

**CYNGOR CYMUNED**  
**YNYSYBWL & COED-Y-CWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Cefnodion Cyfarfod y Cyngor**

**MINUTES of the MONTHLY meeting of the Ynysybwl & Coed-y-Cwm Community Council Held**

**By**

**REMOTE TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

**at 6.45pm**

**Clerk.....**

**PRESENT:-** Councillors A Burnell, RC Evans, C Jones, H Osborne, J Haines, Mrs A Ellis, Mrs M Jones

**1. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of personal interest

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr D Baish

**3. PUBLIC BREAK**

There was no public break.

**4. POLICE**

- 4.1** The police report was sent out to all members prior to the meeting. PCSO Scott Jones, who is PCSO for Glyncoch, is currently covering PCSO Hayley Vbranch while she is on secondment. Cllr C Jones stated that PCSO Vbranch is brilliant at her job and he would like her to come back to the village, however, this is not possible at the moment. Cllr Ellis has spoken to PCSO Vbranch who is chasing the PCSOs in her own time for reports for Ynysybwl & Coed y Cwm. Neighbourhood Watch have contacted Cllr Ellis to say that we should be having a new PCSO very shortly.

**5. TO APPROVE MINUTES**

Cllr Jones stated that he did not agree with the minutes from January 2021 and believed that they were not reported verbatim. Cllr Ellis asked Cllr C Jones to tell members which minute he believed was incorrect. Cllr C Jones referred to decisions made regarding one way traffic in Glynmynach Street during the meeting in November with Tim Phillips from RCTCBC Traffic department, Cllr Burnell and Cllr Ellis (this was actually in the December 2020 minutes, not January 2021). Cllr Ellis informed Cllr C Jones that what had been conveyed was what they had been told during the meeting and that everything was reported correctly. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from January 2021.

## **6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **6.1 To receive the report of the Community Warden**

The Chair stated that, even though the Community Warden reports were brief, he is doing what is asked of him without hesitation. He is 'on the ball' and deals with anything reported. The Chair had spoken with the Warden earlier in the day and he outlined recent issues in Buarth y Capel regarding bags that had not been collected. These should have had stickers put on them but this was overlooked and they were left behind. If anyone has any issues they should be reported to the Clerk who will pass on any concerns to the Warden. Cllr RC Evans enquired as to whether the fly tipping in Dan y Cribyn had been dealt with. Cllr Burnell confirmed that it had been cleared and that the Warden was speaking with a resident who has CCTV to see if they would allow any footage to be used. Cllr Ellis reminded members that it is time to review the SLA with RCTCBC and also requested clarification on cover if the Warden is on annual or sick leave. If there is no cover, are we still required to pay. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact RCTCBC with regards to this. DONE

### **6.2 Reforms to Compulsory Purchase Powers and procedures, questionnaires completed by Cllr Ellis and sent to members for comments – updates**

Cllr Ellis sent the questionnaires to the Clerk who emailed out to members. As no further feedback was received, it is assumed that all members are happy with the responses. Cllr C Jones requested that a meeting be held when possible to discuss further.

### **6.3 CCTV in Robert Street – an update from Neighbourhood Watch**

Rob Grant from the Neighbourhood Watch had contacted the Clerk to say that the owner of the YRP building in Robert Street has agreed to having CCTV on the building. NHW will keep YCC informed of developments. Cllr C Jones suggested that members attend the PACT (Police and Communities Together) meetings but it was pointed out that these have not taken place during lockdown.

