

**OGMORE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON,  
TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Those present: Councillor Scott Priday, Chairman in the Chair**

**Councillors:**

D. Owen  
Mrs. M. J. Jenkins  
Mrs. J. Harris  
M. Davies  
Mrs. A. Jones  
Mrs. D. Parker  
M. Jenkins  
Mrs. L. Hill  
Mrs. G. Evans  
G. Bees

**Others:** None

**Police Representative:** Apologies were received from the Police.

1. **To receive apologies for absence.**

**Resolved:** Apologies for absence were noted by Members.

2. **To receive any declarations of interest (if any) from Members.**

Members are invited to declare personal and prejudicial interests in items on the agenda. It is a requirement that declarations from a member include the nature of the interest and whether it is personal or prejudicial.

**Resolved:** Mrs. M. Jenkins declared an interest in that her mother and father in law were to receive flowers and a card of congratulations from OVCC for their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary as per policy. No other declarations were received.

3. **Items for the Police Representative.**

**Resolved:** Crime figures were reported.

4. **Annual Return Approval**

Members were given a copy of the Annual Return and accompanying documents for their approval.

**Resolved:** That the Annual Return was approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

5. **Community Voice Extension**

**Resolved:** Members agreed that the Clerk continue to work on the 'Community Voice', 'Ogmores Future' project until End of December 2016, when it will be reviewed.

6. **Community Request – Speed Warning Sign for Blackmill**

**Resolved:** That item 6 is approved @ the value of £2,595.39

7. **Community Request – To bank money to hold for the Community**

**Resolved:** That item 7 is approved for a trial period of 12 months. Terms and an agreement will be issued. Data will be kept in a separate cash book and there will be two signatories.

8. **To Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Community Council held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016.**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council were approved and accepted as a true record of the proceedings.

9. **To Approve the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016.**

**Resolved:** That the Minutes of the Planning Committee was approved and accepted as a true record of the proceedings.

10. **To Approve the Minutes, Recommendations and Financials of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016.**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee were accepted and approved, including financials.

11. **Matters arising from the Minutes.**

**Resolved:** None were received.

12. **Signing of the Minutes**

**Resolved:** All document pages relating to the above named minutes were signed by the Chairperson, Cllr. David Owen, in the Chair, and, witnessed by Community Council Members Present.

13. The next **Ordinary Meeting of Ogmores Valley Community Council will be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016, at 6.30pm** in the Welfare Hall, Ogmores Vale.

14. The next meeting of the **Finance & General Purposes Committee will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, 9:30am** in the Welfare Hall, Ogmores Vale.

**AGENDA**

Matters deferred/delegated to the committee

15. The next meeting of the **Regeneration Committee will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, 9:30am** in the Welfare Hall, Ogmores Vale.

**AGENDA**

Matters deferred/delegated to the committee

16. The next meeting of the **Policy and Strategy Committee will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, 9:30am** in the Welfare Hall, Ogmore Vale.

**AGENDA**

Matters deferred/delegated to the committee

**Resolved:** That items 13 – 16 are noted.

**Report of the Clerk**

17. **Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw**

The Former Head Teacher gave notice to finish his post from End April. Ceri Llywellyn is now Acting Head Teacher.

An advertisement for a secondment for a Deputy Head for one year has gone out.

School has shown vast improvement in two areas and risen from RED to Green and Yellow, However, is still RED in 'Teaching' and 'Learning'.

The Governing Body and Acting Head are currently working on these areas with the support of the Consortium.

The Caretaker has retired from End May and this post is currently being advertised.

**Resolved:** Send Correspondance to Huw David and Mel Nott on behalf of Ogmore Valley Community Council.

18. **Up-coming Training Events**

25/05/2016 Wednesday Council Office, Newport Road, Bedwas. CF83 8YB Module 10 -  
Chairing Skills  
01/06/2016 Wednesday Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry. CF63 4RU Module 4 -  
Understanding the Law  
02/06/2016 Thursday Pontypool Community Council, 35A Commercial St, Pontypool,  
Torfaen. NP4 6JQ Module 21 - Local Government Finance - ADVANCED  
09/06/2016 Thursday Council Office, Newport Road, Bedwas. CF83 8YB Module 19 -  
Devolution of Services  
13/06/2016 Monday Undy Church & Community Hall, Church Road, Undy, Caldicot,  
NP26 3EN Module 10 - Chairing Skills  
21/06/2016 Tuesday Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry. CF63 4RU Module 12 -  
Community Planning  
04/07/2016 Monday Pontypool Community Council, 35A Commercial St, Pontypool,  
Torfaen. NP4 6JQ Module 3 - The Council as an Employer  
14/07/2016 Thursday Undy Church & Community Hall, Church Road, Undy, Caldicot,  
NP26 3EN Module 5 - The Council Meeting  
20/07/2016 Wednesday Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry. CF63 4RU Module 17 - Making  
Effective Grant Applications  
25/07/2016 Monday Bridgend Town Council, Carnegie House, Wyndham Street,  
Bridgend. CF31 1EF Module 5 - The Council Meeting  
26/07/2016 Tuesday Council Office, Newport Road, Bedwas. CF83 8YB Module 4 –  
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**Resolved:** That Cllrs. L. Hill, J. Harris and M. Jenkins attend Module 5, The Council Meeting  
19. **Code of Conduct Training**

Just a reminder that Mr Andrew Jolley, Monitoring Officer has arranged Code of Conduct Training to take place on Thursday 26th May, 6.00pm-8.00pm at the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend.

