
ABER VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMABER

MINUTES OF THE ABOVE COUNCIL HELD AT ABERTRIDWR COMMUNITY CENTRE,
ON THURSDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2017

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Berry

Councillors: M. Battle, D. Daniels, E. P. Prendergast, J. Roberts, M. Stretch,
J. Taylor

Clerk: S. Hughes

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: L. Binding, A. Diblasi, T. Richards

65/2017 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution, and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Clerk.

66/2017 NANT-Y-PARC PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Nant-y-Parc Primary School was unable to attend the meeting.

67/2017 ST PETER'S CHURCH, SENGHENYDD – THE REVD. FR. MARK GREENAWAY-ROBBINS

The Revd. Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins attended the meeting to update Members on the current situation of St Peter's Church in Senghenydd.

Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins informed Members that the congregation were previously alternating between St Peter's Church and Eglwysilan Church. The congregation expressed that they had tried worshipping at St Peter's Church for a year and a half but wasn't successful in reaching out and engaging. During worshipping congregation meetings the majority voice preferred to focus on Eglwysilan Church and so as from April 2017 all regular worshipping has been held at Eglwysilan Church. The Revd. Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins informed Members that the decision as to whether St Peter's will be made redundant is with the new Bishop.

A long discussion was held and the following points were raised:

- (i) Members raised concerns that St Peter's Church is the local emergency centre – The Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council find out if it is the local emergency centre for Senghenydd and inform The Revd. Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins.

- (ii) Members stated that the kitchen had been refurbished and enquired as to whether there is a condition that an amount would need to be re-paid.
- (iii) Members asked whether there is an opportunity for partnership/community use of St Peter's Church – The Revd. Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins to make enquiries and Members to find out if there is an interest for this in the community.
- (iv) Members asked if the items in St Peter's Church would remain in the Aber Valley.

Members invited The Revd. Fr. Mark Greenaway Robbins to the next Community Council meeting to provide a further update and timescale on St Peter's Church.

68/2017 **PUBLIC MATTERS**

No public matters.

69/2017 **MINUTES OF THE LAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The minutes of the Financial Assistance meeting and the Community Council meeting held on 13th July 2017 were approved as a true record.

70/2017 **MATTERS ARISING**

- (i) Minute reference: 55/2017
Tim Stephens, Development Control Manager for Caerphilly County Borough Council, will attend the Community Council meeting to be held on Thursday 12th October 2017 to provide an update for Members on the wall at St Anne's Gardens, Abertridwr.
- (ii) Minute Reference: 59/2017 (ii)
A response has been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council informing that a Health Inspector and Pest Control Officer will visit the area of land at Francis Street, Abertridwr (which adjoins the land going down to Tridwr Road) to address the issue of rats however, they cannot bait safely on areas that are open to access and that could be disturbed or ingested by non-target species.
- (iii) Minute Reference: 62/2017 (a)
A response has been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council informing that the provision of road markings on the junction at St Anne's Gardens, Abertridwr will be undertaken within the next 6-8 weeks.
- (iv) Minute Reference: 63/2017 (4) (a)
A response has been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council informing that the road between Ysgol Ifor Bach and Senghenydd Rugby Field has been assessed and 3 defects in the carriageway edge have been identified for repair. The area of land adjacent to the cycleway is not made up of a carriageway structure so no improvements will be undertaken in that area.
- (v) Minute Ref: 63/2017 (4) (b)
A response has been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council informing that complaints have been received regarding certain bins in the Aber Valley area which hopefully have been resolved following a meeting

with frontline staff and they will endeavour to resolve any further problems as a matter of urgency.

71/2017 **POLICE MATTERS**

There was no representative of Gwent Police in attendance.

Members reported on the following Police matters:

- (i) Parking issues in the lane between King Street, Abertridwr and the side of the Oasis Coffee Shop – the Clerk to report to P.C.S.O. Ian Williams.
- (ii) Parking issues on the roundabout at the end of King Street, Abertridwr – the Clerk to report to P.C.S.O. Ian Williams.
- (iii) Gwent Police intend to transfer on-street parking enforcement duties to the local authorities across the Gwent area.