### **6.4 Community First Responders – There are currently only 2 first responder volunteers, both work full time, so the village has a very low level of first response cover. More volunteers are needed in the community. Anyone who has free time, whether retired, currently between jobs or any other reason is encouraged to look into volunteering. An ambulance will take a minimum of 17 minutes to get to a patient if there is one available at the time. A person can die in 5 minutes if no help is available.**

Cllr C Jones commented on the fantastic job that the Community First Responders do. It was **RESOLVED** to publicise the need for Community First Responders on the Community Council Facebook page and website. DONE

### **6.5 Chamber of Trade – progress and update**

The Chair has been asked to give a lecture at the University of South Wales about how Covid-19 has affected new businesses. The Chair of Treorchy High Street Chamber of Trade is a contact whose details can be passed on to Barbara Castle and who would be able to provide information and advice. Cllr C Jones informed members that the criteria for claiming small business grants has changed. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact RCTCBC for further information to pass on to YRP and community businesses. Cllr M Jones has spoken with Mike Hughes of RCTCBC regarding funding for the Community Centre and all looks positive. LINK FOR RCTCBC

## 6.6 Flashing speed indicators for the village – update

Tim Phillips has replied to our requests for flashing speed cameras in the village. Further to the site meeting in November with Cllrs Burnell and Ellis, he outlined RCTCBCs current position in respect to the use of Speed Indicator Devices (SID's). Our request to have a unit erected on New Road was recorded and added to the RCT database, but current circumstances means that they are unable to provide an accurate timescale for when a unit may be erected. The units the local authority currently operate are labour intensive and once erected require a battery change approximately once a week. Given that the staff used to erect and maintain the units perform these tasks as an aside to their main duties, it has not been possible to either rotate or maintain the units in the normal way.

This has meant that the SID programme is not running at full capacity and it is inevitable that it will take longer to get SIDs to where they are needed. Nevertheless, officers have been working to resolve these issues and as of last Friday submitted a bid for Welsh Government Grant funding in order to purchase 10 new SID's which would run off solar power, thus removing the labour intensive process of changing batteries every week. Should the bid be successful, it is hoped that the new units could be procured in the spring and then deployed to areas like New Road as soon as possible.

Tim Phillips will be writing to GoSafe this week to request their assistance in stepping up enforcement activities in the area over the coming weeks. It is hoped that this will send the message to those who wish to drive at inappropriate speeds through the village that action will be taken and there will be consequences to their behaviour. Tim will update the Clerk in regard to any response he receives from GoSafe as soon as he has it.

It was suggested that, following lockdown, a further meeting be arranged with Tim to look at traffic flow in Glynmynach Street.

Cllr Haines reminded councillors that speeding has been on the agenda since March 2018 and that during the last meeting, it was agreed that, if RCTCBC were not forthcoming by the February meeting, the Community Council would look at purchasing their own signs and it was **RESOLVED** to make a decision in that meeting. Cllr Haines therefore proposed that YCC now purchase our own signs, especially as those on loan from RCTCBC would not be permanent. Cllr Burnell stated that if we bought our own signs, RCTCBC would still have to sanction their installation so we should discuss the matter with Tim Phillips before making a decision to buy. Cllr Burnell also reminded members that, during their November meeting, Tim Phillips stated that after 3 months, people tended to ignore the flashing signs. Cllr Ellis stated that there is also Welsh Government legislation to follow when erecting traffic signs. Cllr Ellis proposed that an amendment be made to the original proposal, as follows: YCC contacts RCTCBC to see if they are willing to erect a permanent traffic sign. The council will need to confirm that if signs are purchased the legislation and RCT will need to confirm that they can be erected. The council would also need to look at maintenance. If not, we request permission to install our own camera subject to legislation and permission to do so. Cllr Haines proposed to accept this amendment, this was seconded by Cllr Ellis. Four councillors voted for purchasing a camera once all information has been received so a more informed decision could be made, three against. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact Tim Phillips of RCTCBC to enquire as to whether the signs will be permanent. CONTACTED TP

## 6.7 Lest We Forget board outside the United Services Inn – update

This has now been taken down.

## **6.8 Crash barriers on Ynysybwl Road – update from RCTCBC**

The Clerk has spoken with Simon Pritchard of the RCTCBC Highways department regarding the crash barriers. The council are struggling to renew the crash barriers due to not having solid foundations. To install barriers to modern standards could result in the ground being pulled into the river.

The Highways Department are currently trying to find a solution to providing crash barriers, one suggestion has been to move the footway to the other side of the road, but it is accepted that, whatever decision is made, it will be a significant job, engineering wise and financially.

