

Ogmore Valley Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

Tuesday 25 July 2023, 6.30 pm via zoom

Dydd Mawrth 25 Gorffennaf 2023, 6.30 pm via zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance

Cllr David Newman (Chair)

Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells (Vice Chair)

Cllr David Pound

Cllr Geoff Sherriff

Cllr Dhanisha Patel

Scott Allin – Clerk

47 Apologies for Absence

There were the following apologies from Councillors:-

Cllr Rhys Goode – work commitments

Cllr Margaret Lloyd – family commitments

Cllr Sheryl Wasley – family commitments

Cllr Angela Jones – family commitments

It was also noted that the Warden had sent her apologies.

Resolved: members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence.

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

The Rev Glenda Oglesbee attended the meeting and introduced herself to the Community Council stressing that she was a community priest whose aim was to serve everyone not just those with a religious faith. Rev Oglesbee noted that she

would like to be kept informed of events in the community so that she could attend as many as possible and that the Church was open for charitable purposes.

The Council noted that it would share information with Rev Oglesbee and pointed her to the various facebook and website pages such as the Nantymoel hub and OVCC facebook page that contained local community information.

The Community Council welcomed Rev Oglesbee to the Ogmores Valley and looked forward to working with her.

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

Cllr David Pound noted that the agenda had an item on bins which he was involved with as a member of OV Priide.

50 Warden's report

It was noted that the Warden's report included the following activities

- Litter picking and cleaning up burned picnic table at Washeries.
- Zoom meeting with Gareth Kiddie regarding Cwm Taff Nature Network.
- Mapping a walk route for Love2Walk at the Washeries and attending the event.
- Printing documents for Council noticeboards.
- Attending Bridgend Green Gathering Event at Bryngarw Park.
- Bought compost for SUDS planters and planted flowers.
- Writing up proposals for the Community Council meeting.
 - Giant Who Never Sleeps event on 25 August 2023
 - Bug Talk date confirmed for 19th August 2023 10am – 12pm and 1pm – 3pm. Flyer has been completed
 - Tanio Cymru session/ Summer Scavenger Hunt event date confirmed for 15 August 10am – 12pm.

It was noted that the Warden would contact Cllr Batchelor Howells and Wasley regarding a location for planting a tree in Evanstown.

It was noted that the Warden undertook litter picking with groups such as OVP and Bravos as well as on her own and that further work on utilising her resources most effectively in line with the Strategic Plan was needed.

It was noted that a paper on a possible programme of outdoor fitness would be brought to the next meeting.

Resolved – Warden to contact contractor regarding proposal.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL

51 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations (a) Draft Full Council 27 June 2023

It was noted that the wording in 36 c) and 36 d) should be changed to reflect the Personnel Committee and Finance & General Committee respectively.

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the 27 June 2023 Full Council meeting with the changes noted above.

52 Matters Arising from previous meetings:-

Council Meeting

- PCSO – Neighbourhood and Rural Watch

It was noted there had been further examples of ASB at the Washeries with bins being burnt down. Clerk would report this to the PCSO.

The PCSO will get signs placed at the Washeries as soon as possible.

The latest crime figures would be shared with Council as soon as they are received.

- Tanio Summer Scavenger Hunt and Insect Day at Washeries

This was dealt with under agenda item 51 above.

- OV Awards

It was noted that to date there had been five nominations for the OV Awards and the closing date was 31 July 2023 and more nominations are expected including from Evanstown.

- Holidays

It was noted that there was no Council meeting in August.

- Evanstown Warden

It was noted that Pennant Walters was hoping to review the bid for an Evanstown Warden soon.

- ***Evanstown Buses and Bus Shelters***

It was noted that BCBC are checking the locations and will arrange for replacement bus stop flags to be installed as soon as possible. The advice on the bus shelter is still outstanding as BCBC work in preparation for the implementation of the 20mph scheme.

Cllr Wasley and the Clerk have chased up Stagecoach for a reply on the request for services to Evanstown. Cllr Batchelor Howells noted that he had met with local MPs and SMs and raised the issue of poor bus services and he also understood that further changes to the 172 route are planned and he will share details when he has them.

- ***Benches***

It was noted that the Clerk had been in contact with the Treasurer of Ogmore Valley Priide and who are repairing the benches in Ogmore Vale and agreed that they would use the £5,000 to repair benches.

The Clerk has spoken to a contractor about supplying a bench for Ogmore Vale outside Halo and is currently trying to source someone to fix the bench. Cllr Pound offered to advise on fixing the bench.

It was noted that new benches for could be sourced for £380 each but installation would be added to that.

It was noted that Cllrs Wasley and Batchelor Howells were trying to source someone to refurbish the benches in Evanstown although the benches that were in the worst condition were owned by V2C who had been approached for replacements.

