

Ogmore Valley Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Cwm Ogwr



Full Council Meeting

Cyfarfod Llawn y Cyngor

Tuesday 27th February 2024, 6:30 pm via Teams
Dydd Mawrth 27th Chwefror 2024, 6:30PM ar Teams

MINUTES

In Attendance

David Newman (from item 144)

Craig Batchelor-Howells

Margaret Lloyd (from item 144)

Angela Jones

David Pound

Geoff Sheriff

Hywel Williams

Scott Allin – RFO (left item

Ashleigh Davies – Warden (left at item 145)

Gareth Owen – Warden (left at item 146)

Niamh Gwilym - Clerk

141 Apologies for Absence

There were the following apologies from Councillors:-

Cllr Dhanisha Patel – given at previous meeting

Cllr Sheryl Wasley – family commitments

It was agreed that Vice-Chair Batchelor-Howells would Chair in Chair Cllr Newman's absence.

Resolved: Members unanimously accepted the apologies for absence.

Here it was suggested by Cllr Pound, that as per Standing Order 5a(vi), the agenda should be followed as usual with the exception of item 145(b),

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

3 members of the public were in attendance as observers.

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

Cllr Sheriff declared an interest in item 149.

**144 Warden's' report – to receive report (Annex A)
(a) Ashleigh**

Ashleigh provided the report.

Ashleigh notes that bryophyte's are different types of mosses and Ashleigh could go into schools to provide educational sessions on bryophytes.

(b) Gareth

Gareth provided the report.

For Discussion

(i) Dan y Bryn Polytunnels

Gareth read his report regarding the Dan y Bryn Polytunnels, working with members of the community to create functional gardening usage within the Polytunnels. It was emphasised that this would be a Community Council supported event, instead of a Community Council lead event.

Cllr Lloyd joined the meeting.

(ii) Release on Temporary Licence Scheme

This scheme relates to the previous item as the warden would be seeking support for the Dan y Bryn Polytunnels through utilising HMP Parc's Release on Temporary Licence Scheme. Gareth assured the Council that the Prison would take ownership of the risk assessment and all other insurance documents. Two people are already out on this scheme working within South Wales.

Gareth noted that several community groups would be interested in redeveloping the Polytunnels.

It was recommended that, if it is an independent project, that the Warden and the community individuals involved create a fully constituted organisation or committee and then return to the Community Council with the proposals for potential assistance.

Cllr Lloyd wished the warden good luck with these schemes.

Cllr Newman joined the meeting.

Ashleigh left the meeting.

It was decided that Chair Cllr Newman would take over Chairing duties.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR APPROVAL (approx. 7:15pm)

145 Approval of Minutes and Recommendations: (a) Draft Full Council 30th January 2024 - Annex B

Resolved: to Approve the Minutes of the 30th January 2024 Full Council meeting.

(b) Draft Personnel Committee 21 February 2024 – Annex C

It was moved that this would be deferred to the following meeting as per the resolution at the beginning of the meeting.

Cllr Lloyd gave her apologies for turning up late and stressed the importance of discussing the minutes sooner rather than later. Cllr Pound explained that due to the resolution earlier agreed, this item would be discussed either at the end of the meeting or during the next Full Council Meeting.

This was agreed, though the importance of the subject matter emphasised.

It was noted that the Council should be more proactive to ensure that meetings are concluded within the 2-hour timeslot illustrated in the Standing Orders.

146 Matters Arising from previous meetings and agenda:

Council Meeting (Annex B)

- *OVCC Container Risk Assessment (item 129)***

It was noted that the Clerk is meeting with the Health and Safety team in BCBC to support with a risk assessment on Monday.

- ***Cllr Williams - Planning Application for Ogmore Vale RFC (item 129)***

Cllr Williams noted he had checked the status of the planning application. BCBC are in discussion with the planning agent appointed by Ogmore Vale RFC. The drainage scheme that was submitted with the original application need some adjustments so BCBC are waiting for the feedback regarding that.