Simon has offered to come and talk to the Community Council, once restrictions allow, to explain what needs to be done and how Highways will go about it. Any suggestions will need a feasibility study, therefore it could be some time before the road is back to normal.

## **6.9 Possibility of disability play equipment being installed at the Rec – update**

Cllrs Burnell, Ellis and the Clerk had a very positive meeting with Lisa Austin of RCTCBC at the Rec. It was agreed that there is no equipment for inclusive play. Lisa stated there is a possibility that the area could be revamped but nothing further will be known until April and depends on the budgets. If we could provide some costs towards a revamp this would be in our favour. It was **RESOLVED** to put the installation of equipment on hold for now, while we wait to hear from RCTCBC. Cllr C Jones commented that capital budgets would already have been fixed but Cllr M Jones disputed this. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact Lisa Austin to say that we look forward to hearing from her regarding this matter. **DONE**

## **6.10 Provision of Christmas lights and tree for Coed y Cwm in 2021 – quotation received from Centregreat**

The residents of Coed y Cwm were extremely pleased with the provision of a Christmas tree and lights last year so Centregreat have been approached for costings for lights for the area for December 2021. The lights will be in the form of garlands that wind around the posts rather than lights that hang from brackets as the posts will not support the weight of those. The cost would be £615 per post (which includes the cost of the garland plus the conversion of the street lighting column with festive cut out unit and 2Pin Blue Socket to accept power from new garland feature light). Cllr Ellis proposed buying the lights, Cllr Haines seconded. It was **RESOLVED** that we purchase 6 garlands for the entrance to the estate to start. **CONTACTED CENTREGREAT TO ORDER**

## **6.11 The possibility of a picnic area on the Lady Windsor trail – update**

Cllrs Burnell, Ellis, RC Evans and the Clerk were due to meet with Carl Davies at the site to discuss taking forward. However, due to Storm Christoph, the meeting was postponed. The Clerk is currently waiting to hear from Carl with regards to setting up another meeting. The Chair has spoken with Dave Harris of Men's Sheds and they have bird boxes ready to install. Cllr Ellis informed members that we need, by law, to have a bio diversity plan and she has spoken with Mark Gethyn Davies and YRP who are both happy to contribute to the plan and help with information boards etc. Cllr C Jones commented that this was a great concept as long as it is viable and used. It would be ideal for hikers who use the trail. Signs need to be erected so people know it's there. Cllr Ellis recommended getting other organisations involved. Cllr RC Evans was concerned about the health and safety aspect but Cllr Burnell assured that risk assessments would be carried out. **CONTACTED CARL DAVIES TO ARRANGE MEETING**

## **6.12 Ynysybwl Bowls Club – meeting to be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

Dave Batten of RCTCBC Parks department has agreed to meet with Cllrs Burnell, Ellis and the Clerk together with Cllr Sue Pickering on 11<sup>th</sup> February. Feedback will be given in the March meeting.

## **6.13 Commemorative benches for the War Memorial – update**

The benches are currently in the United Services Inn awaiting installation. The Chair has met with Glenn Fortt to discuss the exact positioning and they will be at 45 degrees to the monument. Extra legs will be welded on to the seat and attached to the stones. Cllr M Jones asked if members of the Royal British Legion had been consulted, it was confirmed that they had.

## **6.14 Bus shelters in the community - update.**

Several positive comments had been received with regards to the tidying up and painting of the bus shelter in Church Street. The Chair extended thanks to Tony Richardson and his team for their efforts. Cllr RC Evans informed members that he had seen people using the bus shelter in New Road, despite Cllr C Jones stating that it was not used.

## **7. CHAIRPERSONS REPORT**

### **7.1 Funeral of Cllr Richard ‘Dickie’ Isaac**

The Chair expressed sadness at the passing of Richard ‘Dickie’ Isaac, who he described as a friend, superb councillor and loyal to the village he lived in. The funeral will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February and the procession will start from Mynachdy Farm at 2pm, head through the village, enabling people to pay their respects on route, and end back at the farm where a family service will be held followed by interment.

