

# Ogmore Valley Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



## FINANCE AND GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING CYFARFOD PWYLLGOR CYLLID A CYFFREDINOL

**Tuesday 8 February 2022, 6.30 pm at Zoom**  
Dydd Mawrth 8 Chwefror 2022, 6.30 pm yng Zoom

### MINUTES

#### In Attendance

*Cllr Dhanisha Patel (Chair)*  
*Cllr Gareth Prescott (Vice-Chair)*  
*Cllr Angela Jones*  
*Cllr Andrew McKay*  
*Cllr Hywel Williams*  
*Cllr Richard Shakeshaft*

*Scott Allin – Clerk*  
*Laura Williams – Assistant Clerk/RFO*

#### **10 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies notified from the following:-

Cllr Andrew Davies – work commitments

**Resolved: members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence.**

#### **11 Declarations of Personal/Prejudicial Interests in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct & Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992**

No interests to declare.

## **12 Minutes 23 November 2021**

No items were raised as the minutes had been previously approved by Full Council.

## **13 Treasury Management Policy**

It was noted that the Council's cash balance at the end of December 2021 was £180,121.38 and was held with the Co-operative Bank. Advice was that £85,000 of this sum was protected by the FSCS guarantee to protect against financial institutions going bankrupt. It was recognised that the risk of financial institutions going bankrupt was low and there was also evidence that financial institutions are withdrawing free banking for Community Councils and small charities. It was also noted that there was a balance to be struck between banking charges, the level of service provided, interest paid, cost of administration and security of deposits which would need to be assessed.

**Resolved – To recommend to Council that a review of the options to deposit some of the Councils reserves in other financial institutions would be brought back to the Finance Committee.**

## **14 Asset Register**

It was noted that the container had been added to the Asset Register this year.

**Resolved – To recommend to Council approval of the Asset Register**

## **15 Valuation of Assets - update** **- BYCC and Chains**

It was noted that Internal Audit had recommended that the BYCC and the Civic Chains should be revalued. Quotes have been received from surveyors to value BYCC but the cost was more than £1,500 and as there are alterations on-going at BYCC it would be better to wait for these to be completed before revaluing the Centre and the Chains

**Resolved – To recommend to Council to revalue the Chains and BYCC until later in 2022.**

## **16 Review of Payments and Accounts**

Councillors reviewed the cash book and associated invoices and randomly checked the following entries in the cash book to ensure that they were supported by legitimate invoices:-

- June 21 – Payment of £2,880 to A&W Agricultural Services for a container;
- July 21 – Payment of £133.06 to NEST for pensions;
- September 21 – Payment of £1,626 to J Hurley for Nature and QR Boards;
- September 21 – Payment of £1,304 to OVW for membership.

It was also noted that due to the elections in May 2022, there would be no Council meetings in March and April 2022. The February 2022 Council meeting would outline the salary payments for March and April 2022 and Council would be asked that the Chair be given delegated authority to make any other urgent payments during this period.

**Resolved – To request Council to give the Chair delegated authority to make urgent payments during March and April 2022.**

## **17 Councillor Allowances**

It was noted that councillors would be paid £150 each for 2021/22 unless they refused the payment in writing. Following discussion, it was agreed that the payments should be made pro rata to those Councillors who had resigned from the Council during the year. Further advice from OVW should be sought over the legal position of the Council with regard to Councillors who had served a partial period but had not engaged with the Council during this period.

**Resolved – To recommend to Council that allowance payments should be pro-rated for those Councillors who had resigned and to follow OVW guidance on Councillors who had not engaged.**

## **18 Toolstation Account**

It was noted that as the Warden requires clothes/equipment to undertake her role a trading account with Toolstation should be set up.

**Resolved – To recommend to Council to set up a Toolstation Account.**

## **19 Draft Self-Assessment Toolkit**

It was noted that a self-assessment toolkit was being trialled by OVW. The Clerk and RFO had reviewed the document and found it to be useful although in some

places it was quite detailed especially for small Community Councils without the resources of some of the larger Town Councils in Wales. A final document will be brought back to the Council after it has been finalised by OVW.

**20 Recommendations to Full Council**

**The resolutions above to be ratified by Full Council.**

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

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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**