

Ogmore Valley Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

Tuesday 22 February 2022, 6.30 pm at Zoom
Dydd Mawrth 22 Chwefror 2022, 6.30 pm yng Zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance

Cllr Dhanisha Patel (Chair)

Cllr Gareth Prescott (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Margaret Lloyd

Cllr Hywel Williams (left at 7.45pm)

Cllr Andrew Davies (left at 7.55pm)

Cllr Andrew McKay

Cllr Angela Jones

Cllr Gary Rix

Scott Allin – Clerk

Laura Williams – Assistant Clerk/RFO

Ashleigh Davies – Warden (joined at 6.45pm)

139 Apologies for Absence

Apologies notified from the following:-

Cllr Richard Shakeshaft – work commitments

Resolved: members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence.

140 PCSO James Rowlands

The PCSO sent apologies but sent through the crime statistics for the period to February 2022 which are outlined below:-

Crime Statistics for:	Dec-21					Jan-22					Feb-22				
	Nanty'l Vale	Ogmore	Blackmill	Total	Evans'n	Nanty'l Vale	Ogmore	Blackmill	Total	Evans'n	Nanty'l Vale	Ogmore	Blackmill	Total	Evans'n
Dwelling burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Theft of vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Theft from vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All other theft	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Damage	1	2	1	4	0	1	1	3	5	1	0	0	1	1	0
Violence against The person	4	5	2	11	2	6	5	2	13	3	1	2	4	7	4
All crime total	5	8	3	16	2	7	6	3	16	5	1	2	5	8	4
ASB total	1	0	1	2	1	2	6	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drink Driving	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

It was noted that February 2022 had been relatively quiet for crime reports. The PCSO was working on an off-road bike operation.

It was noted that any concerns should be emailed to the PCSO. The next Cuppa with a Copper will be held on 24 February in the MEM in Nantymoel between 10am and noon.

It was agreed that while the Evanstown crime statistics for December 2021 were not included in the January 2022 draft minutes as they were now available they would be included in the final minutes so that they are available to the community.

It was noted that the level of detail provided in the crime statistics was less than previously due to data protection issues. The Clerk would check with the PCSO to see if any further detail could be provided.

141 Public Address (an opportunity for members of the public to bring any issues to the attention of the council) TEN MINUTES SESSION ONLY

No members of the public were present.

142 Warden's report

It was noted that this was a new section of the meeting and the Warden would provide a regular update on her activities to the Council. The Warden noted the following:-

- Planters Aberfields – Guttering to be installed onto the Aberfields changing room building to dispense rainfall to planters. Awaiting BCBC approval,
- Dog bins/dispensers – Waiting for BCBC Highways department for approval.
- Sharps boxes - Reviewing preferred method of disposal.
- Brushcutter/Strimmer – Borrowing from BCBC currently and checking availability of safety helmet and harness before use. Possible requirement to purchase a Strimmer for OVCC use if BCBC restricts borrowing. Warden is

currently waiting for full City and Guilds Brushcutter and Strimmer certificate having completed the course.

- Cwm Taf Nature Network - Hoping to liaise together for future projects.
- Plantlife – Agreed to host a Mini Meadows talk in March or beginning of April 2022.
- Tanio Cymru - To host free Nature Art sessions for the public at the Washeries picnic area with potential dates in late March 2022.
- Keep Wales Tidy – Discussing painting pawprints to encourage owners to pick up after dogs.
- Seed library – Researching the possibility of introducing a seed library to share seeds in the valley.
- Aberfields Planters – Reviewing possibility of painting planers although Cllr McKay suggested checking with KWT to ensure that painting the wood is appropriate.
- Volunteers from Groups in Assisted Living – Cllr Patel has taken this forward and discussed with Ogmre Priide the possibility of adults in assisted living helping with gardening/clearing etc.
- Meeting with a student on placement during next few months
- Litter picking and brush clearance has been undertaken throughout the valley including Evanstown and there is visible improvement in some areas.
- Next few months when the weather is better and the Warden moves to 20 hours per week will result in more visibility of work.
- An objective for the next six months is to get more community engagement in some areas and to build on the work undertaken by Priide and Bravos.
- Benches – a review of benches in the Valley and where more could be provided will be undertaken.

Resolved – To establish a Working Group to review benches in the Valley.