A one minute silence was held in order for members to pay respects to Cllr Isaac.

### **7.2 Future of the youth club during Covid situation and forthcoming funding**

The youth club has not been running due to Covid restrictions on the opening of the Community Centre. Tom has now left and the Chair has wished him all the best in his new job role. Ynysybwl Enterprise Programme has applied for a further 3 years funding from Children in Need to keep the youth club running once it is safe to do so. Cllr M Jones asked the Chair to inform YEP that they will be kept up to date on the opening of the Community Centre.

### **7.3 Chair’s work with the University of South Wales and possible link to the Chamber of Trade proposal**

The Chair has been involved with the University of South Wales and will possibly bring some students on board to help with the Chamber of Trade. See also minute 6.5.

## **8. CLERKS REPORT**

### **8.1 Request for annual leave**

The Clerk has leave to take prior to 31<sup>st</sup> March and has requested 29<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April (first week of the Easter holidays). Cllr C Jones stated that the Clerk needs more hours to complete the work she is expected to carry out. The Chair asked the Clerk for her thoughts on this. The clerk advised that she is able to carry

out her workload in an efficient and timely manner within the hours that she currently works. The clerk advised council that she would not be able to work any more hours due to family commitments and would have to leave the council's employment if more hours were added. It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk's hours would remain the same.

## **8.2 Office rental – update**

The Clerk has spoken with Andrew Vranich and they will be invoicing from February 2021. The heating has not yet been sorted at the premises and at the moment it is far too cold to work there, therefore it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will work at home until the heating is installed. Andrew Vranich will contact the Clerk when this is done. The water leak from under the outside wall has now been fixed by Welsh Water. Cllr RC Evans asked if YCC could provide heaters for the office until the heating is installed but this suggestion was declined due to health and safety reasons.

## **8.3 Undertaking the Clerk's qualification**

This had already been agreed in an earlier meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk sign up for the next intake which begins in April.

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **9.1 Walking and cycling in RCT – Rhondda Cynon Taf online consultation**

Cllrs Burnell and Ellis have already completed the consultation and urged other members to do so as comments and suggestions of residents will be taken into consideration.

### **9.2 NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Day, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – local councils, communities and others throughout Wales are being encouraged to play a leading role**

Cllr Ellis felt that YCC should get involved with this and come up with ideas to help publicise and celebrate the day. It was **RESOLVED** to publicise this on the YCC Facebook page and website and to agenda this item for later in the year. **ADDED TO APRIL AGENDA**

### **9.3 Welsh Government – Connecting with your local community – a Communications Guide for Welsh Community and Town Councillors and their Clerks.**

Noted – for information

### **9.4 Correspondence from Cllr C Jones**

Several of the topics included in this correspondence have already been discussed. Other topics that Cllr C Jones would like to address include the Gwyl Festival (to be addressed in 9.6), driving lessons for young people and an under 12s football tournament.

Cllr Jones felt that young people in the village were being overlooked. However, Cllr Burnell stated that a lot of projects involving young people had been carried out in the village over recent years including the youth club. Mark from YRP is about to undertake a cycling road safety course with young people. With regards to the football, YEP have held an under 11s tournament for the past 3 years on the Rec.

Cllr Ellis suggested that if anyone wanted to put forward proposals to members, they should do the research and the work towards these proposals. Cllr Haines stated that he had been saying this for some time, Cllr RC Evans agreed. Cllr Ellis felt that the Clerk did enough hours and did not require any more.

**9.5 Justin Barrow, Ynysybwl Co-operative regarding parking in the loading bay**

Noted – for information (notices placed on YCC Facebook page and website)

**9.6 Phillip Evans, Secretary, YEP regarding Gwyl 2021**

An update on the Gwyl 2021 was received from YEP and thanked the Community Council for their financial assistance. Cllr Ellis stated that the festival was YEPs concern and that once the money had been allocated, it was up to YEP to make the decisions on what it was used for. Cllr C Jones said that it would have to be agreed by Health & Safety before it could proceed this year. Cllr Burnell confirmed that a decision would be made around April.

