

Ogmore Valley Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

Tuesday 30 November 2021, 6.30 pm at Zoom
Dydd Mawrth 30 Tachwedd 2021, 6.30 pm yng Zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance

Cllr Gareth Prescott (Chair)

Cllr Margaret Lloyd

Cllr Ryan Mock

Cllr Richard Shakeshaft

Cllr Gary Rix

Scott Allin – Clerk

Laura Williams – Assistant Clerk/RFO

Ashleigh Davies – Warden

***Maria Bennett – Local Community Co-ordinator for Ogmore Valley
(item 114 only)***

105 Apologies for Absence

Apologies notified from the following:-

Cllr Dhanisha Patel – leave commitments

Cllr Angela Jones – work commitments

Cllr Andrew McKay – family commitments

Cllr Andrew Davies – work commitments

James Rowland – PCSO – leave commitments

Resolved: members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence and Cllr Gareth Prescott chaired the meeting in Cllr Dhanisha Patel's absence.

106 PCSO James Rowlands – to receive report and update on Evanstown statistics

The crime statistics for 3 months to November 2021 are outlined below:-

Crime Statistics for:	Sep-21				Oct-21				Nov-21				Nov-21 Evanstown
	Nantymoel	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	Nantymoel	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	Nantymoel	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	
Dwelling burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	3	0
Burglary other	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Theft of vehicle	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Theft from vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All other theft	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	1
Damage	1	3	1	5	3	1	0	4	1	0	3	4	1
Violence against The person	2	3	2	7	8	2	1	11	6	0	2	8	3
All crime total	3	7	4	14	14	5	1	20	8	5	5	18	5
ASB total	1	3	2	6	5	3	0	8	1	4	1	6	0
Drink Driving	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1

The figures for Evanstown had now been included for November 2021 and would continue to be included in the future.

I was noted that the crime statistics in Nantymoel were higher than the other wards for the last two months and the PCSO would be asked whether there was an underlying reason for this.

Resolved – Clerk to request further information on crime statistics in Nantymoel.

107 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.

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

No interests to declare.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL

109 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations (a) Draft Full Council 26 October 2021

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting.

(b) Draft Policy & Strategy Committee 9 November 2021

It was noted that the meeting was inquorate.

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the Policy & Strategy Committee meeting.

(c) Draft Finance & General Committee 23 November 2021

It was noted that the Clerk had now received a copy of the final Audit Wales report on inadequacies in governance arrangements, financial management and internal control relating to 2016-17 to 2018-19 and that the report would be discussed at the Council meeting in January 2022 following a notice in a local paper. The report would be made available on the Council's website although a few clarifications from Audit Wales regarding the publication of the report were required.

It was noted that the recommendations of the Finance & General Committee were:-

- to confirm the revised 2021/22 budget;
- to approve the 2022/23 budget;
- to approve precept to remain at £36.01 for 2022/23;
- to confirm the responses to the Internal Audit report.

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

110 Matters Arising from previous Council meeting:-

- Abercerdin Primary School appointment

It was noted that the Clerk had contacted the Head and Secretary of Abercerdin Primary School and was awaiting their response.

- Halo Playscheme

It was confirmed by Halo that the figures were total visits although in the future they would also collect unique visits.

- HMRC expenses

It was confirmed that HMRC rules do not allow employees to claim home to work travel expenses but that any other travel expenses that are accrued in the course of an employee's duties are claimable at 45p per mile.

- Fairy lights

It was confirmed the fairy lights had now been purchased and are available to pick up from the Assistant Clerk.

It was noted that BCBC had removed the lampposts in Ogmores Vale from which the electricity to light the trees was supplied. This would mean that the Christmas trees in Dunraven Place and the Fire Station could not be lit.

Resolved – To make an announcement on Facebook outlining the issue.

- Bouquets

These will be purchased and delivered prior to Christmas.

- Evanstown queries with BCBC

- reinstatement of a lollipop person on Coronation Road;

The School Crossing Patrol Service is a permissive rather than statutory function. BCBC has noted that unfortunately the site does not meet the requirement set by BCBC and that a School Crossing patrol site is not justified at this location.

- reinstatement of a skip at the end of the lane in Coronation Road;

BCBC has confirmed that this was not a BCBC skip.

- parking bays in Adare street;

BCBC has noted that their records indicated that there were no parking bays at that location. It was noted that the parking bays are clearly displayed and that the Clerk would go back to BCBC with photographs requesting BCBC to look again at their records.

Resolved – Clerk to share photos of parking bays with BCBC.

- dog waste bins.

Clean up the County has been contacted and they have passed the query onto the Cleaner Streets Operations Officer for her attention.

111 Finances

(a) formal approval of payments November and 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 1 October to 31 October 2021 as circulated.

(c) expenditure against the budget end of October 2021

Resolved to approve the expenditure versus budget report to end of October 2021

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

None this month.

113 To consider applications for donations and grants

None this month.

114 Mental Health Support – Maria Bennett

This discussion was brought forward to 6.30-7pm.