Resolved – Clerk to send details of the bench fixing mechanism to Cllr Pound for advice.

- ***Cllr Batchelor Howells - Evanstown road crossing***

It was noted that BCBC had replied to the request for a crossing in Evanstown but turned down the request as the claimed heavy traffic usage was not supported by evidence from studies.

- ***Cllr Williams – Abercerdin School Hub and Childcare***

This would be deferred until the next meeting as Cllr Williams was not available.

- ***Cllr Williams – Access to Pavilion, Evanstown***

This would be deferred until the next meeting as Cllr Williams was not available.

- ***Bins in Aberfields***

It was noted that following further research there appeared to be no plan for BCBC to remove the bins in Aberfields and the Cycle Track. It was noted BCBC had a legal duty to collect litter and waste and that the Community Council should be careful not to set a precedent by funding activities for which BCBC is responsible. At the moment Ogmore Valley Priide unofficially empty bins on the Cycle Track and place the contents where BCBC can remove them officially. This arrangement could do with formalising.

It was also noted that as some plastic bins had recently been burnt down then any replacement bins should be metal.

Resolved - In principle, the Council is willing to look at funding some bins with the caveat that:-

- **these are affordable from a budget viewpoint,**
- **BCBC shares the cost as the authority that is responsible for litter collection and,**
- **that the Council can formally put in place a process for emptying the bins with BCBC and local organisations such as OVP.**

53 Finances – 2023/24

(a) formal approval of payments July 23

It was noted that following the June meeting the Clerk noticed that his Working From Home allowance should have been recorded as £54 i.e. £18 per month, rather than £57 and made the required adjustment prior to payment.

The evidence supporting the payments was reviewed and all queries satisfactorily explained.

Resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments as attached as appendix 2.

(b) formal approval of the bank reconciliation June 23

It was noted that the format of the reconciliation would be looked at to make it more user friendly and that the bank statement was now included as supporting evidence.

Resolved – To approve the bank reconciliation for June 2023.

(c) expenditure against the budget end of June 23

It was noted that the format of this report and particularly the reserves would be reviewed over the Summer and shared with Cllr Pound for advice.

Resolved – To approve the expenditure versus budget report to end of June 2023.

54 Christmas Lights

The proposal for Christmas trees was reviewed and it was agreed that the Council would go ahead and purchase the proposed decorations for the four wards' totalling £9,460.

It was noted that the actual location of the trees in Evanstown would need to be agreed with Cllrs Wasley and Batchelor Howells and that Gilfach Goch Community Council had its own plans for Christmas lights and did not want to share cost with OVCC in Evanstown.

It was noted that there was further work to do on alternatives to solar powered trees and that a quote of £14,365 had been received for 109 solar powered trees. It was understood that an alternative garland decoration would cost around 3 times as much as the solar powered lights. It was suggested that the lights that hung across the road in Aberkenfig may be an alternative.

It was noted that where possible the Christmas decorations are reused or recycled and that LED lights should be investigated.

Resolved – To spend £9,640 on Christmas lights for the four wards and to examine further alternatives to the solar powered lighs.

55 Defibrillators Update

It was noted that the Clerk had identified a list of addresses where it was understood that the defibrillators were present. The Clerk would then contact Cllr Sherriff for Nantymoel, Cllrs Newman, Patel and Pound for Ogmores Vale, Cllr Batchelor Howells for Evanstown and Cllr Thorne for Blackmill so that they could complete the next stage of the checks, i.e.

- make and model;
- date of installation or renewal date for batteries and or pad replacement
- named individual and contact details responsible for the unit

Resolved – Clerk to contact Ward Councillors to confirm required information.

56 Evanstown Playscheme Update

It was noted that the Clerk was meeting with Scott Hancock at Halo on 26 July 2023 and that it had been confirmed that the dates of the playscheme would be 18 and 25 August and the 1 September 2023. The playscheme would run from 10am to 2pm which was to be confirmed and Halo would prepare some flyers which the Clerk would distribute. The numbers would be limited to 24 per day and Cllr Batchelor Howells would arrange the cleaning while the school would be opened by Lauren Davies.

The costs would be £116 per day plus a small extra amount for cleaning and opening and closing the building.

57 Committees Membership

It was noted that as Cllr Patel when stepped down from Chair of Council she was also removed from Council Committees. It was agreed that Cllr Patel's experience of HR matters would be vital as the Council appointed a new Clerk and that the maximum numbers on the Personnel Committee should be expanded to 5 as per appendix 2.

Resolved – To expand the Personnel Committee to 5 members and include Cllr Patel as the fifth member as outlined in Appendix 2.