**10. TO CONSIDER:**

***Town & Country Planning Applications***

Planning Application: 20/0738/19

DERWEN FAWR, PLEASANT VIEW, YNYSYBWL, PONTYPRIDD, CF37 3PF

Permission to cut Oak tree down

No objections

Planning Application: 20/0019/10

DINGLEWOOD, PLEASANT VIEW, YNYSYBWL, PONTYPRIDD, CF37 3PF

Replacement of plot 3 outline permission (09/0671/13) - New detached dwelling with integral garage, including access, landscaping and on plot parking.

No objections

**11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept accounts for payment for February for the amount of £7634.13

An amount of £275 was added to the previous amount of £7359.13. This was an invoice received from RCTCBC for hire of Hawthorn Astro Turf Pitch from September to December 2020 by Ynysybwl Football Club.

**12. GRANT AID (S137)**

No applications had been received.

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

**13.1 Correction to article in Newstream, issue 10, regarding money paid to Ynysybwl Regeneration Partnership and not Ynysybwl Community Project**

It was **RESOLVED** to write to Glyn Hicks and request that a correction be placed in the next issue of Newstream. CONTACTED GH

### **13.2 New dog fouling banners for the Rec**

The dog fouling banner has disintegrated due to weather, having been on display for 2 years. The Print Shop has quoted a price of £70 for 2 new banners, one to replace the previous one and one for the fencing on the tennis courts where it will be visible to those heading down to the bottom pitch. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase 2 banners. Cllr RC Evans had spoken to Sarah and Matthew from MST Sports who informed him that 2 bins have been removed from Windsor Place. It was **RESOLVED** to contact the Community Warden regarding this. **BANNERS ORDERED. CONTACTED NP RE: BINS**

### **13.3 Off road bikes on the Lady Windsor trail and Llanwynno – what can be done**

A joint initiative between NRW and the police has been set up to try and combat off road bikes which appear to be a problem throughout South Wales. 2 notices were issued last weekend which means that if the offenders are caught a second time their bikes will be taken away. Patrols are now active in all problem areas including Llanwynno and the Lady Windsor trail. We are being urged to keep reporting any incidents to 101, the more reports they receive, the more likely they are to investigate.

### **13.4 Shell electric car service points in Ynysybwl**

The Chair has looked into this, there are currently 24 service points in South Wales with 2 in Tesco, Upper Boat. The Chair spoke with the owner of the Roberttown Garage who is currently not interested in installing an electric point. Cllr Ellis stated that Welsh Government want to roll this out but they need to look at how they will go about it. Cllr C Jones believed that the Roberttown Garage could reap the benefits if they installed a point eg, users may decide to use the garage for other things such as services. Cllr Ellis suggested that this could be built into the bio diversity plan. Cllr RC Evans also requested that disabled buggy and electric bike service points are also considered. It was **RESOLVED** to look at Welsh Governments plans for electric points.

### **13.5 Defib article for Newstream to make the community aware of locations**

Cllr Haines was asked to write a short article about the defibs in the village, their locations and their usage. As Cllr Haines is currently extremely busy in work, Cllr Ellis volunteered to take this on using information from the WAST website.

### **13.6 Organising a river clean possibly with NRW and Keep Wales Tidy**

Cllr Ellis has written to NRW, RCTCBC and Keep Wales Tidy with regards to the appalling amount of rubbish that is in the Clydach near Old Parish Road and included photographs. A resident has done the same. The steepness of the banks means that any river clean will need to be carried out professionally. Cllr Ellis will keep members informed of any developments.

## **14. BUDGET**

**14.1** Current bank balance is £58800.79. Cllr Ellis enquired as to whether RCTCBC have reimbursed the £3 they owe from the precept. The Clerk did enquire about this but has received no reply as yet. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact RCTCBC. **CONTACTED RCTCBC**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the budget.

## **15. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**15.1** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 6.45pm.



**Closure of official business of the council**  
**Verbal report of the Community Councillors**

**Meeting closed at 9pm**

Signed: ..... Date.....