

Ogmore Valley Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

Tuesday 27 June 2023, 6.30 pm at BYCC

Dydd Mawrth 27 Mehefin 2023, 6.30 pm yng BYCC

MINUTES

In Attendance

Cllr David Newman (Chair)

Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells (Vice Chair)

Cllr Margaret Lloyd

Cllr David Pound

Cllr Geoff Sherriff

Cllr Hywel Williams

Scott Allin – Clerk

Ashleigh Davies – Warden

Holly Edwards – PCSO (for items 31-33 only)

31 Resignation of Current Chair and appointment of New Chair

It was noted that the current Chair, Councillor Dhanisha Patel, had resigned in line with the Council convention and it was unanimously agreed that last year's Vice Chair Councillor David Newman would be appointed as Chair.

Cllr Patel would remain on the Council and was thanked for her work as Chair of the Council for the last two years.

It was noted that the Clerk would update the Committee structure as outlined in Appendix 1

Resolved – Cllr David Newman appointed Chair of Ogmore Valley Community Council.

32 Apologies for Absence

There were the following apologies from Councillors:-

Cllr Dhanisha Patel – work commitments
 Cllr Angela Jones – family commitments
 Cllr Sheryl Wasley – leave commitments
 Cllr Kevin Thorne – holiday commitments
 Cllr Rhys Goode – work commitments

Resolved: members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence.

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

The following members of the public were present.

- Margaret Jenkins

PCSO Holly Edwards presented the June crime statistics which are outlined below:-

Crime Statistics for:	Apr-23					May-23					Jun-23				
	Nanty'l	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	Evans'n	Nanty'l	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	Evans'n	Nanty'l	Ogmore Vale	Blackmill	Total	Evans'n
Dwelling burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary other	1	0	0	1	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	0
Theft from vehicle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All other theft	1	0	0	1	5	0	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	1
Damage	3	1	1	5	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	2	3	1
Violence against The person	4	7	0	11	4	4	7	4	15	10	6	3	2	11	5
All crime total	9	8	1	18	10	5	9	8	22	13	7	3	4	14	7
ASB total	5	3	0	8	2	1	2	2	5	1	0	0	1	1	1
Drink Driving	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

PCSO Edwards noted that the number of reported incidents in June 2023 were lower than previous months and any known issues should be reported by ringing 101. It was noted that there is continuing police activity in stopping off road biking including at Aberfields.

It was noted that there had been some damaged cars in Dinam Street, Nantymoel and that a picnic bench had been completely burnt at the Washeries. The PCSO noted that they will increase patrols in these areas but their ability to patrol at night when the anti-social behaviour usually occurs is limited.

It was also noted that there had been complaints regarding barking dogs in Blackmill and the police had visited the premises although their powers are limited.

The PCSO would check whether they supported Neighbourhood Watch schemes and would look at putting signs at the Washeries regarding Rural Watch.

34 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.

35 Warden's report

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

- Litter picking and picking Balsam at the Washeries.
- Reptile Survey at Washeries
- Attended Ogmores Vale Halo 30-year anniversary celebration
- Reviewed ecological reports on future plans and actions for Washeries and Aberfields.
- Attended Edible Food Forest Plant Swop.
- Shared 12-month plan of actions with volunteer groups
- Attended Bridgend Green Network meeting
- Attend Priide AGM and stayed after meeting to talk with members.
- Went plant shopping with Cllr Lloyd and put down cardboard base, compost and planted flowers in Fronwen Terrace planter.
- Walked with Priide member along part of cycle track to identify invasive plants.

It was noted that it had been not wet enough to sort out the Evanstown planters but the Warden would look at these as soon as there was rain

It was agreed that Cllr Batchelor Howells and the Warden would decide on an Evanstown fruit tree location.

Tanio will run a free Scavenger Hunt on 25 August 2023 at the Washeries.

The Council reviewed proposals for a Tanio Summer Activity session for children and a Guided Bug Walk both at the Washeries. It was agreed that the Council would fund these sessions with the dates and details to be agreed.

It was noted that the Warden would plan planting of bulbs for next year asap.

Resolved – To fund a Tanio session for £200 and a Guided Bug Walk for £200.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL

36 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations

(a) Draft Full Council 30 May 2023

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the 30 May 2023 Full Council meeting.

(b) Draft Annual Meeting 30 May 2023

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the 30 May 2023 Annual Meeting.

(c) Draft Personnel Committee 13 June 2023

It was noted that the resolutions were:-

- Clerk to undertake RFO role by increasing hours by 20 per month at a rate of £18.50 per hour.
- Clerk to continue with the RFO role for a period after the appointment of the new Clerk.
- To approve the advert for the Clerk.
- Clerk to check laptops prices and bring a costing to Council

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the 13 June 2023 Personnel Committee Meeting.

(d) Draft Finance & General Committee 21 June 2023

It was noted that the resolutions were:-

- To approve the Annual Return 2022/23.
- To approve the Explanation of Variance.
- To approve the year end bank reconciliation
- To note that the Internal Audit report has been formally reviewed and a draft response agreed.

