
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT SENGHENYDD COMMUNITY CENTRE,
ON THURSDAY 10th JANUARY 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairperson: Councillor J. Taylor

Councillors: M. E. Battle, D. Berry, L. Binding, G. Bowen, P. Mitchell,
B. Morris, E. P. Prendergast, J. Roberts, M. Stretch

APOLOGIES:

Councillor: L. Crothers

2617/13 CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

The Chairperson welcomed the winners of the Aber Valley Community Council Christmas Competition and presented the prizes for the best decorated properties in the Aber Valley to the following:

Abertridwr: Mrs Edmunds
33 Dan y Graig, Abertridwr

Senghenydd: Mrs Rowlands
35 Tan y Bryn, Senghenydd

2618/13 SENGHENYDD RENEWAL AREA / REGENERATION

Members welcomed Kenyon Williams, Private Sector Housing Manager for CCBC, to the meeting to discuss the Senghenydd renewal area/regeneration.

Kenyon Williams explained the renewal area concept and gave a breakdown on what works have been completed over the previous years.

Members were informed that £1.61 million has been received at the end of this financial year (£360,000 Caerphilly funding and the remainder Welsh Government Funding).

No figure has been received for the next financial year (2013/14).

Aber Valley will be the only renewal area next year.

Land at Caerphilly Road – Kenyon Williams will contact the land owner to discuss the current situation and inform the Community Council of the outcome.

Kenyon Williams will attend future Community Council meetings and provide progress updates on a regular basis.

Members thanked Kenyon Williams for all the work that has been done in the Aber Valley over the last few years.

2619/13 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on 12th December 2012 were approved as a true record.

2620/13 **MATTERS ARISING**

2611/12 (2606/12 c) Grit Bins

Councillor P. Mitchell updated Members on the current situation regarding the waiting list for grit bins.

2613/12 (b) Site at Graig-yr-Hufen – Current Situation

Councillor J. Taylor is awaiting an update from Caerphilly County Borough Council and when received will send to the Clerk for distribution to Members.

2615/12 (2) One Voice Wales

Members resolved not to join One Voice Wales – the Clerk to inform One Voice Wales of the decision.

2621/13 **POLICE MATTERS**

A written report from P.C.S.O. Ian Williams was received and discussed:

- (a) Drug warrants on hold for further intelligence.
- (b) Problems reported on Senghenydd Mountain – off road bikes.
- (c) Tickets have been issued to vehicles parked on double yellow lines/bus bays over the past 4 weeks – the situation appears to be improving.

Members reported on the following matters:

- (a) Off road bikes / quad bikes reported on Senghenydd mountain and Eglwysilan common – the Clerk to contact Councillor David Poole for assistance in this matter.

2622/13 **MEMBERS/PUBLIC MATTERS**

Members matters:

- (a) Community Awards Plaques – Members discussed the idea placing a plaque in Abertridwr Community Centre and Senghenydd Community Centre to display the names of the recipients of the Aber Valley Community Awards.

The Clerk to obtain permission for the plaques to be situated in Abertridwr and Senghenydd Community Centres. Members agreed for the Clerk and the Chairperson to arrange accordingly.

- (b) Large potholes on the road leading from Commercial Street to Senghenydd Rugby Club – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (c) Bus Bay outside the SPAR in Abertridwr – the road markings will be undertaken in the new financial year and should be completed by the end of April.
- (d) Undercurrents – the theme for 2013 will be ‘Out of the Shadows’.

Public matters:

- (a) Aber Valley Heritage

Councillor L. Binding and Councillor G. Bowen declared an interest.

Representatives of the Heritage Committee - Jack Humphreys and Pat Bull attended the meeting and thanked the Community Council for the financial assistance and support they have received towards developing the new memorial in Senghenydd.

Jack Humphreys and Pat Bull gave an update on the Heritage Project and informed members that an application for funding from the Welsh Assembly Government was unsuccessful at this stage (CCBC are making further representations to the Welsh Assembly Government on behalf of the Heritage Committee).

Members were informed that due to time constraints the centre-piece has to be commissioned by the end of the January. The Heritage Committee has received an offer of £50,000 from Caerphilly County Borough Council towards the centre-piece and together with various fund raising there will be a shortfall if the funding from the Welsh Assembly Government remains unsuccessful.

The representatives of the Heritage Committee asked the Community Council if they would consider any financial support towards the centre-piece if necessary.

Members agreed to support the Heritage Committee in the next financial year (2013/14), if required, in the sum of up to £10,000.

2623/13

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson had nothing to report.

2624/13

CLERKS REPORT

(1) SECTION 'A' ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Members noted the following matters:-

- (a) Christmas Competition

(2) **SECTION 'B' ITEMS FOR DECISION**

(a) Digital Systems UK

Invoice received from Digital Systems for photocopying charges – £4.31 (including VAT). Members authorised the payment.

(b) Income Tax Contribution

Members authorised the amount due to the Inland Revenue in respect of income tax payments for November, December and January - £315.00.

(c) Christmas Tree Festival Accounts 2012

Members noted the accounts for the Christmas Tree Festival 2012 and agreed that the surplus amount could be held towards next years Christmas Tree Festival.

(d) Christmas Lighting – Electricity Contribution

Members agreed to pay a contribution to Cavanna Convenience Store on Senghenydd Square for allowing the Community Council to connect to their electricity supply for the Christmas lighting attached to their premises.

(e) Council Tax Base Notification

The Clerk to inform Caerphilly County Borough Council of the Precept details for 2013/14 by 1st February 2013.

(f) Annual Estimates/Council Tax Precept

Members considered the recommendations for the annual estimates for 2013/14 and confirmed the Precept amount of £29,500.

(g) CCBC Office Rent

Invoice received from Caerphilly County Borough Council for office rent – £260.00. Members authorised the payment.

(h) Local Election Re-charge

The Clerk informed Members of the costs attributable for elections held in May 2012 – awaiting an invoice from Caerphilly County Borough Council for £1,630.21.

(i) Senghenydd Post Office Branch – Proposed Move

The Clerk to write to the Post Office on behalf of the Community Council to support the proposed move of Senghenydd Post Office to

2625/13 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members declared interests on those applications in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and took no further part in the discussions on those individual applications.

Members considered applications for financial assistance and resolved as follows:

- (i) Welsh Border Canary Club - £25.00
- (ii) British Red Cross – £25.00
- (iii) Refurbishment of Kitchen Facilities at St Peter and St Cenydd Hall, Senghenydd - £200.00

It was resolved not to give financial support to Caerphilly Model Railway Society on this occasion.

2626/13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 14th February** at Abertridwr Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm