussed in 12.1

13.9 Community Council hosted training days

Cllr C Jones expressed thanks to Cllr Haines for arranging the training days and asked if it is purely for people from the village or are outsiders allowed to attend. Cllr Haines explained that the maximum attendance number is 24. Cllr Burnell proposed to make the courses available to local residents and if there are further spaces, to offer to those outside the village. A cut off date would be required and a record made

of all interested parties. Once this date has been reached, it can then be offered outside. Cllr Haines would like it to be certificated by YCC. The only cost would be the hire of the hall and the certificates. Cllr Haines also stated that he can make himself available at any time as long as this tied in with the availability of the Community Centre. Cllr Burnell proposed that the Community Council meet the cost implications of hosting the training. It was **RESOLVED** to go ahead with the arrangements.

13.10 Quote from RCTCBC for a basket swing on the Rec play area

A quote had been received for a basket swing of £4566 but this appears to include all the necessary equipment and labour for installing the swing rather than the swing itself. At a meeting with Lisa Austin of the Parks Department in February, YCC were told that RCTCBC were going to revamp the area. However, this will not happen due to lack of funds. The Community Council were asked to pay towards the costs of the swing. It was **RESOLVED** to defer this item to September until further details are obtained from RCTCBC.

13.11 Revised Local Development Plan – questionnaire from RCTCBC

The plan can be completed by anyone. The Chair recommended that, if the form is to be completed as a council, all members suggestions are added and it is not the responsibility of one person. Cllr C Jones said that perhaps YCC should give the Clerk more hours, the Clerk responded by saying that she may not want any more hours. Cllr C Jones stated that he will complete the form as an individual rather than a Community Councillor.

13.12 Data Protection Fee – annual fee paid to the Information Commissioners Officer (ICO) in order to process any personal data

Cllr Burnell found out through YEP that a Data Protection Fee needs to be paid and One Voice Wales have confirmed this. Cllr C Jones moved to pay the fee, Cllr Haines seconded. It was **RESOLVED** to pay the fee.

13.13 Craig yr Hesg quarry – RCTCBC to remove environmental consideration issues

Cllr C Jones informed members that he had been told in confidence that RCTCBC will receive 21 million from the extension to the quarry. The Chair told Cllr C Jones that if he had been told that information in confidence, he should not be repeating it, to which Cllr C Jones replied that he hadn't told anyone else. Environment issues will be amended and will probably be passed shortly. This will lead to a substantial increase in traffic. There are lots of questions from representatives in Pontypridd who are fighting this, but ultimately it will be the decision of RCTCBC as they are the planners. Cllr C Jones felt that we should reiterate our position on this to RCTCBC. It was **RESOLVED** to do this.

14. BUDGET

- 14.1** Cllr C Jones reminded members that we have a substantial amount of money and advised members to look at this prior to the next meeting. The money needs to be used to do something for the community. If we are seen to be doing something rather than have £70000 in the bank it seems far more cohesive to be doing something for the community. Cllr Burnell commented that this is what has been discussed over the last 2 hours of the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the budget.

15. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 15.1** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th September at 6.45pm.

The Clerk stated that this meeting would be her last. She stated that on the whole she had enjoyed her time with the Community Council and thanked councillors for their support.

Closure of official business of the council

Verbal report of the Community Councillors

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed: Date.....