Unfortunately there will not be any parking available at the Civic Offices on Thursday night.

**Resolved:** The Clerk has confirmed approximate numbers of five attending.

20. **One Voice Wales Larger Councils Conference 6 July 2016 Hafod a Hendre Royal Welsh Showground**

One Voice Wales is holding its Fourth Larger Councils Conference that will include an excellent range of speakers, information on work programmes of relevance to larger councils and workshops on innovative practice being carried out by Councils across Wales – certainly something to whet everyone's appetite!

Our guest speakers will be Elwyn Thomas – Chief Executive, Planning Aid Wales who will be discussing the implications of the Planning Act on Community and Town Councils and Helen Murray – Chief Executive of PLANED who will be discussing how Third Sector bodies engage with communities and the lessons Community and Town Councils can learn.

Innovative practice sessions will cover:

Provision of Community Defibrillators  
Working with Young People  
Delivering Community Services and supporting a clustering model

In the afternoon a diverse range of subjects will be addressed via the workshop sessions:

Review of the 2014/15 audits and Changes to the Audit Regime for Community and Town Councils  
Overview of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act and its implications for larger councils  
Making the most of your Council website.

**Resolved:** That item 20 is noted.

21. **New School Up-date**

Gaynor BCBC, confirmed that the Tendor was going out at the end of this week and that they expected returns within 4 weeks.

The English Medium New School will begin construction during the summer of 2016 and will open September '17.

The old school will then be demolished and the Welsh Medium New School construction will begin summer '17, ready for the opening September '18.

Next Steps

## 1. 'The Street'

Primarily for YGGCG, We need to be thinking of how we would like to utilise 'The Street'.

This is the corridor between classrooms and will provide effective space for, for example:

Library  
IT  
Music  
Role Play  
Class assembly areas  
Waiting area for visitors

The above are examples only and we ask that staff think about how they visualise effective use of this space, being mindful that a Library and IT suite ARE NOT included within the build. If it was felt that these areas were necessary then a part of 'The Street' would be used.

- Please also be mindful of Fire Doors, Class Doors etc, keeping these areas free.
- 'The Street' will be a carpeted area to reduce noise.
- The Windows within 'The Street' are high level and so there is wall space for furniture below them.

## 2. School Start Times

The School Start times potentially will alter slightly to compromise the traffic with the English Medium School.

This issue will be further discussed with all stake holders and once an agreement on the staggered starts have been made, we would have to give fair notice to all effected.

### Previous Staff Comments Feedback:

1. Toilets in the infants area – There is a disabled toilet available for use, alternatively, Staff toilets are available within a short distance. If further problems occurred, it might be possible to make one of the infants toilet into a standard cubicle. This will be reviewed when the English Medium school has been built.
2. Sandwich Room – It is not a possibility to have a designated sandwich room as this is in breach of Welsh Government criteria for use of space, however, there is a kitchen area where space could potentially allocated.
3. Passage way to the playground so as not having to come through the classroom from outside – There is an entrance to the playground to the cloakroom. There is a shared cloakroom per two classes, also leading to pupil toilets.

### Amenities

1. Multi Purpose Pitch – This pitch can be utilised throughout play times as well as curriculum activities.
2. Full Size Netball Court – There is a full size netball court included in the build.

### Pupil Entry to School

The School has been designed for Pupil entrance/pickup directly into their classrooms, however, this is for school to manage and the Main Entrance can be used.

## SEN and HI Class Areas

There are potentially two areas available as there is currently no provision for SEN and HI at Cwm Garw. Options are currently being explored around the schools/pupils needs.

**Resolved:** That item 21 is noted.

22. **4th Annual SLCC - Joint Wales Conference - *Securing a Sustainable Future* - 22nd June, Liberty Stadium, Swansea**

*"This year the key focus will be on the **Well-Being of Future Generations Act 2015** and proposed **local government reform** with a range of speakers and workshop leaders who are at the forefront of these developments. This is an opportunity not to be missed and I am certain that there will be a high demand for places."*

Paul Egan, One Voice Wales' Deputy Chief Executive and Resources Manager.

