

# Ogmore Valley Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



## Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

**Tuesday 27 April 2021, 6.30 pm at Zoom**  
Dydd Mawrth 27 Ebrill 2021, 6.30 pm yng Zoom

### Minutes

#### In Attendance

***Cllr Lee-Anne Hill (Chair)***

***Cllr Dhanisha Patel***

***Cllr Angela Jones***

***Cllr Gareth Prescott***

***Cllr Margaret Lloyd***

***Cllr Ryan Mock***

***Cllr Richard Shakeshaft***

***Cllr Andrew McKay - joined meeting late – University commitments***

***Scott Allin – Clerk***

***Laura Williams – RFO and Assistant Clerk***

#### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies notified from the following:-

- Cllr Hywel Williams – work commitments
- Cllr Janet Harris – family commitments
- Cllr Andrew Davies - work commitments

## **2 PCSO James Rowlands**

Apologies were received from the PCSO.

A report of the latest crime statistics compared to the equivalent period last year as follows:

<b>Ward/Year</b>	<b>April 2021</b>	<b>April 2020</b>	<b>Direction of Change</b>
<b>Nantymoel</b>	51	66	Down
<b>Ogmore Vale</b>	47	42	Up
<b>Blackmill</b>	19	36	Down
<b>Total</b>	117	144	Down

It was noted that there had been a number of incidents of antisocial behaviour in play parks around the Valley which had been reported via 101.

Further information on the number of prosecutions that are pending or are in process had been requested from the PCSO.

**Resolved – The Clerk will follow up the queries with the PCSO.**

## **3 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.

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

No declarations of interest

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

### **5 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations (a) Draft Full Council 27 March 2021**

**Approved**

**(b) Draft Policy and Strategy Committee 20 April 2021**

The Minutes should include a reference to the drafting of a Community Recognition Policy.

**Approved subject to the amendment above.**

## **6 Matters Arising from previous meeting**

### **- Container**

It was noted that there had been difficulties in sourcing a container within the agreed budget of £3,500 to £4,000.

**Resolved – To increase the budget to £5,000.**

### **- Community Recognition Policy**

**Resolved – To draft a Community Recognition Policy – see also 457b) above.**

### **- Fencing Blackmill**

An order for the fencing has been raised with BCBC. It is likely to be a few months before installation.

### **- Benches at Ogmores Washeries**

A visit to the Washeries site by the Clerk, Cllr Lloyd and Mark Blackmore of BCBC on 27 April 2021 identified sites for 3 extra picnic benches and a fire pit at the Washeries picnic site together with 1 new bench at each of the Weighbridge and Ann's Shaft sites and 2 further benches on the Cycle path between the Washeries and the outdoor education area. Five of the benches will be funded by BCBC and the fire pit and 2 extra benches will be funded by the CC. It was also agreed that 2 bins would be funded by CC and sited at the entrance to the site next to the gate and at the Weighbridge area. Finally, one of the benches would have a memorial plaque for Ann James.

### **- Tikspacs Options**

It was noted that business sponsorship should be explored at a later stage following the purchase of 3 Tikspacs stations for each ward totalling 12. Organisations such as local Housing Associations (Hafod, V2C, Wales & West and Link Cymru), supermarkets and other local businesses would be approached regarding sponsorship following installation of the new stations. A letter would be drafted to ask for sponsorship after the Community Council had taken a lead on implementation.

It was requested that the Clerk check with BCBC as to whether there is any matched funding available for the purchase of the stations.

**Resolved – To purchase 12 Tikspacs at a cost of £329 (£199 to purchase and £130 for 5,000 bags) and place 3 in each Ward. Councillors to identify appropriate locations**

**7 Finances**

**(a) formal approval of payments March 2021**

**Approved**

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

**Approved**

**(c) expenditure against the budget end of March 2021**

It was confirmed that the paper included spend to the end of March 2021.

**Approved**

**8 To consider Correspondence (no decisions to be made on this item)**

No correspondence that requires consideration that is not otherwise on the agenda.

**9 To consider applications for donations and grants**

**(a) Request for £179.10 for flowerbeds, plants etc**

It was noted that this project would improve the environment around Lewistown following the offer by a local resident to undertake the work on new flowerbeds in the area with just the cost of materials being funded by the CC.

It would be appropriate if the Clerk liaised with the volunteer to directly purchase the materials.

**Resolved – To directly purchase materials for flowerbeds on behalf of local volunteer up to the value of £179.10**

**(b) Request for £60 for Bus Shelter cleaning materials**

A local business has offered free labour to clean the 23 bus shelters in the Valley if the Council agrees to fund the £60 cost of cleaning chemicals.

**Resolved – To agree payment of £60.**

## **10 Councillor Vacancy – Notice**

It was noted that the Council has invited interested and eligible people to submit their applications for the role of co-opted Councillor by way of a letter outlining the following:

- their contribution to the work of the Council;
- their personal qualities that they would bring to the role;
- their availability for attending meetings.

It was noted that there was an urgent need to fill the vacant Councillor roles in Evanstown as the area was only covered by Cllr Mock at the moment.

The closing date for application is 21 May 2021 but it would be useful if Councillors could encourage potential candidates to apply early so that the May Council meeting could meet the applicants.

