

Ogmore Valley Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

Tuesday 25 April 2023, 6.30 pm via zoom

Dydd Mawrth 25 Ebrill 2023, 6.30 pm yng zoom

MINUTES

In Attendance

Cllr Dhanisha Patel (Chair)
Cllr David Newman (Vice Chair)
Cllr Rhys Goode (left at 7.30pm)
Cllr Margaret Lloyd
Cllr David Newman
Cllr David Pound
Cllr Angela Jones
Cllr Geoff Sherriff
Cllr Kevin Thorne
Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells

Scott Allin – Clerk
Charlotte Llewellyn – Assistant Clerk/RFO
Ashleigh Davies – Warden (left at 6.45pm)

1 Apologies for Absence

There were the following apologies from Councillors:-

Cllr Hywel Williams – work commitments
Cllr Sheryl Jones – work commitments

Resolved: members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence.

2 New Councillors and RFO Resignation

The following members of the community were interviewed for co-option and appointed on 3 April 2023.

- Craig Batchelor Howells (Evanstown)
- Geoff Sherriff (Nantymoel)
- Kevin Thorne (Blackmill)

The Council warmly welcomed the newly co-opted councillors.

A fourth application for co-option withdrew their application prior to the interview process.

It was also noted that the Assistant Clerk/RFO has resigned and will be leaving in mid-May 2023. A Personnel Committee will be organised to look at the options for undertaking Council workload as the Clerk has also indicated his intention to retire this year.

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

There were no members of the public present.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Warden's report

It was noted that the Warden's report included the following:-

- Sanded, painted and varnished tree slices for Easter Scavenger Hunt.
- Printed and laminated more direction sheets for visitors.
- Boosted Easter Scavenger Hunt poster on Facebook.
- Tanio and Easter Scavenger hunt was a success with 15 Adults and 13 Children.
- Meadow Group zoom meeting, ideas on how to increase engagement for all three counties.
- Bridgend Green Network online meeting.

It was noted that spend on flowers to date was:-

- August 2022 - £54.10 spent on flowers for Ogmores Vale

- November 2022 – Warden spent £57.90 on flowers for Evanstown and will be planted next week
- April 2023 – Keep Nantymoel Tidy Spent £75.66 on flowers

It was noted that each Ward had been allocated £100 for 2023/24 and that Councillors should liaise with the Warden on spending the funds.

It was noted that the Warden's report included time spent on training and that her focus in the coming months would be to undertake outside work. Councillors were encouraged to contact the Warden if they had projects that needed progressing.

The Warden left the meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL

6 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations (a) Draft Full Council 28 March 2023

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the 28 March 2023 Full Council meeting.

(b) Draft Personnel Committee 27 February 2023

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the 27 February 2023 Personnel Committee meeting.

7 Matters Arising from previous meetings:-

Council Meeting

- ***PCSO quarterly invite***

It was noted that the PCSO will attend the Council meeting on 27 June 2023 although she does not currently have access to zoom.

- ***Easter Scavenger Hunt***

This was reported under agenda item 5.

- ***Christmas lights***

A meeting with the contractor and various ward councillors was held on 11 April 2023 and it was proposed that:-

- Nantymoel – would have the same large decorated tree as well as the clock tower decorations. Options for replacement of solar trees with new

decorations would be reviewed across all wards and costings had been requested.

- Ogmores Vale – continue decorating tree outside Fire Station but proposing dressing a new tree in the Wyndham near the benches on Fronwen Terrace. It was requested that the tree in the churchyard in the Wyndham should be reviewed for decorations although access had been a problem. Cllr Lloyd would also contact the Clerk regarding a possible cut tree near the Halo Centre.
- Blackmill – dress tree at bus stop and Warden to source a cut tree for Glynllan. Lewistown – continue with current tree outside shop.
- Glynogwr – decorations for the tree in the churchyard have been requested although initial indications are that scaffolding would be required.
- Evanstown – a costing had been requested for a tree outside the flats opposite the Community Centre and discussions had been started with Gilfach Goch Community Council regarding a tree at the entrance to Evanstown. The siting of the tree at Primary School will also be reviewed so that more people can see it when the School is closed.