It was noted that the internal audit issues raised would be addressed by:-

- review of options for replacing excel spreadsheets with Rialtas accounting software;
- adjusting next year's VAT return to reflect the error identified.

It was also noted that at each face-to-face meeting of the Council, a selection of Councillors would be asked to review a sample of invoices and to sign these off. This would supplement the fact that all invoices are sent to all Councillors electronically before authorisation at each meeting. A copy of the latest bank

statement to support the reconciliation and payments would also be included in future.

Resolved to Approve the Minutes of the 21 June 2023 Finance & General Committee Meeting.

37 Matters Arising from previous meetings:-

Council Meeting

- ***Tanio Summer Scavenger Hunt and Insect Day at Washeries.***

This was discussed and funding agreed under Warden's Report – item 35.

- ***Christmas lights***

It was noted that further queries had been sent back to the contractor regarding:-

- the cost of scaffolding;
- photos and unit costs for the decorations for lamp posts.

- ***OV Awards***

It was noted that the closing date was end of June 2023 but that to date there were no applications.

Resolved – To extend the closing date to 31 July 2023.

- ***Holidays***

The Chair noted that he was on leave between 13-23 July 2023.

- ***Halo Playscheme - Evanstown***

It was noted that Halo only had staffing for week starting 7 August 2023 but that the School could not accommodate that week. As a compromise, the Council would explore having the playscheme on 3 consecutive Friday's - August 18th and 25th and 1st September. The costs from Halo are estimated at £116 per day and there would be a small cost for cleaners and a key holder. It was agreed that a provisional budget of £700 could be set aside for the scheme while details were being worked out.

Resolved – To fund the costs of the Scheme up to £700.

- ***Evanstown Warden***

It was noted that there will be a slight delay from Pennant Walters on the decision to fund a new Warden for Evanstown.

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

It was noted that the Clerk and Cllr Wasley has chased Stagecoach but had as yet received no reply. Cllr Batchelor Howells was meeting with local politicians and Stagecoach in the next week and would raise this issue as well.

- ***Benches***

This was discussed under agenda item 40.

- ***3 G Pitch Letter to Leader***

It was noted that a reply had been received from the Leader of BCBC and a meeting was being set up with Guy Smith the BCBC CAT officer.

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

It was noted that there is concern among Evanstown residents regarding the safety of children crossing the main road between Abercerdin Road, Kenry Street and Coronation Road in Evanstown. Cllr Batchelor Howells has reported the concern to BCBC and requested a safety report on the junction.

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

Cllr Williams noted that the Hub had been delayed due to extra building work related to safety that was unforeseen and had delayed progress on the Hub at Abercerdin School where childcare provision is an aspiration.

- ***Cllr Williams – Recycling bins and Keir***

It was noted that the roll out of bins had gone smoothly.

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

Cllr Williams noted that he had a meeting planned with BCBC Corporate Landlord in the next few days and would report back on the issue of access to the Pavilion in Evanstown.

- ***Defibrillators in Valley***

This would be discussed under agenda item 39.

38 Finances – 2023/24

(a) formal approval of payments June 23

It was noted that the direct debits that are paid out monthly to NEST and SWWS are included in monthly payment approvals. The Chair and Cllr Pound examined a sample of June invoices supporting the June payments.

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

Note – following the 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.

(b) formal approval of the bank reconciliation May 23

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

Resolved – To approve the bank reconciliation for May 2023.

(c) expenditure against the budget end of May 23

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

39 Defibrillators

It was noted that an initial review had identified 8 defibs in the Ogmore Valley and 3 more in Evanstown. It was agreed that the Clerk would work with Ward Councillors to gather information on their local community defibs so we can have a record of who is responsible for each unit, their maintenance and oversight including:-

- Place and address of each
- Make and model
- Date of installation or renewal date for batteries and or pad replacement
- Any named individual and contact details responsible for the unit

It was understood that the batteries had to be changed every 5 years and pads every 3 years and that a spare set of pads should be available for each unit.

It was noted that for defibs in Evanstown/Gilfach Goch, Save a Life Cymru and the Ambulance Service currently supply batteries and pads. Tonyrefail and GG

Community defib group look after the defibs and volunteers check them. They are registered and Save a Life Cymru (PHW) remind them if they haven't been checked regularly.

Resolved – Clerk to work with Ward Councillors on a definitive list of defibs in the OVCC area.

40 Benches

It was noted that in Ogmores Vale Ward, Priide had offered to undertake repairs and invoice the Council for up to £5,000. Cllr Williams and the Clerk would both chase BCBC for confirmation of any health and safety issues although it was noted that some of the benches were currently a safety risk and any repairs would only make things less risky.

It was noted in Evanstown Cllr Wasley was contacting local tradespeople regarding undertaking repairs to BCBC benches.

