



GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL held on Wednesday 14th January 2015 7.30pm at Gelligaer Community Council Office, Council Chamber, Llwyn Onn, Penpedairheol.

PRESENT

Councillors: D Bolter, D Cushing, W David, G Hughes, M James, T Matthews, T Parry (Vice Chair) and J A Pritchard (Chairman).

Clerk: Ceri Mortimer

In Attendance:

Ms Nicola Wheten, Crimes & Consequences Manager & Ms Katie Davies, Fire & Rescue Educational Officer

Chairman, Cllr Judith Pritchard welcomed Ms Wheten and Ms Davies to the meeting.

160 Crimes & Consequences

Crimes & Consequences Manager, Ms Nicola Wheten and Ms Katie Davies spoke with the members about the work they do. In summary:

The Welsh Fire and Rescue Service, Crimes & Consequences project is building partnerships throughout Wales to help engage with young people aged between 11-25. Their aim is to raise awareness of the consequences of actions and engage with children and young people, especially those in disadvantaged communities, supported by early intervention and effective partnership working. Key stage 2 children in one of our primary schools are taking part in this scheme.

The team also attends youth centres whereby they can deliver a session between 1-3 hours. A member, who is also a qualified youth worker, stated that youths wouldn't be interested in sitting for longer than an hour, but agreed that it could be of benefit to the youths and wider community.

Deliberate fire setting is a problem especially so from Easter onwards. Members spoke about the possibility of exploring the Bernie initiative, a fire intervention scheme. The clerk would make further enquiries.

Discussions took place in relation to pods with free WI-Fi and Bluetooth, which were proving to be very popular with youths in other parts of the country. Members stated that some shelters that had been erected previously in various parks have since been removed due to anti-social behaviour and vandalism. Police often move youths congregating in one place, only for them to congregate in another. Perhaps a pod offering a little bit more than just shelter could be a solution. Increase in litter and the maintenance and cleaning of the pod would need to be considered. PCSO's would be required to patrol it more often. The clerk would make further enquiries.

Chairman Cllr Judith Pritchard thanked Ms Wheten and Ms Davies for their presentation.

Ms Wheten & Ms Davies left the meeting..

161 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Alan Angel, Cllr Hefin David & Cllr Nicola Quarry due to work commitments and Cllr William Griffiths due to family commitments.

162 **Declarations of Interest**

Ceri Mortimer declared an interest in minute no.169 (National Salary Award)

Cllr Wynne David declared an interest in minute no.176 (Planning)

Cllr Judith Pritchard declared an interest in minute no. 177 (iii)(Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed)

Cllr Donna Cushing declared an interest in minute no.177 (iii)(Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed)

163 **Chairman's Announcements**

Chairman, Cllr Judith Pritchard announced the following:

- Dec 14th – attended a charity concert at Salem Chapel
- Dec 15th – attended the pantomime at Hengoed Community Centre
- Jan 12th – presented a cheque to Derwendeg PTA
- Jan 14th – attended 50+ Forum AGM
- Thank you card and email received from Mrs Beryl Bolter, Croeso Club & Mrs Jan Moore, Penybryn Village Hall, thanking Gelligaer Community Council for funding a another successful pantomime.
- An email Received from Cllr Teresa Parry reiterating our successful pantomime season. Cllr Parry received many positive comments and praise from local people demonstrating their appreciation to the community council for organizing affordable entertainment (0.50 pence per ticket) within our communities.
- Thank you letters for funding received from Gelligaer Local History Appreciation Society & Derwendeg Primary School PTA
- Chairman has accepted a kindly invitation received from Cascade Allotment to an event at Penallta Rugby Club on Saturday 24th Jan 2015

164 **Minutes**

Minutes of the Council meeting held on **10/12/2014** were confirmed and signed as an accurate record

165 **Matters Arising** -There were no matters arising

166 **Current Financial Situation**

The current financial situation of the Council as at **07/01/2014** was confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

167 **Precept 2015/16**

- The Council Tax Base Notification from Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) was noted
- The clerks report on the Precept and Appendix 1 – Example Budget for 2015/16 was discussed.

RESOLVED: Council determined that the level of precept for the financial year 2015/16 be increased by 3% to £14.14 per annum (an increase of 0.41 pence per annum), band D equivalent dwelling.

168 **Welsh Government – Section 137 “Expenditure”: Limit for 2015/16**

Notification was noted in relation to the appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4) (a) of the LGA 1972 (the 1972 Act) for community and town councils in Wales for 2015-16 is £7.36 per elector. We currently have 13,284 electors (Jan2015) x £7.36 = £97,770.24

Clerk, Ceri Mortimer, declared an interest in the next item and left the chamber, Cllr Donna Cushing therefore clerked the next item.

169 **National Salary Award 2014 – 2016**

- Details were noted of agreement on pay scales for 2014-2016 from the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services and the clerks report and calculations on the salary award and non consolidated (one off) payments
- RESOLVED** – Council agreed to the clerk's new pay scale and non-consolidated payments.