Cllr Williams will keep the Council updated on the matter.

- ***Landownership and Disability Access (item 129)***

The issue has been logged with highways for further investigation. The Clerk will provide a further update when one is available.

- ***Bus Shelter (item 129) (Annex D)***

An internal maintenance team from BCBC performed a report of the site and found that:

“The shelter has been hit out of alignment which will have compromised the structural stability and therefore we would not recommend repairing the shelter on this occasion.

We suggest a new shelter is installed. The damaged shelter is a Transit with a 1.2m roof, so a principle 1.0m roof should be considered here to reduce the risk of the new shelter being hit.”

It was noted that the recommendations are that the new dimensions are smaller than the previous dimensions and the total cost is £ 5,046.54. It was agreed that this is a substantial cost.

It was decided that the Council would contact the original insurance company to see if we have any qualifying elements to claim for the costs via the insurance company.

Resolved: The Clerk to contact the insurance company to see if they could cover the costs.

- ***BCBC litter round (item 129)***

It was noted that the Clerk is still awaiting a response and will chase again.

- ***Cllr Williams - Abercerdin Road update (item 129)***

Cllr Williams asked when the playground was last inspected, he was told routinely and sought a more specific response.

Gareth noted that the main safety issues were the steps that lead from the bottom of the area opposite the school up to and past Adare Street.

Resolved: Cllr Williams will revisit the main cause for concern and report back to BCBC.

- ***Christmas Lights (item 129)***

This item was deferred.

Second Round: Cllr Pound motioned that this item be deferred to the Finance and General Committee to create a financial plan that could be considered alongside the complaints for and against the Christmas Lights.

Cllr Jones highlighted the importance of Christmas Lights in terms of wellbeing.

The motion was moved.

Resolved: to defer to the Finance and General Committee.

- ***Windfarm Funding Letters (item 132)***

The Clerk has sent all the letters out and has received all responses.

The RFO noted that we've received bank details from several beneficiaries and Pennant Walters will send out payments by the end of this month and the rest will be paid at the end of March.

- ***Annual Report (item 134)***

This item was deferred (first round)

Revisited: The Clerk sought after examples of celebrations events throughout the Valley over the last year, such as Evanstown Coronation Street Party, and has asked for Councillors to send through pictures of celebrations to add to the report. The Clerk will then draft the report, send through to all Councillors for final confirmations and publish.

Cllr Lloyd and Cllr Batchelor-Howells will send the Clerk some photos.

Resolved: The Clerk to send an email to all Councillors asking for items and photos to be included in the Annual Report.

- ***Certificates (item 135)***

The Clerk has contacted the print shop for certificates and is waiting for the final details.

147 Finances – 2023/24

(a) formal approval of payments February 24 – Annex E

The RFO noted that an additional late payment would be added to the payments shown in Annex E to cover the costs of the supplies used to install the Memorial Bench.

The supplies were ordered through Ogmores Valley Builders in OVCC's name and the Council did not have to pay for labour costs as Ogmores Valley Priide kindly completed the work for free.

The Council thanked Ogmores Valley Priide members, namely Tony Hoyle for his support.

The RFO flagged that the Councillor expenses may change further down the line as the alterations to the allowances are awaiting confirmation by One Voice Wales. It was suggested that the amount illustrated is paid as initially proposed on the schedule and if there is an increase in the allowance to 156 from 150 then the payment will be made separately at a later stage. The RFO will confirm which tax year this change relates to in due course.

The RFO also flagged the payments to Centregreat as the garlands are included in the cost (with the cost being spread over 3 years).

Cllr Pound proposed that due to the options of avenues for payments and to avoid criticism by auditors, that the Council should establish definitive rules for expenses to payments, to reconsider the Councillors expenses policy. With this in mind, the RFO concluded that the auditors have not previously criticised the Council for their current practice.

Resolved: to approve the Payments as attached in the Appendix and to defer the matter of definitive Councillor expenses to the Personnel Committee.