Only £69 + VAT for members

**Resolved:** That item 22 is noted.

23. **Welfare Hall Arrangements – Letter to Chairman and Committee – Mark Davies**

**Dear Chair and Committee**

**I would like to explain the confusion regarding the issue of the keys to user groups of the Welfare Hall.**

**We had to change the lock on the metal gates due to the lock braking. It was then brought to the committee attention that the Community Council had a set of keys. The committee had no idea that the community council had a set as NO other user groups using the building have keys to the building.**

**While going through the minutes of previous meetings starting with the AGM January 2000 the first mention of the council was March 2002 when the community council approached the committee to have a temporary lease of six months. This was taken up in May 2002. Also at this meeting a new rota of key holders was drawn up of who and when to open and close for the groups.**

**In January 2003 the community council requested a further seven months lease. Again at this meeting the new caretaker was given a revised list of when to open and close for user groups.**

**In May 2006 the then clerk requested that she be able to use the hall to interview applicants for her job and as these meetings were to be extra they would be paid for separately.**

**In November 2009 the secretary of the hall would approach the community council to seek payment of the yearly rent.**

**In April 2010 the secretary reported that in resigning from community council last year she had not had rent cheque to give to treasurer.**

**If the clerk has had keys to open up the hall herself then it was a private arrangement between her and the previous secretary without it being taken to a full committee and discussed.**

**We can see how this oversight has come about because the committee was under the impression that the key was being picked up from the secretary and before her death Mr. Mark Davies has been on the community council and he has his own set of keys as Chair of the hall committee.**

**Regarding the records that are held in the hall these are not covered by our insurance as we have fixtures and fittings all groups using the building leave their equipment there at their own risks.**

**The committee have no objection for the community council having access to their records and as there are three committee members who have keys we cannot see it being a problem for the clerk to request one of us open the hall for access. I would like to take this opportunity to apologise that the hall was not open on the 13th May, this was due to the fact that we were at the bedside of our eldest granddaughter in hospital and the meeting went completely out of our minds.**

**Mark Davies**

Clerk's reply:

The Clerk would like to thank Cllr. David Owen for the inclusion.

Frankly, if 'the committee' have failed to up-date their minutes this is not anything to do with Community Council.

Both Mark, Kath and the other Key Holders knew that I had a key and this has been mentioned many times.

Community Council have their own insurance for their own equipment, this point has never been brought.

I'm sorry to hear of the news of their eldest granddaughter being in hospital, and understand the impact of such a position, however, as they've stated there are a number of key holders and someone should've opened up.

This is the second consecutive time, since changing the locks, that the hall has not been opened up for a meeting of council.

The current agreement is that Council use the hall the last Tuesday of every month and any other time where the hall is available.

Council usually meet on one more occasion in the month on a Friday morning. The dates are always included in the Agenda which is sent to Mark Davies.

The Hall was also not opened at the last Ordinary Meeting of Council in April, I had to leave my documents and personal belongings outside with members who had arrived to ask a key holder to borrow their key.

They were reluctant to give it to me, made me explain why I needed it and told me to go and get Mark Davies' key, which is an approx. two mile journey there and back. Luckily it was a dry evening. I had to refuse this request and again explain that members and my documents were outside the Hall waiting.

The lady and gentleman in question then proceeded to argue between themselves and made me feel very awkward, reluctantly handing me the key only when I promised that I would return it immediately, meaning that I had to return the key prior to the start of the meeting, as soon as I'd opened the door!

Kath Davies then came to the Hall so I returned the key to her. She proceeded to question the date of the next meeting, pointing at her diary and saying that Whitsun Holidays were a week earlier than stated in the Minutes and that I should change the date of the next Ordinary Meeting.

I assured her that I had the correct date of the Holidays and explained that these were set by BCBC and that the 'Whit Sunday' in her diary would not necessarily reflect holiday dates.

She continued to argue that I was 'wrong' in my date and insisted that we change it. I had to be very firm with her in order to make it clear that regardless of any holidays or statements in her diary, the meeting would go ahead as stated.

I don't understand the level of control that the committee feels they should have over Council business.

We are currently paying £500 per year. This amounts to £50 per 2 hours for an ordinary meeting, or on occasions when a second meeting is held £25 per hour, although we rarely spend two hours at a Finance and General Purposes Meeting.

The Community Council is a professional Tier of Government and as such must work as one.

If this is the final decision of the Welfare Hall Committee then, it is my advice that arrangements should be made to re-locate.

**Resolved:** That Members agreed that the recent situation was not acceptable. Ogmore Valley Community Council is a professional tier of government and must operate as such. As Cllr. Mark Davies is the current Chairman of the Welfare Hall, he was addressed again with this issue and it was requested that;

- A Key is given to the Clerk in order that OVCC can gain entry to the Welfare Hall as per need.
- That the Key to the Filing Cabinet is returned from Marks possession as there are Private and Confidential matters filed here.

Mark Davies will notify members of the decision at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.