Ceri Mortimer returned to the chamber to clerk the meeting.

Cllr Donna Cushing relayed to her the resolution (min.no.169) that was agreed in her absence.

170 Financial Assistance

There were no financial assistance applications received

171 CCBC Consultation: Saving Proposals for 2015/16

Council discussed parts of CCBC's Cabinet Report and Appendices 1- 6

RESOLVED: Council made the following comments to be forwarded to CCBC:

Appendix 3

Education & Lifelong Learning *(it was noted that Cllr Wynne David did not comment nor vote on this proposal, due to his involvement with the Education & Lifelong Learning committee)*

To avoid a Saturday closure, members suggested that the affected libraries reduce their Monday - Friday opening hours by 1 hour each day and open on a Saturday for 5 hours. There will be no cost implications.

A Saturday closure will affect our local residents who work Monday to Friday and are only able to access the library at Ystrad Mynach on a Saturday. Changing opening hours throughout the week will have a lesser impact on our residents than closing on a Saturday.

Appendix 5

Public Protection

Environmental Enforcement Health Officer - 1 vacant post

Members believe it imperative to have 3 EHO's to deal with a vast array of issues throughout the borough. Especially if one is on leave and the other is on the sick.

A sub standard service, as in a lengthening response times to investigate issues, in this line of work would have a detrimental impact on local residents, making some people lives an absolute misery. We strongly suggest that the vacant post be filled as a priority.

Cllr D Bolter and Cllr T Matthews left the meeting

172 CCBC Consultation – Common Allocation Policy

CCBC's Consultation Draft on social housing – this item was deferred, until our next meeting in February.

173 New Keep Wales Tidy Officer

This item was noted

174 One Voice Wales' Training for February 2015

Members noted the training for available for February 2015. Members are to contact the clerk if they wish to attend any of the courses on offer.

175 Western Power Distribution – Vulnerable Customer Engagement

Members noted the training available – members are to contact the clerk if they wish to attend.

Cllr Wynne David declares an interest in the next item and leaves the chamber, therefore playing no part in the ensuing discussions.

176 Planning Applications

- **14/0847/FULL** - Erect three detached dwellings on land to rear of Brynmynach Avenue, Ystrad Mynach
RESOLVED: OBJECTION on the grounds of highway and loss of natural amenity. Also there are TPO's on some of the trees, all of which act as a buffer to the noise of the freight trains. It's also an area that's prone to flooding due to a natural water culvert. There were major objections last year, whereby the build of 5 new houses were proposed. The objections remain the same whether it be a development of 5 or 3 dwellings. Members requested that it be deferred to the Planning Committee as opposed to an officer's delegated decision.

- **14/0729/FULL** – Erect a two-storey side extension to 18/ Cae Melyn, Hengoed
RESOLVED: No objection
- **14/0796/COU** – Change use of land to extend garden and erect perimeter fence along current property line to the boundary of Hengoed Road -
RESOLVED: No objection
- **14/0853/FULL** – Replace existing sprinkler tank to Norgine Ltd, Tiryberth Industrial Estate.
RESOLVED: No objection
- **14/0860/NOTT** – Upgrade existing telecommunications installation and associated works at Vodafone communication mast, Ystrad Mynach station access.
RESOLVED: No objection

Cllr Wynne David returns to the chamber

177 **Projects**

- (i) Pwyllgor yr Urdd Committee – Gelligaer a'r Cylch – as previously agreed, £500 to be granted to the appeals committee in line with the Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed and Cefn Hengoed committee (see Project No.346)
RESOLVED: £500 be granted as contribution towards the Eisteddfod.
- (ii) Cascade & District Allotment Association
RESOLVED: £650 be granted for the removal of fencing to plot 8, to open up the whole allotment site.

Cllr Graham Hughes leaves the meeting

Chairman Cllr Judith Pritchard & Cllr Donna Cushing declared an interest in the next item. The clerk requested that both members remain in the chamber for the meeting to continue to be quorate as only Cllr Martyn James, Cllr Teresa Parry & Cllr Wynne David were present.

They remained in the chamber, however they played no part in ensuing discussions.

- (iii) Youth Club, Cefn Hengoed – a letter requesting that council meet technical fees for the rebuild/refurbishment project of the youth club building.
RESOLVED: Council to pay technical fee invoice of £3,520

Cllr Judith Pritchard & Cllr Donna Cushing returned to discussions

(iv) **Project Summary:**

Project No. 347 – Cascade Allotment

Work: Removal of fence to open up allotment plots

Cost: £650

Project No. 346 – Urdd Eisteddfod Llancaiach Fawr

Work: Support (i) Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed & Cefn Hengoed Appeal Committee and (ii) Gelligaer Appeal Committee (which includes St Catwg, Tiryberth & Glanynant)

Cost: £500 each

Project No. 345 - Women's refuge

Work: to improve the interior to make more homely & welcoming for women & children.

