

# Ogmore Valley Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



## Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

**Tuesday 25 January 2022, 6.30 pm at Zoom**  
Dydd Mawrth 25 Ionawr 2022, 6.30 pm yng Zoom

### MINUTES

In Attendance

*Cllr Dhanisha Patel (Chair)*

*Cllr Gareth Prescott (Vice-Chair)*

*Cllr Margaret Lloyd*

*Cllr Hywel Williams*

*Cllr Andrew Davies (left at 7.50pm)*

*Cllr Andrew McKay (joined at 6.40pm)*

*Scott Allin – Clerk*

*Laura Williams – Assistant Clerk/RFO*

*Ashleigh Davies – Warden*

#### 124 Apologies for Absence

Apologies notified from the following:-

Cllr Richard Shakeshaft – work commitments

Cllr Gary Rix – work commitments

Cllr Angela Jones – work commitments

**Resolved: members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence.**

*Cllr Andrew McKay joined the meeting at 6.40pm*

## 125 PCSO James Rowlands

The crime statistics for period to January 2022 are outlined below:-

Crime Statistics for:	Nov-21					Dec-21					Jan-22				
	Nantymoel	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	Evanst'n	Nanty'l	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	Evans'n	Nanty'l	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	
Dwelling burglary	1	3	0	3	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	
Theft of vehicle	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	
All other theft	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Damage	1	0	3	4	1	1	2	1	4	0	1	1	3	5	
Violence against The person	6	0	2	8	3	4	5	2	11	2	6	5	2	13	
All crime total	8	5	5	18	5	5	8	3	16	2	7	6	3	16	
ASB total	1	4	1	6	0	1	0	1	2	1	2	6	0	8	
Drink Driving	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	

It was noted that the crime statistics had reduced slightly and overall there was no discernible trend.

The ASB in Ogmore Vale was a neighbour dispute with numerous calls. There is a continuing off-road bike operation and recently the police issued five section 59 warnings throughout the Ogmore and neighbouring valleys.

'Cuppa with a Copper' is ongoing and is advertised through the OVCC facebook page. The Clerk will check to see how the PCSO advertises the event.

**Resolved – Clerk to check with PCSO advertising the 'Cuppa with a Copper event.**

## 126 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.

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

Cllr Williams noted that he was Chair of Abercerdin Primary School.

## **128 Resignation of Councillor Ryan Mock**

It was noted that Cllr Ryan Mock had resigned from the Council after many years of dedicated service to the Council and residents of the Ogmores Valley.

It was also noted that Cllrs Barnes and Brocklebank had also resigned because of work and family commitments.

It was noted following discussions with BCBC that by-elections cannot be held within 6 months of the Local Elections in May 2022. This means that there is limited Councillor representation for the Evanstown Community Council ward until May 22 with the resignations of Cllr Mock and Cllr Barnes. It was suggested that the community should be informed that issues should be raised through Cllr Hywel Williams as the Borough Councillor

**Resolved - The Chair accepted the resignations of Cllrs Mock, Barnes and Brocklebank.**

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL**

### **129 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations (a) Draft Full Council 30 November 2021**

**Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting.**

### **130 Matters Arising from previous Council meeting:-**

#### **- Abercerdin Primary School**

The Clerk has contacted the Head and the Administrator and is waiting for a reply to the request for Community Council representation on the Governing Body. It was noted that due to the shortage of Evanstown ward councillors this would be after the May elections.

#### **- Bouquets**

Bouquets of flowers have been presented to former Cllrs Lee-Anne Hill and Janet Harris to thank them for their long service to the Community Council.

#### **- Parking bays in Adare Street, Evanstown**

The parking bays in Adare Street, Evanstown are not recognised by BCBC as official. Photos of the marked-up bays have been sent to BCBC.

- **Mental Health Training**

A Suicide Prevention group meets in the Halo Centre every Tuesday. The Community Council will liaise with Maria Bennett regarding undertaking joint activities. In the meantime, any Councillors wanting training in mental health support should contact the Clerk. The main message is for Councillors to use their networks to remind the community of the support that is available with further information being available by contacting Maria Bennett.