Maria Bennett briefed the Council on Mental Health Awareness following a series of suicides locally. The main points of the presentation were:-

What we Know:

- People do not always know how to access what they need.
- Often it is life situations causing distress (housing, debt, relationships, parenting).
- There are projects like “Lads and Dads”, Mike Collins’ Walking Group, Hen Sheds etc. but people do not always know about them or willing to access them
- GPs and Community not referring to LCC for social prescribing.
- Although there are crisis lines, people are not always willing to call and they only help at the point of crisis and not long term.
- No local Bereavement support groups in the valley.

What we have already done

- An 8-week bereavement and mental health support group took place in The Mem, Nantymoel.
- Maria Bennett LCC, gained funding from mental health services to commission a 12-week mental health awareness and wellbeing course being delivered on Tuesday nights at Ogmores Valley Life Centre. Residents can also register for recordings of this so they can do this at home, and receive support via a closed facebook support group (currently 50 people registered for this option).
- The Charity Mind are offering free Suicide awareness training sessions to community members and groups. The aim is to support as many community groups and members as possible to attend this. So far both GP practices, the local fire service, local PSCOs and OV Life Centre have attended this. One community session was held in the Life Centre but take-up was low. The group plan to speak to other community groups about this
- A Community Interest Company (CIC) has been set up with Directors from the valley who are willing to lead this initiative.
- Funds have already been raised by bereaved family members and fundraising is ongoing.
- Engagement with local organisations such as ARC in Bridgend, Mental Health Matters (MHM) and Mind, and health manager from Centre Point of Assess (Mental Health Triage).
- Engaged with Ogmores Vale and Nantymoel Primary School to create a logo and spread the word.
- Created a Steering group to review CIC actions.

What we need

- Early Intervention – GP, LCC, Community Groups.
- Crisis Intervention – Single Point of Access, 999, Papyrus, Samaritans etc.
- Post-vention – Community support, community groups and LCC.
- Support – to see support from Ogmores Vale Community Council through sharing information about the work of the residents’ group (now CIC) and ask this to be shared amongst their contacts in the local community.
- Seek named contact within organisations and groups to form a “joined up” network.

Resolved – Clerk would contact Councillors regarding training in Mental Health Awareness so that they could direct queries to appropriate support.

115 Face to Face Council Meetings

It was noted that with new variants of Covid being recently identified it would be prudent to continue virtual Council meetings rather than return to face-to-face meetings.

Resolved – To continue virtual meeting and review again in March 2022

116 Advisory Group Wind Farm Funding

A confidential briefing of progress reviewing the applications by the Windfarm Advisory Group was made.

117 Silver Band Tour

It was noted that a car with a sleigh being towed behind with a Santa on it handing out sweets could be supplied for £20 to cover petrol cost plus a donation of £100 to the Lads and Dads charity.

It was noted that the Santa outfit can be provided but the Council needs a volunteer to dress up as Santa and sit in the sleigh. Cllr Dhanisha Patel had previously mentioned a name of someone from Footy Pups who had agreed to do this.

The Silver Band Bus Tour is planned for 19 December 2021 but the start time is to be finalised following a risk assessment by First Cymru.

It was noted that the amount for sweets should be increased to £100 and that Cllrs Margaret Lloyd and Gareth Prescott would purchase the sweets.

It was noted that under Financial Regulation 1.35 *'the Clerk may authorise expenditure on behalf of the Council which in the Clerk's judgement it is necessary to carry out....subject to a limit of £500.'* The purchase of sweets for £100 can be added to the November 2022 payments on receipt of an invoice for the sweets.

Resolved – To purchase sweets to distribute to the value of £100, to provide a £20 donation to cover petrol and a £100 donation to Lads and Dads charity.

18 Better Buses for Ogmore Valley (BBOV)

It was agreed 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

Resolved – Clerk to inform BBOV of Council's willingness to work with BBOV and other partners.

119 Operational and H&S Risk Register

It was noted that this operational and H&S risk register would complement the Financial risk register that already exists. It was developed following a recommendation from Internal Audit and consultation with another local Community Council.

Resolved – To approve the Operational and H&S risk register.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE

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

The Evanstown CC CAT Working Group met on 8 November 2021 and are identifying the facts in order to establish a position statement that is understood and agreed by all. It is expected that the next stage will then be a meeting with BCBC and the Trustees of the CC.

(ii) Aberfields CAT

A ground survey has been prepared and a meeting will be established prior to Christmas if possible.

(iii) BYCC Heads of Terms

The new advice is that it may be preferable at this moment in time to offer a tenancy of will which is not legally binding for either party. Cllr Patel is reviewing the draft lease but some further work needs to be undertaken to agree a way forward.

(iv) Ogmores Valley Providers Forum

The preliminary date is for March 2022 although there is only one application to date for the Ogmores Valley Awards.

121 To receive Reports from Members of the Council

The Warden was thanked for her work in helping to bring the poppies down and the Assistant Clerk was thanked for her work on the Christmas Lights which was always a difficult task.

It was noted that the Warden should look at sourcing a hi-viz jacket with OVCC Warden on the back to advertise the excellent work being undertaken.

122 To consider any Planning Applications and issues

Nothing to report.

- 123 To confirm the date, time and venue of forthcoming meetings:
- Full Council Tuesday 25 January 2022, 6.30 pm via Zoom**

Confirmed the date of 25 January 2022 as Full Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

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Signature of the Chairperson, Cllr Gareth Prescott

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Date

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