Inventory of items/works has been drawn up

Cost of printing: £48 for printing & £300 for Welcome Packs for Gilfach & £300 on items for Ystrad Mynach

Project No. 344 WWI Commemoration Benches

Work to be undertaken: Buy & install 2 decorative WW1 benches for memorials at Tiryberth & Ystrad Mynach

Cost: £1393

Project No. 343 Ystrad Mynach Primary School Centenary Mosaic

Work to be undertaken: Artists to work with children in designing and installing a mosaic in the grounds

Cost: £2,000

Project No. 342 Hanging Baskets at Ystrad Mynach

Work to be undertaken: Supply & fit 12 summer hanging baskets throughout the town plus planter on railings to the front of Pier Head building & daily watering

Cost: £3,406

Project No. 341 Christmas Lighting & Tree Ystrad Mynach

Work to be undertaken: Supply & install, jointly with Ystrad Mynach Partnership, new festoon lighting in the town, and the supply and installing of a tree.

Cost: £1,687

Project No. 340 Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Work to be undertaken: Fund Automated External Defibrillator's, through the PTA's, at Lewis School Pengam & Lewis Girls School, in support of 'Jack's Appeal'

Cost: £2,000 (for 2 AED's plus training through Welsh Hearts)

Project No. 339 – Poppy Planting to Commemorate WWI

Work to be undertaken: Every child in our 8 primary schools to plant a poppy. Clerk to arrange schedule of planting. Cost: £796

Project No. 338 – “Swap your bottles for beakers” / Protecting Children’s Teeth

Work to be undertaken: Supply doidy cups for young children in an attempt to improve teeth

Cost: £1,500

Project No. 337 Gelligaer Junior Bowls Club

Work to be undertaken: Purchase lighter bowls suitable for children and appropriate foot wear. Cost: £900

Project No.336 Motorbike Inhibitor between f/path on Hospital Road

Work to be undertaken: Install Motorbike Inhibitor. CCBC to rectify their works Cost: £2,800

Project No.335 Day trip to the beach for families (Sat 9th Aug 2014)

Cost: 3 x 49 seater coach to transport families from Tiryberth to Porthcawl

Pilot the project in Tiryberth and roll out to other wards if proven to be successful. Tiryberth Partnership to take on responsibility. Cost: £1125

Project No. 331 Cascade Allotments Association

Works to be undertaken: New works are – to install a memorial garden, bench and the removal of trees in partnership with Tidy Towns Cost: £3,000

Project No. 330 Bands in the Park

Works to be undertaken: Bands in the Park 2014 at Tiryberth Park and Ystrad Mynach Park. Cost: £698 (331 x 2)

Project No. 229 Hengoed MUGA

Works to be undertaken: Installation of 3 lights and testing of feeder pillars and columns. Clerk to instruct Street Lighting to undertake this work Cost: £197 & £313

Project No. 228 Pantomimes 2014

Work to be undertaken: To arrange Pantos at (1) Tiryberth Primary (2) Gelligaer Community Centre (3) Lyndsey Club (4) Hengoed Community Centre (5) Ystrad Mynach x 2 (Lewis Girls) & Penybryn Cost: £3,875

Project No. 222: Tiryberth Memorial

Work to be undertaken: Hard standing & pathway completed, now names are required for inscriptions on the granite. Member is making enquiries

Project No. 218: Cornflower project 2014

Work to be undertaken: sowing/planting at: (1) Tiryberth park banking (2) by The Cross P/H (3) on rough ground near Cefn Hengoed community Centre (4) in the verge past the entrance and R/A to Brynsiriol estate Cost: Awaiting cost

Project No. 217: Pensioner bungalows, Heol Dewi Hengoed

Work to be undertaken: 4 car parking spaces Cost: £5,000

Project No. 212: Bi-annual Gelligaer Young Citizens Award

Work to be undertaken: Presentation for good deeds within the community
Cost: £205 Next event: 10th December 2014

Project No. 167: Gelligaer Community Newsletter

Work to be undertaken: Newsletter – Spring 2015
Cost: £1150 & distribution costs

New Project – Health messages on TV monitors

Work to be undertaken: quotes required

New Project - Orchid Close & Churchfield Close (to the r/o) Tiryberth – to work in partnership to smarten area up, provide a bench. Member to contact Rhodri Lloyd.

178 Change of meeting dates for February & March

The clerk is attending CiLCA training courses in Taunton in February & March and therefore kindly requested that council change the meeting dates:

RESOLVED: Council to change meeting dates

11 February – changed to **18 February 2015**

11 March – changed to **18 March 2015**

179 Open Spaces Society response to call for evidence:

Inquiry into the general principles of Planning (Wales) Bill

This item was noted

180 Open Spaces Society – 150 years and still fighting

Members considered the information in relation to the work undertaken by the society over the years and the request for an additional donation. Currently we subscribe £45 per annum to the society.

RESOLVED: Council to grant £100 to the society.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed: _____ Chairman