(b) formal approval of the bank reconciliation January 24– Annex F

It was noted that the RFO is challenging the Audit Wales payment as previously agreed because we are waiting for further information from them. The RFO also noted that he may need Cllr Batchelor-Howells support in contacting a resident of Evanstown to finalise a payment for wreathes.

Resolved – To approve the bank reconciliation for January 2024.

(c) expenditure against the budget end of January 24 – Annex G

Resolved – To approve the expenditure versus budget report to end of January 2024.

Scott Allin left the meeting.

148 Advisory Committees:

This item was deferred.

(a) Mynydd Y Gaer

(i) Ratify Terms of Reference – Annex H

Second Round: The Terms of Reference illustrated were approved.

(ii) Confirm list of members

It was confirmed that the list of members for this working group are as follows:

Cllr Batchelor-Howells
Cllr David Pound
Richard Morgan

Resolved: members agreed to adopt the above members into the Mynydd Y Gaer Working Group and the ratify the Terms of Reference.

(b) CATs

(i) Ratify Terms of Reference – Annex I

It was noted that the previous working group which has not officially dissolved, just hasn't met for a while are as attached in Annex I. It was noted that the working group can still meet to discuss current CAT projects under the old Terms of Reference. It was also noted that after a meeting between the Clerk, Guy Smith and Ryan Jones, that potentially OVCC are in a different position to what had originally been thought. Therefore, it was agreed that the Council currently wait for further information from

BCBC regarding concerns and meet under the previous ToR in the meantime until clarity is established. A new ToR can be created further down the line once intentions and responsibilities are established.

149 Pant-Y-Wal Funding Change of Use

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

- (a) Male Voice Choir**
- (b) Ogmere Valley Boxing Club**

150 King's Portrait

It was noted that Cllr Batchelor-Howells would like to apply for the free King's Portrait as circulated in previous emails, to place in the Blackmill Youth and Community Centre.

Councillors agreed unanimously.

Resolved: The Clerk to apply for King's Portrait.

151 Blackmill Co-Option Applications – Annex J

It was noted that the Community Council has received 1 application.

The Council agreed to co-opt the candidate into the Community Council.

Resolved: The Clerk to initiate the co-option process of the candidate.

- (a) Nantymoel Co-Option Notice**

It was noted that an election has not been called for the Nantymoel Casual Vacancy. Therefore, it was decided that the advert would run from the 7th March until the 22nd March to align with when the summons are sent, to be decided during the next Full Council Meeting,

Resolved: The Clerk to advertise vacancy based on the above details.

152 To consider applications for donations and grants:

- (a) Noteworthy Mixed Choir - £200 – Annex K**

It was noted that the application for a donation does not satisfy enough of the requirements in order for the Ogmores Valley Community Council to make a donation, based on that it is not based in the community and does not provide material benefit to the community.

It was also noted that it is important for the Council to support its' own choirs within the Ogmores Valley.

Resolved: The Clerk to send rejection letter to the applicant.

(b) Active for Life Funding – Annex L

It was noted that the amount requested for the annual playscheme has increased significantly compared to previous years, whilst the Community Council wants to support the scheme as the widespread benefit to the Community and beyond was recognised, the application was moved to be deferred to the Finance and General committee to discuss further.

Resolved: To defer increase in payment to the Finance and General committee.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND UPDATE (approx 8.00pm)

153 To receive a Report from the Clerk/Cllrs
- Aberfields CAT – Oral update
- Transfer of Pavilion

The Clerk met with Guy Smith and Ryan Jones to discuss the concerns raised during the last Full Council Meeting. In return, it was asked of OVCC if we have an “appetite” to manage the green space and pavilion. It was noted that BCBC were of the impression that the working group’s purpose was to look at the feasibility of the transfer of green spaces and the offer was there for Guy Smith to attend one of our meetings.

The Clerk noted that they had raised the issue of stage 1 and stage 2, noting prior conversations with FAW about BCBC taking lead on the project, BCBC confirmed with the Clerk that OVCC have not got to wait for the 3G before taking over the pavilion and green spaces. The two projects can run at the same time.