- **Silver Band Tour**

There was positive feedback from community regarding the Silver Band Tour with large crowds around the valley. It was also noted that although the Silver Band could not travel to Evanstown there was a large number of the local community that came out to see Father Christmas.

- **Better Buses Ogmore Valley**

Paul Jones from BBOV has been contacted to let him know that the Council would work with BBOV and First Cymru together with other operators, Bridgend County Borough Council and Transport for Wales to improve bus services in the Ogmore Valley.

**131 Audit Wales Report and Response**

- **Audit Wales Report on Inadequacies in Governance Arrangements, Financial Management and Internal Control**

It was noted that the Audit Wales report is available to the public on [www.ogmorevalecommunitycouncil.co.uk](http://www.ogmorevalecommunitycouncil.co.uk).

It was also noted that the Council has publicised the report through a notice in the Glamorgan Gazette and will also publicise its response. However, no members of the public or the media had requested to attend the meeting.

- **Council Draft response to Audit Wales recommendations**

It was noted that Audit Wales has decided that:-

*In view of the actions already taken by the Council during 2020 and 2021 and the nature and overall impact of the issues I report on, I have decided not to issue a report in the public interest and that statutory recommendations will be sufficient.*

The Council had already discussed the recommendations of the report at the Council meeting of 23 February 2021 and outlined its responses to the recommendations which were shared with Audit Wales at the time and which have since been updated.

The Clerk and RFO were thanked for their work on the response to the report.

**Resolved** - That the Council accepts the response to the report and the following notice in the Glamorgan Gazette should be published:-

*At its meeting held on 25 January 2022 the Council considered the Auditor General's statutory recommendations. The Council decided to accept the recommendations made. Since 2018, the Council has put in place a range of improvements to its internal controls that address many of the recommendations. The Council is now taking action recommended by the Auditor General to address any residual issues.*

## **132 Finances**

### **(a) formal approval of payments January 2022 & December 2021**

**Resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments as attached as appendix**

### **(b) formal approval of the bank reconciliation**

**Resolved to approve the bank reconciliation from December 2021 as circulated.**

### **(c) expenditure against the budget end of December 2021**

It was noted that a Finance and General Committee would be organised for February 2022.

**Resolved to approve the expenditure versus budget report to end of December 2021**

## **133 To consider correspondence (no decisions to be made on this item)**

It was noted that the Local Government (Elections) Wales Act 2021 had a number of new provisions that increased the visibility of the work of community councils. These included:-

### **- Multi-location meetings**

The 2021 Act requires that community councils must make and publish arrangements for its meetings to enable people who are not in the same place to meet. Under the arrangements, councils will need to take reasonable steps to allow meetings to be held from multiple locations. The minimum requirement is that members are able to hear and be heard by others.

### **- Public participation at full council meetings**

The 2021 Act makes provision for public participation at full community council meetings or those parts of meetings which are open to the public. The person presiding over the meeting must give members of the public in attendance a reasonable opportunity to make representations about any business to be discussed at the meeting, unless doing so is likely to prejudice the effective conduct of the meeting.

- **Annual reports**

The 2021 Act requires community councils, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, to prepare and publish an annual report about the council's priorities, activities and achievements over the previous year.

- **Training plans**

The 2021 Act requires community councils to make and publish a plan about the training provision for its members and staff. The first training plan must be ready and published by 5 November 2022, six months after the duty comes into force. The training plan should reflect on, and address, whether the council collectively has the skills and knowledge it needs to deliver its plans effectively.

- **Eligibility to exercise the general power of competence**

The Act introduces a general power of competence for 'eligible community councils', which empowers those councils to do anything that an individual generally can do. It is a power of first resort which means that a qualifying authority does not need to rely on specific powers in legislation to do something, so long as what is intended to do is not otherwise prohibited.

**134 To consider applications for donations and grants**  
**- Marie Curie**

It was noted that while the Council was minded to support a donation to Marie Curie, it would like further information on how many residents of the Ogmore Valley had been directly supported by Marie Curie.