58 To consider applications for donations and grants

There were no requests for donation or grants.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE

59 To receive a Report from the Clerk - Aberfields CAT

It was noted the Clerk had met with Guy Smith at BCBC and it had been agreed that BCBC would take the lead on a 3G pitch including floodlights for the Ogmere Valley as outlined in the Labour manifesto commitment. A meeting would be arranged by BCBC with FAW and WRU to look at the funding options and would include OVCC.

It had been noted previously that the Council could potentially self-manage and maintain the pitch and pavilion. If this decision was taken a financial worst case would lead to the Community Council subsidising up to £20k per annum from its precept although it could look at other fees, grants and volunteers to reduce this.

If CC went ahead with the CAT it could bid to BCBC for:-

- £25k per pitch for drainage improvements i.e. £75k

- up to £150k for improvement to the pavilion, and
- £10k for tractors etc to use for pitch maintenance.

It was noted that a decision would need to be taken by Autumn 2023 so that a potential subsidy would be included in the 2024/25 budget.

- Evanstown CAT

It was noted that the Charities Commission had requested some further information on the setting up of the CIO but this had been delayed due to a tragedy in the family of one of trustees. It was noted that the Clerk would approach the Trustees again in August 2023 for the information required.

- Ogmore Vale CATs

It was noted that the Ogmore Vale CATs had been submitted and will be reviewed in August by BCBC.

- Replacement Clerk

It was noted that there were two applicants to date and it was agreed that the Personnel Committee would interview the candidates in mid-September.

Resolved – Clerk to organise a date for interviewing new Clerk in mid-September.

- BYCC

It was noted that the Management Committee at BYCC had identified some potential damp issues and that the Clerk would be meeting them on 26 July to discuss these.

- Halo Craft Fayre – 29 July 2023 at 11am

It was noted that Cllrs Newman, Pound and Batchelor Howells to attend with the Clerk.

60 To receive Reports from Members of the Council **- Cllr Batchelor Howells – Newsletters**

It was agreed that a Newsletter summarising the main resolutions of Council would be a good idea especially if it was mainly electronically distributed.

Resolved – Clerk to prepare a draft and share it with Councillors.

It was noted that there was a Fun Run at Evanstown Welfare Park on 9 Augst 2023.

61 To consider any Planning Applications and issues

There were no significant planning applications.

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

Confirmed the date of 26 September 2023 as Full Council Meeting to be via zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

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Signature of the Chairperson, Cllr David Newman

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Date

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

Appendix 1

July Payments 2023			
Business	Description	Ref	Amount
SWWS	Hosting website and maintenance	DD	£21.60
NEST	Pensions for staff -employers contribution	DD	£188.43
Scott Allin	Clerk Salary	10723	£1,372.51
Ashleigh Davies	Warden Salary	30723	£670.82
HMRC	Tax July	615PB00145091	£650.83
Scott Allin	Clerk Expenses	EXP07	£107.78
Ashleigh Davies	Warden expenses	EXP08	£75.15
KBS Ltd	New noticeboard	SI-6593	£2,848.80
BCBC	New bus shelter – OV -approved Oct 22 minute 82	EPHWI0846155477	£4,747.66

OGMORE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES & REPRESENTATIVES 2023/24

Policy & Strategy Committee	Chair - Cllr David Newman
At least twice per annum	Vice Chair - Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells
Max – 6 members	Cllr Angela Jones
	Cllr Margaret Lloyd
	Cllr David Pound
	Cllr Geoff Sherriff
Finance & General Committee	Chair - Cllr David Newman
At least twice per annum	Vice Chair – Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells
Max – 7 members	Cllr Margaret Lloyd
	Cllr Angela Jones
	Cllr Hywel Williams
	Cllr David Pound
	Cllr Kevin Thorne
Personnel Committee	Chair – Cllr David Newman
At least twice per annum	Vice Chair – Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells
Max 5 members	Cllr Angela Jones
	Cllr Margaret Lloyd
	Cllr Dhanisha Patel
Disciplinary & General Committee	Cllr David Pound
When required	Cllr Rhys Goode
Max 3 members	Cllr Hywel Williams
Appeals Committee	Members to be agreed by Full Council depending on nature of complaint

When required**Complaints Committee**

Members to be agreed by Full Council
depending on nature of complaint

When required**REPRESENTATIVES****Town & Community Council Forum**

Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells

One Voice Wales

Clerk

Ogmore Vale Primary School

TBC

Abercerdin Primary School

Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells

Nantymoel Primary School

TBC

**Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon y
Cymoedd**

TBC

**Blackmill Youth and Community
Centre**

Cllr Hywel Williams & Cllr Kevin Thorne

July 2023