After consulting further documentation and discussing with the previous Clerk, the Clerk sent follow up questions to BCBC about how the green spaces would work as we were of the impression that the green space would have to move when the 3G was implemented. The Clerk has also asked if it’s possible for the 2-stage

programme to commence as originally discussed, and if so, what the timeline for the 3G installation would look like.

It was noted that the original EOI only mentioned intent to benefit the wider community to ensure that the area could be used by sport groups moving forward. It was noted that the Community Council will have a larger role in the development moving forward once the 3G has come into fruition where we can look at redeveloping the changing rooms in the area.

Cllr Pound suggested that the Community Council will continue with the consultation with regard to the changing rooms to establish the precise cost to the Council (fixed and running) as the Council has only declared an EOI. Furthermore, the Council can take pursue the EOI at a later date to look at the ownership and management of the green spaces depending on financial impact.

Cllr Lloyd noted two concerns of the CAT was the drainage of the pitch and that the changing rooms did not come into the CAT, it would be a separate note. It was confirmed that the drainage would not be the Council's concern as BCBC would take ownership of this issue. In regard to the changing room, it was established that there was ambiguity regarding the specifics of the CAT.

Thus, it was moved that the Clerk makes enquiries and provides a summary to establish the relevant facts.

It was also agreed that once the document had been circulated and the Clerk had received further confirmations from BCBC, the working group would meet with the BCBC consultants.

Resolved: The Clerk to send the summary of the Aberfields CAT project to all Councillors.

- Evanstown CAT – Oral update**
- Meeting with Trustees**

It was noted that the Cllr Wasley, Cllr Batchelor-Howells and the Clerk met with the Trustees who are happy to dissolve the charity. The Clerk took the concerns of the Trustees to BAVO who illustrated the entire process of dissolving a charity which the Clerk has passed onto the Trustees.

The Clerk is now awaiting a response.

After meeting with Guy Smith and Ryan Jones, they suggested that OVCC could apply to a Bridgend Feasibility Fund which we've already gone through the process of applying for the Caedu Park project. This is due 29th February, it would allow for a

specification, architect, quantity surveyor, design etc. The Council can submit an EOI under OVCC's name and withdraw it if needs be, there would be no cost involved. It was mentioned in the meeting that BCBC had already worked with Coity Community Council for redeveloping their Community Centre, Ryan has sent the Clerk their plans which we would just have to insert our details and remove theirs.

It was confirmed that OVCC is a strong candidate and we can do this without the Trustees.

Resolved: The Clerk to submit application for the Community Feasibility Fund for Evanstown Community Centre.

**- Ogmore Vale CATs – Oral update
(a) Caedu Park**

Cllr Pound, the Clerk and Rachel Morton from Reach are meeting on Thursday 7th March to evaluate the quotes for Caedu Park.

BCBC procedures allow for one quote for works under £10K, but Reach has set a minimum of three. Rachel has exceeded that with eight Request for Quotes for the Caedu Park contract to increase our chances of a good return.

There's already intent from Geoff Whittington to bid.

Resolved: The Clerk to send report following the meeting.

(b) Former Basketball Site

The Clerk noted that from their meeting earlier in the week, it was noted that a site meeting this week will take place with the legal and parks department. Guy Smith is waiting for the funding to be received in writing and to have gone through the legal system.

It was noted that there is a need for Community Councillors to be in attendance throughout further meetings to maintain awareness of decisions being made that would consequently affect the Community Council projects.

It was suggested the Councillors share availability to ensure that Councillors are representative in any meetings that affect the Community.

Resolved: The Clerk to ask when the meeting is for a Community Councillor to attend, for Community Councillors to be invited to CAT meetings in the future and to gain a report from the meeting if the date had already passed.

- Mynydd Y Gaer Windfarm (Cenin) – Oral update

No update available.