**Resolved – Clerk to request further information on the direct support provided to residents of the Ogmore Valley.**

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE**

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

It was noted that the second CAT meeting was planned for 9 February 2022 and would review reports for refurbishing the building which may need updating.

**(ii) Aberfields CAT**

It was noted that the second CAT meeting was planned for February 2022 and would review a draft business plan produced by the consultants.

### **(iii) Ogmore Valley Providers' Forum**

It was noted that a preliminary date of 24 July 2022 had been set for the Providers' Forum and that it would be held in conjunction with the Halo Centre and hopefully with Maria Bennett being involved.

It was noted that there had only been one nomination for the Ogmore Valley Awards to date although following discussions with Maria Bennett there were many other deserving members of the community who could be nominated. It was agreed that as the Providers' Forum was not planned until the end of July 2022, then the Ogmore Valley Awards could be reopened for nominations until the 31 March 2022

### **Resolved – To re-open Ogmore Valley Awards until 31 March 2022**

### **(iv) Windfarm Applications – update**

The applications are currently being reviewed by Pennant Walters with the decisions likely to be made in February 2022.

*Cllr Andrew Davies left the meeting at 7.50pm*

## **136 To receive Reports from Members of the Council**

### **(i) Attendance of Councillors**

It was noted that the attendance of some Councillors had been poor. This was mainly due to family and work commitments and had led to recent resignations. It was agreed that future interviews for co-opting Councillors would need to be even clearer on the need to attend meetings so that decisions could be made with the widest possible input.

### **(ii) Update of dog bag dispensers**

It was noted that a member of the public had placed dog bag dispensers around the Planka and that the Warden was putting a similar dispenser up in the Washeries.

The Warden is looking to place an advert on the OVCC facebook page looking for local businesses to sponsor Tikspac. The Warden and Clerk would meet with KWT and look at other ideas such as 'Paw Prints'.

It was also noted that the Warden and Clerk would check with KWT to see whether they intended to undertake the 'Big Spring Clean' on the Bwlch this year.

### **(iii) Valley in Bloom competition for residents and business in all wards.**

It was noted that this or a similar competition such as 'Open Gardens' was supported by the Council and further information would be collected by liaising with Linc Cymru to see what could be developed.

**(iv) Up keep of raised flowers beds at the Planka fields and Fronwen Terrace.**

It was noted the raised flower beds were full of wild flowers and grasses which looked untidy. The Warden would look to tidy these areas up following advice.

The Warden noted that OVCC had successfully applied for some fruit trees and she had received 2 trees for each ward and would liaise with Councillors over where to plant them.

**(v) Other Items raised**

- Thanks to Clerk and Assistant Clerk for work on the Christmas lights and particularly arranging a connection from the Ogmores Vale fire station.
- The Historical Book Society launch was successful but Covid rules meant that the finger buffet was not allowed. The Clerk will liaise with OV History Society.
- It was noted that BCBC policy was to support local groups undertaking litter picking by removing the red rubbish bags.
- The QR codes at the Washeries are manufactured but are awaiting fixing.
- The start date for the BCBC works that will close the cycle track is being followed up by Cllr Patel. When the start date is known it will be communicated to various groups such as OV school and Sustrans.
- It had been reported that work has started on the Washeries bridge. The Clerk would check with BCBC whether this was correct.
- The Clerk would check with KWT whether a river clean-up was planned.

**137 To consider any Planning Applications and issues**

**- Land at Upper Ogmores (Windfarm)**

It was noted that decision on whether to approve the Windfarm application had been postponed until May 2022 following further information provided by the National Air Traffic Services.

**- High Street Ogmores Vale (extend consent for starter homes)**

It was noted that an objection had been submitted on the grounds of a need for local housing and the building being a blight on the High Street for too long.

**138 To confirm the date, time and venue of forthcoming meetings:**

**- Full Council Tuesday 22 February 2022, 6.30 pm via Zoom**

Confirmed the date of 22 February 2022 as Full Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

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**Signature of the Chairperson, Cllr Dhanisha Patel**

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**Date**

*Scott Allin -*  
Clerk of the Council  
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