It was noted that an initial review indicated that new decorations to replace solar powered trees would be around £500 each but further details were being requested including examples.

- ***Pop-up banner***

It was noted that the Assistant Clerk would send out the final version of the design to all councillors again so that they could see the final version. If there were no further comments the order would be placed.

- ***Windfarm Allocations***

It was noted that all the payments had been made at end of March 2023.

- ***OV Awards***

It was noted that the nominations were now open and Councillors should bring this to the attention of the community where possible. It would be particularly welcomed to have nominations from Evanstown which was not represented last year.

- ***Evanstown Buses***

It was noted that this was covered under agenda item.

- ***Evanstown Bus Shelters etc***

It was noted that Janine Nightingale (BCBC) had been contacted again about the lack of progress on issues in Evanstown. Furthermore, Cllr Wasley had a meeting scheduled with the Deputy Leader of BCBC to raise the Evanstown issues. Finally, Cllr Goode noted that BCBC had set up a separate Councillor channel for issues that needed addressing. The appropriate Borough Councillors should be contacted when there are problems that are not being addressed.

It was also noted that FixMyStreet was to be discussed at the next BCBC/Community Councillors forum at the request of the OVCC Clerk.

- ***Holidays***

It was noted that the Clerk is away for a week from 8-15 May 2023 but the Assistant Clerk is available and the Clerk will review emails intermittently.

It was requested that Councillors should notify the Clerk if any holidays are booked.

- ***Financial Regulations***

It was noted that these have been updated and uploaded to the website.

- ***Halo Playscheme***

It was noted that Scott Hancock (Halo) and Cllr Wasley had visited the Sports Hall in Abercerdin Primary School to review and feedback was positive. Halo are waiting for the School to let them know their plans for activities before a proposal for a Summer School could be made.

- ***Evanstown Warden***

It was noted that the Clerk had met Dale Hart from Pennant Walters to explain the case for an Evanstown and Glynogwr Warden and the decision would be made in June 2023.

8 Finances – 2023/24
(a) formal approval of payments April 23

It was noted that the Warden's salary included an extra 8 hours to cover chainsaw training course.

Resolved to approve the Schedule of Payments as attached as appendix 1.

(b) formal approval of the bank reconciliation March 23

It was noted that there was a £37.20 difference between the opening balance for March and the closing balance for February 2023. The Clerk and RFO will check the numbers and report to Council before the reconciliation is approved.

(c) expenditure against the budget end of March 23

It was noted that the interest figures in the March 23 Management Accounts would be checked.

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

9 Evanstown Buses

The draft letter agreed with Cllrs Pound, Wasley and Batchelor Howells was reviewed and it was agreed that the Clerk could send this to Stagecoach on behalf of Ogmore Valley Community Council.

Resolved – To approve letter to Stagecoach

It was also noted that the bus shelter in Abercerdin Road was not big enough to protect all the children from adverse weather. The Clerk would raise this with BCBC.

10 Benches

The condition survey of the list of benches throughout the wards was noted and the Clerk, Warden and Councillors would decide how to spend the £5,000 per Ward on improvements and/or new benches.

Resolved – Councillors to review benches list and agree priorities for each Ward.

11 To consider applications for donations and grants
- Evanstown Coronation Event – request for £200

It was noted Evanstown had proposed a Street Party for the coronation and that Cllr Batchellor Howells had been co-ordinating this project which included a request for funding to Pennant Walters (PW) for £2,000 as well as this bid for £200 to the Community Council. It was noted that if the PW funding was not approved then the £200 from the Community Council would be spent on commemorations for the children of Evanstown and the spend ideas would be shelved. The payments could be reclaimed from the Council in May 2023.

Resolved – To approve £200 donation to Evanstown for commemorations.

- Corbett Street Ogmores Vale, request for £42

Cllr Lloyd left the meeting for this item as she lived on Corbett Road and had been involved in the bid.