**Resolved – Councillors to encourage applicants to apply as early as possible to for co-option.**

## **11 Bus Shelter - Request for Bus Shelter outside disused garage in Ogmore Vale - £3,792.16**

It was noted that the CC had received a quote from BCBC for a new bus shelter outside the disused garage in Ogmore Vale. Cllr Patel requested copies of the correspondence with BCBC to see whether there would be an option for sharing the costs. In principle, the CC is supportive of the new bus shelter although siting needs to be agreed and further discussions regarding funding need to be finalised.

**Resolved – Clerk to forward correspondence with BCBC to Cllr Patel.**

## **12 Internal Audit Quote**

It was noted that Auditing Solutions were the preferred provider and that a change of supplier is good practice as it enables 'fresh eyes' to review the Annual Return.

**Resolved – To appoint Auditing Solutions.**

## **13 Active Travel Barriers**

It was noted that Councillors had already seen a previous version of the Active Travel Safety Audit and Works report which noted which bicycle barriers may need removing. The Council had previously fed back the need for improved signage, concerns over access to hedge cutting as well whether removing barriers would enable inappropriate vehicular use of the Cycle Path.

It was re-iterated that the Council would like re-assurances that vehicles that are not appropriate to the Cycle Path are not given access as there have been many incidents of off-road motorbikes causing disturbance on Cycle Path.

**Resolved – Clerk to provide feedback to reports authors.**

## **14 Christmas Lights**

The plans for the Christmas Lights were discussed and it was agreed that the installation of rootball trees and electrical connections could be actioned as soon as possible due to the timescale. However, each Ward and its Councillors would review the plans for their specific areas and arrange a meeting with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk to discuss any changes.

It was noted that the budget was fully used so that any extra spend would need to be found from other budgets or carry forward.

**Resolved – Councillors to agree plans for their Ward and arrange meetings with Clerk/Assistant Clerk.**

## **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE**

### **15 To consider matters in relation to Blackmill**

It was noted that there were a number of matters in relation to Blackmill that had been taken up with BCBC including:-

- Handrail from Dan yr. Graig Tce to Pentrebeili Place/Tce – reported to BCBC (TalktoUS)
- Road surface from the bridge repairs in Pantyrawel through to the lights at Blackmill Sq. on the A4061 – reported to BCBC (TalktoUS)
- Barriers and bus shelter destroyed in an accident at the bus stop in Lewistown – reported to BCBC and estimated installation date end of May 2021

Following further discussion it was agreed that these matters should also be flagged to Cllr Hywel Williams as the Borough Councillor representing the Blackmill Ward.

It was noted the CC could lobby BCBC regarding actions on matters arising in Wards that are Borough Council responsibility but beyond that CC powers were limited.

## **16 Summary of key provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 for the Community and Town Council Sector**

The summary of key provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act was discussed. The main points included are:-

- Votes for 16 and 17 year-olds and EU Citizens and citizens of other countries.
- The voting system for county and county borough council elections will be either First Past the Post or Single Transferable Vote.
- The Act changes the electoral cycle of principal councils and community councils from four to five-year terms.
- Allowing council staff to stand for their own council. They will only be required to resign their paid employment with the council if they are elected.
- Disqualification criteria for standing as a councillor if they are subject to a notification requirements of, or an order under, the Sexual Offences Act 2003.
- General Power of Competence - the general power will allow eligible community councils to act in their communities' best interests, generate efficiencies and secure value for money outcomes. They will also be able to raise money by charging for discretionary services and to trade.
- Access to meetings - the Act makes permanent provision for remote meetings.
- Participation - From 5 May 2022 people presiding over community council meetings that are open to the public must give members of the public in attendance reasonable opportunity to make representation about any business being discussed at the meeting, unless this is likely to prejudice the effective conduct of the meeting.
- Community Council Annual Reports - From April 2022 community councils will have a duty to prepare and publish a report about the council's priorities, activities and achievements. The first report must relate to the financial April 2021- March 2022 and be published as soon as reasonably practicable after April 2022.
- Training of members and staff of community councils - Community and town councils will have a duty to consider training from 5 May 2022 for councillors and community council staff, and publish the first training plans by November 2022.

## **17 To receive a Report from the Clerk**

It was noted that only the Chair was able to access the Co-op bank account to make payments and see on line transaction which means the Clerk and RFO had to wait for monthly statements. It was agreed that a paper would be brought to the May 2021 meeting of Council requesting the Clerk and RFO be given on-line access

It was also agreed that a paper outlining potential spend on Spring Bulbs should be brought to the May 21 council meeting.

**18 To receive Reports from Members of the Council**

It was noted that residents of Vale View, Nantymoel had requested flashing speeding signage. It was noted that further work was required to provide evidence of speeding so liaison with GoSafe should be undertaken.

**Resolved – Cllr Hill to write to Go-Safe**

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

It was noted that a group of local residents of Cwm Felin, Blackmill had objected to the application for the erection of 22 dwellings on land east of Cwm Felin and south of Graig Terrace, Blackmill due to issues including land drainage, noise, proximity to houses and traffic.

**20 To confirm the date, time and venue of forthcoming meetings:  
- Full Council and Annual Meeting and Tuesday 25 May 2021, 6.30 pm  
via Zoom.**

There was discussion over whether to split the Annual Meeting and May 2021 Council meeting due to size of the agenda. It was agreed that a separate Annual Meeting on 11 or 18 May 2021 should, if possible, be arranged.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

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**Signature of the Chairperson, Cllr Lee- Anne Hill**

**Date**

*Scott Allin*

**Clerk of the Council**