- Carnival Meetings – Oral Update

The Clerk provided a simplified oral update which Cllr Pound clarified and built on, as he attended and acted as Chair to all 3 meetings that had taken place, it was also noted that Cllr Sheriff attended the first meeting.

It was noted that no formal organisation was founded.

It was noted Cllr Pound created and distributed a consultation document to guide the meetings.

The outcome of the meetings was that there is a desire to take forward a summer event, and the prospect of organising a carnival and that the group should utilise existing groups who may be able to take forward the notion of a carnival. The representatives from the Mem agreed to take the conclusions back to the Trustees.

It was noted that the OVCC Strategy and Action Plan for 2022-2027 made a commitment in principle to organise an annual festival.

No decision has been made to the practicalities yet.

It was decided that a review of OVCC documentation and principal commitments will be required before a vote on the decision for the Community Council to organise or support a summer event in the future.

It was moved that this is referred to the Policy and Strategy Committee to see if the Community Council would like to organise the summer event or recommend supporting events in the future.

Resolved: to defer to the Policy and Strategy Committee.

154 To receive Reports from Members of the Council:

Cllr Wasley – Flooding

Cllr Wasley has sent her apologies but has given the Clerk the following to report:

The playing field near Abercerdin School is waterlogged, the water is coming from a mountain and the field is privately owned and there is blocked drainage. The drains are full of re surfacing work allegedly done by BCBC and the area's maintenance has not been upheld by BCBC, as there is concrete drainage that covers the side of the field that is overgrown and is full of mud and grass which needs to be cleared.

Resolved: The Clerk to report to BCBC.

155 To consider any Planning Applications and issues:

Cllr Lloyd – St Johns Street

Regarding reference number: P/24/32/FUL

Cllr Lloyd raised concerns regarding the planning application in St Johns Street, noting residents have approached Cllr Lloyd to express their concerns regarding the procedures that had taken place by the proprietors and the Planning Department. It was acknowledged that the residents had moved in before the planning notice had been sent by the Planning Department. Cllr Lloyd noted concerns hoping that the residents are receiving appropriate welfare as police have been called to the property.

Resolved: The Clerk to contact BCBC to discuss the procedure for the Planning Application and the welfare of the residents.

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

- Full Council Tuesday 5th March 2024, 6:30pm, via Teams.

Niamh Gwilym – Clerk of the Council

Niamhgwilym4@gmail.com

Confirmed the date of 5th of March as Full Council Meeting to be via Teams.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

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Signature of the Chairperson, Cllr David Newman Date: 27th February 2024

February Payments 2024			
Business	Description	Ref	Amount
SWWS - DD	Hosting website and maintenance	DD	£21.60
NEST – Employer’s summary (ES)	Pensions for staff - employers/ees contribution	DD	£213.21
Niamh Gwilym - ES	Clerk Salary	10224	£1,156.08
Scott Allin - ES	RFO Salary	20224	£419.32
Ashleigh Davies - ES	Warden Salary	30224	£447.21
Gareth Owens - ES	Warden Salary	40224	£532.22
HMRC - ES	Tax January	615PB00145091	£804.05
Scott Allin – claim form	RFO Expenses	EXPO22	£31.79
Craig Batchelor Howells – claim form	Expenses - printing	EXPO24	£42.60
David Newman – minute 132	Councillor Allowance – partial Chair	CLLR01	£749.90
Dhanisha Patel – minute 132	Councillor Allowance – partial Chair	CLLR02	£351.50
Craig Batchelor Howells – minute 132	Councillor Allowance	CLLR03	£120.00
Angela Jones – minute 132	Councillor Allowance	CLLR04	£120.00
Margaret Lloyd – minute 132	Councillor Allowance	CLLR05	£120.00
Sheryl Wasley – minute 132	Councillor Allowance	CLLR06	£120.00
Geoff Sherriff – minute 132	Councillor Allowance	CLLR07	£120.00
Kevin Thorne – minute 132	Councillor Allowance	TBD	TBD