143 Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct & Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

There were no further declarations of interest.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL

144 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations

(a) Draft Full Council 25 January 2022

It was agreed to add the December Evanstown crime statistics (see minute 140 above) to the final published minutes.

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting.

(b) Draft Finance & General Committee 8 February 2022

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the Finance & General Committee meeting.

145 Matters Arising from previous meetings:-

Council Meeting

- Cuppa with a Copper

It was noted that the Cuppa with a Copper event was advertised through the police twitter feed, OVCC facebook and where possible the host venue as well.

- Evanstown Councillors

It was noted that a notice had been placed on the OVCC facebook page noting that the community in Evanstown should contact Cllr Hywel Williams as Borough Councillor or the Clerk where there are issues before the election. The Clerk had also mentioned this to members of the local community.

- Audit Wales

It was noted that the notice of acceptance of the Audit Wales recommendations had been published in the Glamorgan Gazette but that the prior year Audit reports are still with Audit Wales but are being chased.

- Marie Curie Donation Request

It was noted that Marie Curie had been asked to provide further information on the specifics of how much support is given to the population of the Ogmores Valley.

- Dog Bag Dispensers

It was noted that the Warden is awaiting a reply from BCBC's Highways Department.

- Valley in Bloom

It was noted that Link Cymru has been approached regarding a joint scheme.

- Historical Book Society Grant

It was noted the donation to the Ogmores Valley Local History Society to help with the funding of a book launch included an amount for a small finger buffet but due to Covid the caterer cancelled at the last minute. It is understood that some of the money was used for bacon rolls, teas and Coffees for invited guests only.

It was agreed that more guidance for recipients of donations could be sent out to let them know what to do when there was a change in the plans for expenditure.

Resolved – The Clerk to draft guidelines for use of donations and grants

It was agreed that the funds would not be reclaimed but the remaining funds would be identified and be held by OV Local History Society to be used on a future project.

Resolved – The Clerk to request OV Local History Society to identify remaining funds and how they may be used in the future.

- **Washeries Bridge**

It was noted that discussion with BCBCs Highways Department is underway regarding initial surveys for repair. BCBC has also appointed the Cwm Taf Nature Network to develop the Washeries and Aberfields. A site meeting has been planned for 3 March 2022 with Cllrs Patel and Lloyd attending.

- **River Clean Up**

It is understood that Keep Wales Tidy is planning a Big Spring Clean this year and a date has been requested.

Finance & General Committee

- **Treasury Management Policy**

Resolved – To review the options to deposit some of the Council’s reserves in other financial institutions.

- **Asset Register**

Resolved – To approve the Asset Register

- **Valuation of Assets**

Resolved – To revalue the Chains and BYCC later in 2022.

- **Payments**

Resolved – To give the Chair delegated authority to make urgent payments during March and April 2022.

- **Councillor Allowances**

Resolved – That allowance payments should be pro-rated for those Councillors who had resigned and to follow OVW guidance on Councillors who had not engaged.

- **Toolstation Account**

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Resolved – To set up a toolstation account

146 Finances

- (a) formal approval of payments February, March, April 2022

Resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments as attached as appendix

(b) formal approval of the bank reconciliation January 2022

Resolved to approve the bank reconciliation from January 2022 as circulated.

(c) expenditure against the budget end of January 2022

Resolved to approve the expenditure versus budget report to end of January 2022.

147 To consider correspondence (no decisions to be made on this item)

No significant correspondence received

148 To consider applications for donations and grants

Cllr McKay declared an interest as he had suggested to the Backmill Bravos that they apply for a donation.

It was noted that there had been a late request for £691.28 from Blackmill Bravos for equipment and insurance to continue the excellent work being undertaken by volunteers in this area. It was noted that other volunteer groups should be treated equally when grant applications were made.

Resolved - To Approve the Award of Grant Aid in the amount of £691.28 to the Blackmill Bravos under s 145 Local Government Act 1972.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE

**149 To receive a Report from the Clerk
(i) Evanstown CC CAT**

It was noted that BCBC have been approached regarding making the building safe for access so that the ex-trustees can collect their belongings and papers.

It was noted that the main priority was to establish the evidence base for what is needed from the Evanstown CC facility from the viewpoint of the community and local providers. The Clerk has approached REACH regarding advice on accessing funds for a survey but is waiting for a response.