Resolved – To approve to request Priide to undertake repairs to benches up to £5,000

It was noted that prior to Covid, it had been agreed to fund a Memorial Miner Soldier Bench Seat outside Ogmores Vale Primary School entrance. Further research had identified a bench at a cost which included a set of underground leg extensions for securing into a soft standing for £1,800.

Resolved – To approve to fund a Memorial Bench outside Ogmores Vale Primary School entrance.

41 Public Meeting and CAT - Ogmores Vale Basketball Court and site of former Nursery School

It was noted the Public Meeting held on 17 June 2023 was well attended by about 50 people, who fully engaged in the debate over the future of the basketball court and former nursery school sites. The suggested proposal for the former nursery school site included provision for an overflow car park to ease congestion on Park Avenue. There was some resistance to this suggestion, but it was agreed that the application should make provision for the possible inclusion of a small number of disability parking spaces.

The meeting was made aware that whilst the Community Council supported the proposals in principle, no decision had been made on whether or not the Community Council would go ahead with the CAT process, in view of the fact that it is already committed to 2 other CAT processes. In the event of the Community Council deciding not to take on the additional responsibility, there appears to be sufficient support to create another properly constituted community group to carry the projects forward.

It was agreed that the Community Council would support the initial Expressions of Interest (EOI) for both sites being submitted to BCBC on the understanding that these could still be withdrawn at a later stage.

Resolved – To approve the submission of EOIs to BCBC by the Community Council for the former nurser and basketball court.

**42 To consider applications for donations and grants
- BYCC - £200 for new pads and battery for defibrillator**

It was noted that Blackmill BRAVOs had applied for a donation for £200 for new pads and battery for a defibrillator at the garage in Blackmill square.

Resolved – To approve £200 donation to Blackmill BRAVOs to fund defibrillator pads and battery.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE

**43 To receive a Report from the Clerk
- Aberfields CAT**

It was noted that a meeting with Guy Smith was being set up following the reply from the Leader of BCBC regarding a 3G pitch for the Ogmore Valley.

- Evanstown CAT

It was noted that a reply from the Charities Commission regarding the setting up of a CIO for Evanstown Community Centre had been received and that a meeting with BAVO was arranged for 3 July 2023 to review the issues raised.

- CTNN – Aberfields Pathway and Benches

It was noted with disappointment that due to issues with procurement the CTNN grant for Aberfields pathways and benches could not be spent.

**44 To receive Reports from Members of the Council
- Cllr Pound – Litter Bins in Aberfields**

It was noted that Ogmore Valley Priide had been informed by a BCBC employee that the unofficial litter bins that had been sited throughout the valley are going to be removed. It was noted that the bins are well used and are helping to keep the valley free from litter and dog mess.

The Warden had heard that BCBC were not intending to remove the bins so it was agreed that Cllr Pound would check with Ogmores Valley Priide to find out more details.

Resolved – Cllr Pound to contact Priide to find out further details from the BCBC contact.

**45 To consider any Planning Applications and issues
- Blackmill Development – 28 Affordable House on CWM Felin, Blackmill.**

It was noted that the Clerk and Cllr Thorne had attended the BCBC Planning Committee meeting on 14 June 2023 to re-emphasise the concerns of residents regarding drainage, access and noise.

It is understood that since the meeting the application has been approved as per the officer's report but that the Community Council could request some support from the contractors separately when the planning approval has gone through.

Resolved – Clerk to write to contractors to ask for funding for Blackmill to use for the community e.g. Christmas decorations.

**46 To confirm the date, time and venue of forthcoming meetings:
- Full Council Tuesday 25 July 2023, 6.30 pm via zoom.**

Confirmed the date of 25 July 2023 as Full Council Meeting to be via zoom.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

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Signature of the Chairperson, Cllr David Newman Date

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

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 4 members	Cllr Angela Jones
	Cllr Margaret Lloyd
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
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When required

REPRESENTATIVES

Town & Community Council Forum	Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells
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One Voice Wales	Clerk
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Ogmore Vale Primary School	TBC
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Abercerdin Primary School	Cllr Craig Batchelor Howells
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Nantymoel Primary School	TBC
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Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon y Cymoedd	TBC
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Blackmill Youth and Community Centre	Cllr Hywel Williams & Cllr Kevin Thorne
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June 2023

Appendix 2

June Payments 2023			
Business	Description	Ref	Amount
SWWS	Hosting website and maintenance	DD	£21.60
NEST	Pensions for staff -employers contribution	DD	£196.14
Scott Allin	Clerk Salary	10623	£1,420.46
Ashleigh Davies	Warden Salary	30623	£702.76
HMRC	Tax	615PB00145091	£1,003.96
Scott Allin	Clerk Expenses inc printer	EXP04	£209.88
Ashleigh Davies	Warden expenses	EXP05	£66.62
Scott Allin	Home as Office quarter expenses	1HOQTR1	£54.00
Ashleigh Davies	Home as Office quarter expenses	3HOQTR1	£13.50
Margaret Lloyd	Plant expenses	EXP06	£67.34
Auditing Solutions Ltd	Annual internal audit	A8132	£864.00