72/2017 **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The Chairperson had nothing to report.

73/2017 **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Members reported the following matters:

- (a) The SYDIC Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 4th December 2017.
- (b) A list of the SYDIC August 2017 summer activities was presented.
- (c) Members asked the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to enquire how Senghenydd Park and Abertridwr Park can achieve Green Flag Status.
- (d) Abertridwr Memorial Garden – Councillor J. Roberts to obtain an update on the area of land concerned.
- (e) A 'Welcome to the Aber Valley' sign on the road from Penyrheol leading into Abertridwr was requested – the Clerk to contact Caerphilly County Borough Council to make enquiries.
- (f) The Church wall on Commercial Street, Senghenydd has been hit by a car – Councillor J. Roberts is dealing with the matter.
- (g) Illicit tipping in the lane behind High Street, Senghenydd – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (h) Illicit tipping in the lane behind Clive Street, Senghenydd – the Clerk to report to Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- (i) A letter of resignation was received from Councillor Susan Cuddihy – the Clerk to inform Electoral Services and organise a Notice of Vacancy. Members asked the Clerk to send Susan Cuddihy a letter of thanks for her work as a Community Councillor.

CLERKS REPORT**(1) Current Financial Situation**

- (a) Councillor E. P. Prendergast has examined and authorised the Community Council's accounts.

Members received a copy of the income and expenditure to date, bank statement number 304 and 305 and a bank reconciliation – Members discussed and approved the Community Council's accounts.

(2) Income

- (a) Members noted the following income:

- (i) Caerphilly County Borough Council: the final instalment of the 2017/18 Community Council Precept – £17,250.00.

(3) Expenditure

- (a) Members approved the following invoices:

- (i) British Telecom – telephone charges
£52.24 including VAT

- (b) Members approved Playworks One payroll administration – Clerk's salary and related costs.

(4) Correspondence

- (a) Insurance

Members approved the insurance policy for 2017/18 with Zurich Municipal (a long term agreement active until 30th September 2018) – £704.49. The insurance renewal documents were presented for Members to examine.

- (b) Festive Lighting 2017/18

Members approved the quotation from Elsbury Access Platforms for the installation, recovery and storage of the festive lighting for 2017/18 – the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

- (c) Caerphilly Fireworks Display

Members considered the request from the Clerk of Caerphilly Town Council requesting a financial contribution towards the cost of the annual fireworks display at Caerphilly Castle.

It was agreed that the Community Council would contribute £250 towards the event.

- (d) Abertridwr Post Office

Members were informed that the Post Office will be proceeding with the relocation of the Abertridwr Post Office to the former Panteg Hotel where it will operate as one of the new main style Post Office branches.

- (e) Community Cleansing Programme

Notification has been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council that the community cleansing team will be working in the Aber Valley during the

week commencing 2nd October 2017 – Councillor J. Roberts to submit the schedule of works.

(5) Any Other Business

(a) Spring Flowers at Senghenydd Cenotaph

Members agreed for Councillor E. P. Prendergast and the Clerk to organise the planting of the daffodil bulbs to be placed around the Cenotaph in Senghenydd and also agreed that any subsequent costs be reimbursed.

(b) Universal Colliery Memorial Service

It was agreed that the Community Council would purchase flowers for the Annual Service of Remembrance for the Universal Colliery Disaster (1914) to be held on Friday 13th October 2017 – the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

(c) The Process for Applications for Financial Assistance

Deferred to the next meeting.

(d) Community Recognition Awards

Members received and discussed nominations for a community recognition award. The following community awards were agreed:

Senghenydd (Young Person): Shona Pitten
Abertridwr (Young Person): Iestyn Jones

(e) Community Council Presentation Evening

Members agreed the following arrangements for the presentation evening and agreed that any subsequent costs be reimbursed:

Community recipient award – plaque and £25
Entertainment expenses – £30
Refreshments – to be reimbursed as necessary

(f) Office Supplies

Members authorised the Clerk to purchase the necessary office supplies for Community Council business.

(6) Planning Applications

None.

75/2017

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 12th October 2017** at Senghenydd Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed: _____
Chairperson
Aber Valley Community Council