

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 2nd March 2021

at 6.45pm

Clerk.....

PRESENT:- Councillors A Burnell, G Haines, C Jones, RC Evans, Mrs A Ellis, M Jones, C Banwell

1. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no disclosures of personal interest

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr H Osborne

3. PUBLIC BREAK

There was no public break.

4. POLICE

- 4.1** No report has been received this month due to PCSO Vbranch being on secondment elsewhere and the new PCSO has not yet started. Cllr Burnell was introduced to the new PCSO, Molly, who will be ready to start in the next few weeks. Cllr Ellis reminded members that the PCSO was under no obligation to provide a report and that PCSO Vbranch had done this in the past as a goodwill gesture. The Community Council had a very good relationship with PCSO Vbranch and it was hoped that this would continue with the new PCSO and that they would volunteer a monthly report. Cllr Ellis informed members that she had received an email from Nadine Marshall, who is standing for Police Commissioner, and she is happy to attend our meetings should she obtain the post.

5. TO APPROVE MINUTES

Cllr Haines pointed out an error in the previous minutes on item 6.6, Flashing Speed Indicators for the Village. Cllr Haines proposed purchasing our own signs. Cllr Ellis proposed an amendment to this. Cllr Haines then proposed to accept the amendment which Cllr Ellis seconded. Cllr Evans stated that when Cllr Haines proposed the amendment it wasn't seconded, however, this was not the case. Cllr Haines proposed the minutes from February, following the amendment, seconded by Cllr Jones. DONE

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 To receive the report of the Community Warden

Cllr Jones felt that the area at the top of New Road, at the flats where the shop used to be, needed to be concentrated on as there is always lots of rubbish left there. Cllr Burnell pointed out that this was private land and therefore there is very little that can be done. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact the Warden and enquire as to whether they would be able to look into this. DONE

6.2 The possibility of a picnic area on the Lady Windsor trail – update on site meeting held on 10th February

A contract needs to be drawn up between YCC and the landowner which will cost approximately £600. This is a legal agreement for the protection of both the landowner and the Community Council. The Clerk has contacted the landowner regarding the cost of their solicitor checking the agreement and is awaiting a reply. Nathan Ellis has offered to draw up a plan of the site, free of charge which will help when planning the area. It is anticipated that Mens Sheds and other community groups will be involved. It is hoped that this will be a community spirited project and will help to bring Coed y Cwm closer. The working group is due to meet with the RCT Green Spaces Officer on Thursday 4th March and will feedback at the next meeting.

6.3 Renovation of the stand in the Rec – update of meeting held with Parks Department and discussion regarding the Bowls Club

Cllrs Burnell, Ellis, the Clerk and Cllr Sue Pickering met with Dave Batten and Mark Prior of the RCTCBC Parks Department. There was no commitment to investing money into the stand but if we can obtain some funding they are happy to match this. Cllr Ellis has spoken to the Bowls club and they are keen to join other sporting organisations in the village to form a committee to apply for grants. They have asked that the Community Council support them in this. Cllr Burnell had looked into the Church Act Fund but under the current criteria they will not be able to award a grant. He also asked for an update on the progress for changing rooms – 3 tenders had been put out but nothing received back. Cllr M Jones enquired as to why they cannot receive grant funding as Welsh Government have announced funds for RCT which have not been spent as yet.

6.4 Commemorative seats at the War Memorial – update

Cllr Burnell informed members that the Facebook item about the new seats had received over 170 likes and that positive comments have been made throughout the village. Cllr Burnell thanked Cllr Evans and Ceryn Hughes for trimming the plants in the remembrance planters. All agreed that the seats were a welcome addition and Cllr M Jones stated that the Royal British Legion were very pleased with them. Cllr Ellis commented that little things go a long way in the community. Cllr Evans announced that a new flag would be erected on Wednesday 3rd March. The monument has also been cleaned.

6.5 Crash barriers on the Ynysybwl Road - update

The Chair has spoken with the Highways Department and it is still undecided what to do. There is a possibility that a pavement may be installed with barriers but we will be kept informed about any developments.

7. CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

7.1 February minutes regarding speeding measures and relating to the article printed on social media

The Chair would like to point out that he is not against speeding measures in the community, as recently posted in a Facebook article, but against purchasing a camera. Cllr Evans also stated that he is not against speeding measures and was unhappy with his name being printed on Facebook when it was not mentioned in the minutes. He also said that he was against spending £2019 on something that he believes is not fit for purpose, and that currently, police authorities are accepting dash cam footage in order to prosecute.

7.2 Code of Conduct training for new and existing councillors

All existing councillors need refresher Code of Conduct training and any new councillors also need to complete this. It was **RESOLVED** that, when lockdown restrictions are lifted, the Community Council book a group training session.

8. CLERKS REPORT

8.1 Notice of Casual Vacancy for the upper ward and co-option of Councillors

Three applications have been received for the vacancy. Cllr C Jones suggested that the Clerk distribute ballot papers with a deadline for receipt. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk arrange this and ensure that any absent members also receive papers.

8.2 Annual leave – request for 32 hours annual leave over the following dates:

Monday 2nd August to Thursday 5th August 2021 (16 hours)

Monday 25th October to Thursday 28th October 2021 (16 hours)

The Clerk also requested annual leave from Monday 9th August to Thursday 12th August (16 hours). It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Clerk's annual leave.

8.3 Update on working at the office/from home

The Clerk had been contacted by Andrew Vranich and the heating will be installed next week, therefore the Clerk will be able to work in the office week commencing 15th March.

8.4 Hospital appointment on Wednesday 3rd March

Noted

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Welsh Government and RCTCBC regarding the White Bridge closure

Correspondence from RCTCBC indicates that the White Bridge may open in summer 2021 with load restrictions. It was **RESOLVED** to publish a post on the YCC Facebook page and website informing residents of the progress.

9.2 Hope Rescue – request for donations

All members were happy to support this charity, especially as they work in conjunction with Friends of the Animals Wales who are based in the village. Cllr Ellis proposed an amount of £250 from the Wellbeing

fund, Cllr C Jones seconded. Cllr M Jones suggested that we emphasise this will be a one off payment. It was **RESOLVED** to award a donation of £250.

9.3 Mark, YRP regarding upcoming events/activities

Cllr Ellis commended YRP for the upcoming events and activities and hoped that the football event will take place in April. Cllr C Jones commented that it was good but he would like to see their plans for the next 3 years. Cllr Burnell informed Cllr C Jones that he could make an appointment to visit the YRP office when restrictions allow to see the good work they are doing there.

9.4 Welsh 3000s Challenge – request for funding

This is being run by Neil Griffiths and will benefit 3 charities – Noah’s Ark, the Cystic Fibrosis Trust and Sands. Some of the team members have received support from these charities. Cllr Ellis proposed a donation of £300 which was agreed by all. It was **RESOLVED** to award a donation of £300.

9.5 Operation London Bridge – protocol in the event of the death of a member of the Royal Family

Noted for information

10. TO CONSIDER:

Town & Country Planning Applications

Planning Application: 21/0167/10

Proposed Garage – land to the rear of Redlands, New Road, Ynysybwl, CF37 3HA

No objections but an observation was made with regards to access from the back lane.

Planning Application: 21/0057/10

Two storey rear extension and raise roof height of existing area to the side of main dwelling – Llechwen Farm, Mill Road, Ynysybwl, CF37 3LR

No objections

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Accounts were proposed by Cllr Ellis and seconded by Cllr Banwell. It was **RESOLVED** to accept accounts for payment for March for the amount of £1117.49

12. GRANT AID (S137)

No applications had been received.

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

13.1 Ynysybwl Sports & Snacks – request for provision of health lunch packs for a 60 minute multi sports session delivered at the Rec during the Easter holidays

The provision of healthy lunch packs by the Community Council was agreed last year. All were in agreement that these should be provided should the event take place in March/April.

13.2 Erection of signs on the Lady Windsor site and trail stating that off road bikes are not allowed to use the area

Off road bikes are becoming a problem on the Lady Windsor site and it has been suggested that signs be erected stating that they are not allowed to use the area. It was **RESOLVED** to contact Tim Phillips of RCT to see if this could be done.

13.3 Purchase of dog bins in Ynysybwl & Coed y Cwm and along the Lady Windsor trail

It was felt that there are already lots of dog bins in Ynysybwl but Coed y Cwm could possibly have one more. It was **RESOLVED** to contact the Community Warden for a map of dog bin locations and to see if an extra bin can be put in Coed y Cwm. Cllr Haines requested that we publish the locations on our Facebook page. Cllr C Jones was concerned that RCTCBC will not install more dog bins. The Community Council can install more dog bins on the Lady Windsor trail but RCTCBC will not empty them. Cllr Banwell stated that YCC should not provide dog bins when it should be the responsibility of RCTCBC

13.4 The use of social media by Community Councillors

Cllr Evans was concerned about the article that appeared on social media following the February meeting, where councillors were named, without their consent, as being against speeding measures in the village, which was not the case. It was agreed in June 2019 that, prior to the minutes being published, the Clerk should be responsible for posting on social media. When the minutes are in the public domain it becomes 'open house'. Cllr Evans stated that the incident has made him feel that he does not want to vote on issues for fear of being ostracized. Cllr Ellis stated that she had no issue with councillors posting on social media, but they must be mindful and respectful of what they post. If it is council business the clerk should be responsible but there is nothing wrong with councillors posting to promote projects or issues within the village. There is a legal obligation to record the vote in the minutes, but no names, unless the voter states otherwise, need to be mentioned. The Community Council need to be cohesive and work as a team. Cllr Haines apologized to everyone for any upset caused but stated that, according to the WLGA guidelines there is no reason why councillors cannot post on social media and that people should stand by their vote. Cllr Evans requested that he is asked for consent before his name is mentioned in any posts. Cllr Burnell stated that he is not frightened of being counted but agreed with other councillors that prior to the draft minutes being published, any social media posting should be done by the Clerk. Cllr Haines asked that the Clerk ensured that the minutes are clearly stated as 'draft' when put on the website. The Community Council has a social media policy and it was **RESOLVED** that this should be looked at as a unit in order that an agreement can be reached that everyone feels comfortable with. Cllr Haines asked that members read the WLGA guidelines prior to this discussion.

13.5 Available regeneration grants from RCTCBC for local businesses

Information on the application process has been passed on to interested parties by the Clerk.

13.6 Traffic lights in Glyncoch – what work is being carried out and how long are they expected to be in place

The Chair has spoken with Simon Pritchard of RCTCBC Highways regarding this. The pavement is collapsing due to people digging under the road to obtain bottles that are buried there. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk keep in touch with Simon Pritchard for progress on this.

13.7 Lockdown in Ynysybwl & Coed y Cwm – photography competition

The Chair brought the idea to members and asked for thoughts on this. Cllr Ellis liked the concept and the idea of having a gallery, councillors would now have to look at how the competition will work. Cllr

Burnell suggested different categories such as nature or families, and even the floods could be included. It was **RESOLVED** to bring some ideas to the next meeting in April.

13.8 Lady Windsor Monument – cleaning the monument and tidying up the surrounding area

The monument has recently been cleaned. As this is an important landmark, it was felt that we should look at giving the area a facelift. The estimated total cost for a miners seat, bin, plaque and bolt kit would be £2823. Cllr Ellis proposed we go ahead as this would spruce up a drab area for the community to take pride in, Cllr Banwell seconded. Cllr Haines suggested installing an information board as well. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact the supplier, David Ogilvie, for a price for all the items including an information board. Glenn Fortt is happy for the items to be delivered to him at the depot ready for his team to install. They will also replace the fencing.

14. BUDGET

14.1 The budget is up to date. There is a slight discrepancy of approximately £8 which needs to be looked at. Cllr Ellis suggested that all councillors undertake the finances training. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the budget.

15. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15.1 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th April at 6.45pm.

Closure of official business of the council

Verbal report of the Community Councillors

Meeting closed at 8pm

Signed: Date.....