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CYNGOR CYMUNED

YNYSYBWL & COED-Y-CWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

YNYSYBWL COMMUNITY CENTRE on Tuesday 6th June 2023

at 6.45pm

Acting Clerk.....

PRESENT:- Councillors Mrs A Ellis, Mrs C Banwell, Mrs P Evans, Mrs E Leach, Messrs RC Evans, C Jones

1. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

None

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs M Jones (due to illness), Cllr G Haines (due to illness), Cllr R Davies (due to work commitments).

3. POLICE

Nothing to report this month. We have been informed that bike operations will occur in the near future. Sam, our current PCSO is leaving and her replacement will be PCSO Liam Jones who the Chair and Vice Chair will meet with imminently.

4. COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

No report has been received this month.

5. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 5.1** Cllr RC Evans questioned why there was no item 13.6 or 13.7 on the minutes. The copy he held was the draft version and incorrect.
- 5.2** Cllr C Jones informed members that he had provided the Clerk with all the information and paperwork for the school jumpers initiative but no report had been written. The minutes state that the Clerk had invited Cllr C Jones to write a report but Cllr C Jones states that this was not the case.
- 5.3** The Clerk should have sent the Community Council constitution to the British Chamber of Commerce but this has not been done.

Following these observations, it was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting from 9th May.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes for the AGM on 9th May.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 6.1** The Chamber of Commerce item is not included.

- 6.2 Item 10 – reviewing the accounts to date. An audit file has been compiled by the Clerk but is not complete. The Chair will contact the Audit Office to request an extension as the audit will not be ready for submission by 30th June. The internal audit will need to be done and one of the Community Council Clerks has offered to carry this out. Once the internal audit is complete, all the accounts will be brought back to council to ratify again. No minutes have been printed out for signature by the Clerk despite requesting them.

7. CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

- 7.1 It will be a busy few months to get things sorted. Declarations of Acceptance for the Chair and Vice Chair need to be signed as this was not done in the AGM.
- 7.2 Clerk's Vacancy – we have received two applications. One works in local government so has experience in that area but would like to work from home. A HR meeting will have to be called to discuss the applications. Cllr C Jones expressed concerns that the person appointed will need commitment to the role. There are no adverts for the job role on any of the noticeboards. It was **RESOLVED** to display posters on the noticeboards and readvertise on social media.
- 7.3 Community Councillor Vacancy – there are no posters for the vacancy in any of the noticeboards but it has been advertised on social media and the CC website. It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair contact Huw Davies tomorrow regarding the statutory notice. If no election has been called, we can look at co-opting in July.
- 7.4 Standing Orders need to be reviewed. Cllr RC Evans would like to check on 3a, Meetings Generally. This overrides what was originally on Standing Orders, which states that meetings cannot be held in a venue that serves alcohol. Cllr RC Evans felt that such a venue may be needed in the future for larger meetings. Licenced premises cannot be used for meetings but Cllr RC Evans believes that this is not the case. It was **RESOLVED** to defer the adoption of Standing Orders until July.
- 7.5 An additional planter has been requested by the Neighbourhood Watch in Coed y Cwm to be placed by the Friendly Bench. The Clerk had researched prices and the costs were £458.85 plus VAT for a large planter and £361.20 plus VAT for a smaller one. Barri Williams of Neighbourhood Watch had requested a smaller planter and the NW would plant and maintain this. All were in agreement to provide this. It was **RESOLVED** to contact Amberol to order one, and the Chair will speak to Barri Williams to see if they would like another. If yes, this will be brought to council at a later date for discussion.
- 7.6 Our new PCSO will be Liam Jones. The Chair spoke with Sam and thanked her for her work in the village, such as providing sanitary products free of charge.
- 7.7 The Clerk had contacted 6 accountancy firms in Pontypridd regarding the position of Internal Auditor. Two firms declined, no replies from the rest. We have had a response from the Clerk at Tonyrefail who is willing to take on the position. It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair contact her tomorrow.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 Correspondence has been received via email from Welsh Government, Visit Wales, RCT and One Voice Wales. All relevant communication has been forwarded to members. The Chair asked members if they required all that information as some of it is not relevant, or would they prefer to add a link to the agenda where they can find consultations from Welsh Government. It was **RESOLVED** to do this in the future.

- 8.2 The Chair has received a letter from Aled Maughan with regards to becoming a Community Councillor. It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair contact him to advise him that we are waiting to hear if an election will be called, if not this will be on the agenda for July. As his address is Glyncoch, it was **RESOLVED** that the Chair contact Huw Davies to see if he would be able to serve as a member of the Ynysybwl & Coed y Cwm Community Council.

9. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 9.1 This week's planning applications have been received and contains none for Ynysybwl & Coed y Cwm. Cllr C Jones enquired about the application for the top of High Street as he has concerns about the traffic situation at the bend of High Street on to the bridge. The plans indicate that the house is quite large and there were fears that it would overlook other properties. It was **RESOLVED** to submit objections regarding these matters.
- 9.2 Cllr RC Evans reminded members that we have received no feedback with regards to the house at the bottom of Robert Street that has a pull in parking space. It was observed at the time that visual splay here was poor and that reversing out on to the road from the pull in could be dangerous. The Chair believes that retrospective planning was applied for and that we could contact the planning department and ask if the application had been granted.

10. ACCOUNTS

- 10.1 Accounts for May have been circulated under separate cover. The balance at the moment is £57624.50 in the Business Bank account and £1000 in the Treasurer's account as always. There are two more precepts left to be deposited and just over £6000 to go in from the solar panel field, some of which we agreed would be paid to Butchers Pool. The Chair had the Deed of Document from the solar panel field today but it has had to be sent back as David Ludlow's name was stated as the witness. Cllr C Jones commented that compared to other Community Council's we are doing very well, the Chair agreed and felt that we are spending money on worthwhile causes.

11. GRANT AID (S137) & WELLBEING

- 11.1 One request for grant aid has been received from Buru Karate Club. Currently the club has sufficient income to cover immediate operating costs but now needs to purchase suitable mats for the floor for Health & Safety purposes. 90% of the students are from Ynysybwl & Coed y Cwm. The club is correctly constituted and has a bank account. They are asking for £800.00 to cover the costs of the mats. It was **RESOLVED** to award the full amount.
- 11.2 A request received from SSAFA, the armed forces charity for support. It was **RESOLVED** to award £50.00.

12. TO CONSIDER ITEMS BROUGHT TO THE COUNCIL BY MEMBERS

- 12.1 Cllr P Evans provided feedback on the first Cooking on a Budget session. This was very successful with 9 people attending (the maximum is 10). Everyone who attended really enjoyed and the food was amazing. Only one person is not returning due to illness. Everyone else from this session is returning for the next one plus two extra people. Cllr C Jones feels that this is a great idea but warned that, with more people accessing foodbanks it may become harder to control. Cllr RC Evans enquired about the slow cooker initiative from RCT. The Chair stated that she had asked about this but had not yet received a date but will chase this up.
- 12.2 Cllr C Jones has asked that RCT be contacted to ensure that waste bins on the street are regularly emptied as they are regularly full & overflowing. There are certain bins that are on

a Zone 1 circuit that should be emptied every day. The Co-op should come under Zone1, it was **RESOLVED** that this be checked.

12.3 Cllr P Evans raised the concern regarding public transport issues. She had been approached by a resident who had missed two appointments, one of them an important hospital appointment, due to the buses not running. Cllr P Evans had contacted Adventure Travel who cited a shortage of drivers as the reason. Cllr C Jones stated that the situation will not get better and reminded members that funding of 150 million ended in July. The Chair told members that this has been extended by Welsh Government by 46 million which is still not enough. We need to be prepared probably for an hourly service. The biggest problem is driver retention. Adventure Travel have informed us that they are doing everything to recruit, train and retain drivers. Cllr C Jones informed members that the money spent on school transport comes to a third of the education budget. If we could save 20% of the money spent on school transport that would be approximately 2 million extra to spend on education. This is being looked at seriously at the moment, especially with the Active Travel act. The Active Travel Panel are meeting regularly within the Senedd and members will be updated when information is available. It was **RESOLVED** to continue contacting the bus service whenever we receive a complaint.

12.4 Cllr C Jones updated council regarding the Eisteddfod. A venue has yet to be announced. Ynysybwl has a very strategic part to play. The minimum amount of people attending would be in the region of 160,000 in Pontypridd. The University of South Wales will be used for accommodation but this will still not be enough so tents and caravans could be used. If residents are on holiday during the event, they could rent their house out to those attending. This could bring a lot of money into the village as it is expected that 1 million will be spent in 8 days. Cllr C Jones will be attending a further meeting tomorrow evening. There will be pre-events and some of these may be held in Ynysybwl. Locations could include Mynachdy Farm, the Brynfynnon, the Old Bwl, Lady Windsor and the Recreation Ground. Free Welsh lessons have been offered in the run up to the Eisteddfod and Cllr C Jones has spoken to the Con Club with regards to providing a room for this. Cllr C Jones will feedback at the next meeting in July.

12.5 Cllr C Jones informed members that Welsh speaking pupils from Ynysybwl can express a preference to go to Abercynon if they so wish. The Chair agreed and stated that they can request to attend any Welsh school in the area.

13. DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE FROM CLLR RC EVANS & G HAINES

13.1 There were no issues with the defibrillators.

14. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday 4th July at Ynysybwl Community Centre.

Closure of official business of the Council

Verbal report of the Community Councillors

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed: Date.....