Following discussion, it was agreed that this should be fully supported.

Resolved – To approve £42 for Corbett Road

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE

12 To receive a Report from the Clerk
- Volunteer email

It was noted that Esther Thompson in Nantymoel had emailed the Clerk to offer her cafe to host community activities. Councillors welcomed this offer and would think about possible uses. The Clerk would thank Esther Thompson for her kind offer.

- Aberfields CAT

It was noted that possible funding streams were still being researched.

- Evanstown CAT

A draft constitution for a new Evanstown Community Centre CIO to replace the current charity was reviewed and the following changes were agreed:-

- objects were fine;
- 'If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities' was preferred wording at section 8.
- Options 1 and 1a with a minimum of 3 and maximum 8 trustees to be included in section 9 (3)

It was agreed that the draft constitution should be shared with BCBC. Cllr Batchelor Howells agreed to be a trustee but further discussions are required with Cllrs Searle, Wasley and Williams.

13 To receive Reports from Members of the Council

Cllr Batchelor Howells noted that there was frequently a lack of recycling and food bags in Evanstown. Cllr Batchelor Howells offered to pick them up directly from Kier for the community but it was agreed that the first action was to report the issue to Kier and if their response is not satisfactory escalate it to Borough Councillor Williams.

Cllr Lloyd noted that a Parkinson's Support Group was meeting in the Berwyn Centre on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Cllr Lloyd also noted that portacabin units in Penllwyngwent Industrial Estate were in a very poor condition with the areas around them prone to flytipping. Cllr Lloyd would report to Borough Cllr Della Hughes and a report on the long term plans for the site should be requested from BCBC. It was noted that CCTV may be an option to deter flytippers.

It was noted that BCBC are responsible for litter bins but that Councillors should report issues to cleanupthecounty@bridgend.gov.uk

It was agreed that the issue of access to laptops for Councillors should be discussed at the next Personnel Committee.

Cllr Pound presented a report on the proposals for the possible redevelopment of the:

- The site of the former nursery school situated at Park Avenue, Ogmere Vale.
- The basket ball court situated at Park Avenue, Ogmere Vale.

BCBC and the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), have agreed the refurbishment of the Tennis Courts situated between the Bowling Green and the Basketball Court.

The Bowls Club were considering making an application to apply for control of the former nursery school site with the intention of creating a car park, to reduce the congestion on Park Avenue particularly when the Bowls Club were hosts to other bowling teams. However, proposals have now been suspended pending the outcome of a community consultation. Community support is a prerequisite for the CAT process to proceed.

The Council agreed, in principle, to support a community survey to understand the priorities of residents. Cllr Pound would take the forward the organising of a public meeting including advertising leaflets which would be around £85. Cllr Pound would report back.

14 To consider any Planning Applications and issues

No planning issues.

**15 To confirm the date, time and venue of forthcoming meetings:
- Full Council Tuesday 30 May 2023, 6.30 pm via zoom or face to face.**

Confirmed the date of 30 May 2023 as Full Council Meeting to be held via zoom with the June 2023 meeting held face to face.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

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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

APRIL 23 PAYMENTS

| | Description | Ref | Amount |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------|
| Scott Allin | Clerk Salary | 10423 | £1084.80 |
| Charlotte Llewellyn | RFO Salary | 20423 | £503.36 |
| Ashleigh Davies | Warden Salary | 30423 | £724.06 |
| Scott Allin | Clerk Expenses | EXP01 | £82.79 |
| Wales Audit Office | Fees for 2020/21 | 008543 | £200.00 |
| Wales Audit Office | Fees for 2019/2020 | 008455 | £310.00 |
| Wales Audit Office | Fees for 2018/2019 | 008425 | £200.00 |
| Wales Audit Office | Fees for 2017/2018 | 008424 | £200.00 |
| Wales Audit Office | Fees for 2016/2017 | 008423 | £200.00 |
| Halo Leisure Centre | Summer Playscheme | SIN037027 | £4500.00 |