Cllr Hywel Williams left the meeting at 7.45pm

(ii) Aberfields CAT

It was noted that Cllr Patel, Cllr Davies, the Warden and Clerk had met earlier today with the contractor and consultant to request revised costs for various options for a 3G pitch. The capital and revenue costs along with identified income streams would then be fed into the business plan to assess the extent of the funding required as

well as the ongoing risks prior to a decision being made on whether a CAT is feasible and sustainable.

(iii) Ogmore Valley Awards

The Awards have been re-opened until 31 March 2022 and there are now three nominations to date.

(v) Windfarm Applications

- update and increased prices at BYCC

Resolved – it was agreed unanimously to share the 10% increase in costs for the toilet refurbishment equally between the Council and the BYCC.

- request to vire funds from kitchen to windows at OV Male Voice Choir

This request has now been withdrawn and the windows will be funded through the OV Male Voice Choir's own reserves.

- request to reduce scale of community arts project

Resolved – It was agreed unanimously to the request to reduce the scale of the project.

Cllr Andrew Davies left the meeting at 7.55pm

(v) Tanio Cymru

It was agreed that despite the forthcoming elections in May 2022, that the Warden would approach Tanio about going ahead in March 2022 with the free art nature classes at the Washeries.

(vi) Flower Bulbs and Plants

It was noted that in May 2021 the Council agreed to make £75 available annually for each of the four wards (Nantymoel, Blackmill, Ogmore Vale and Evanstown) to spend on Flower Bulbs. Some of the wards have used their funds while others have not. It was agreed that the new Warden would take the lead on spending the allocation next year.

It was also noted that St Tyfodwg's Development Committee had thanked the Council for its letter of support which accompanied their application to the Community Facilities Programme. The grant application was successful and, despite some delays due to bats located in the tower, the construction work commenced in January 2022 with the clearing of areas to prepare for the installation of a disabled toilet, kitchen and community area. It is hoped that the interior work can be completed by April 2022 although there are also external repairs to the tower which have to be undertaken. There is, as yet, no date when the community facility will become available but the Council will be informed as soon as it is.

**150 To receive Reports from Members of the Council
- Cllr McKay – pilot of Christmas lights**

Cllr McKay noted that he was looking at a solar panel lighting on lampposts as a pilot project in Glynllan which would improve lighting and could potentially be used for Christmas lights as well.

- Cllr Lloyd – Wyndham bus stop – plants

Cllr Lloyd noted that a local resident had offered to tidy up the area behind the Wyndham bus stop as it was overgrown. The idea is to make a small edible/foragers garden for the public to be able to utilise. Cllr Lloyd would approach Ogmores Priide so that a request for funds from the Council would come through an organisation while the Warden would look at providing the resident with some fruit trees.

Cllr Rix noted that there was a fallen Christmas tree next to the Bryant Centre in Nantymoel and that land near the Bryant Centre was overgrown and fallen into disrepair. Cllr Rix would send some photos of the issues to the Clerk and Warden.

Cllr McKay noted that he understood that if a councillor is co-opted rather than elected then they cannot take committee chair positions if competing with an elected councillor. The Clerk noted that he would check this with OVW.

Cllr McKay noted that Employability Bridgend are currently launching a new project called CELT (Connect, Engage, Listen, Transform) which is funded via the UK Government Renewal Fund in partnership with Cardiff City Deal Region local authorities. Cllr McKay will send details to the Clerk so that he can forward to councillors.

Cllr McKay noted that there had been further flooding in Cwmfelin at that BCBC had been informed.

Cllr McKay noted that no recycling bags had been supplied in Evanstown. The Clerk was expecting an email from a resident who had noted the issue and he would follow up with BCBC.

151 To consider any Planning Applications and issues

No issues

Cllr Patel left the meeting at 8.20pm and Cllr Prescott took over as chair.

**152 To confirm the date, time and venue of forthcoming meetings:
- Full Council Tuesday 31 May 2022, 6.30 pm via Zoom**

It was noted that the notice of election will be published on 21 March 2022 with the nomination period then starting on 22 March 2022 and running until 5 April 2022.

BCBC will have the nomination packs available to download from its website as well as distributing to Clerks. Purdah starts on the day the notice is published.

Confirmed the date of 31 May 2022 as Full Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

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Signature of the Chairperson, Cllr Dhanisha Patel

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Date

Scott Allin -
Clerk of the Council
Scottallin495@gmail.com