



**GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING of Gelligaer Community Council**  
**held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 7.00pm at the Council Office, Llwyn Onn,**  
**Penpedairheol.**

**PRESENT**

Councillors: A Angel, C David, T Matthews, S Milford, R Osborne, T Parry (Vice Chair), J Postians and J Pritchard (Chair)

Clerk: C Mortimer

In Attendance: Mrs B Miles Secretary to Gelligaer & Merthyr Commoners Association, Mr Phillip Davies and Mrs Michelle Davies of the Welsh Horse & Pony Group

***Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting***

*A minute silence was observed in respect of Cllr Donna Cushing's partner Mr Dan Orlandea who had sadly passed away. Dan was a devoted family man and served the community as a 1<sup>st</sup> Responder and Ambulance Driver. He will be sorely missed and our thoughts are with Donna and her family.*

*Mrs B Miles in her capacity as Secretary to Gelligaer & Merthyr Commoners Association, and not as Caerphilly County Borough Councillor, was invited to speak.*

Mrs Miles explained that the Association, with a membership of 85, had submitted an application for proposed works to the Common to alleviate the problem of fly tipping and illegal off road by 4x4's in the main. Proposed works includes replacing old fencing with native deciduous hedges, followed by a bank and ditch in front of the existing fence. Trees are to be planted and will be temporarily fenced off until mature.

Other works proposed consisted of a combination of restoring and creating ditches parallel to the road no deeper than 1.5m with bunds. It was felt that too many horses were on the common and the Association would work with bona fide horse charities in trying to find suitable homes. Fly grazing and uncontrolled breeding resulted in bad breeding and fighting. Conditions on the Common can be harsh. It was suggested by some members that CCBC have brought fly tipping on themselves due to increased charges and amenity site closures. It was suggested that mounds and ditches would make the Common inaccessible to visitors/walkers. However it was explained that pathways would be created.

Mr Phillip Davies from the Welsh Horse and Pony Charity Group was invited to speak and explained that their group worked closely with British Horse Society, RSPCA and other bodies and at all times had the welfare of the horses at heart. He explained that creating mounds, ditches, fencing and walling would interfere with the natural migration of the horses. In some areas it could potentially divert ponies onto the carriageway with no means of easy escape back onto the Common. Due to the open cast mining traffic has increased significantly and signage to reduce speed and other traffic calming measures would be helpful, but has not been proposed within the application. A member suggested that the proposed ditches would not deter large vehicles and illegal off roaders would relish the challenge on offer, and those wider deeper ditches, which the animals could navigate may be an option. It was decided that members would consider this matter further under minute no. 119

*Mrs Miles and Mr and Mrs Davies were thanked for their attendance and subsequently left the meeting.*

**110 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr C Bezzina from who is on approved leave of absence until December, Cllr D Cushing due to bereavement, Cllr W David due to attending a Caerphilly County Borough Council(CCBC) Medium Term Finance Plan (MTFP) meeting, Cllr W Griffiths due to it being his late wife's birthday, Cllr M James due to hospitalization. Members agreed that our best wishes be conveyed to Cllr Martyn James.

## 111 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillors were reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution, and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Clerk.

All members declared a Personal Interest but not a Prejudicial Interest in Minute No.117 (iii) CCBC'S Budget Consultation and Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) Payments, Minute no.118

Cllr J Postian's declared an interest in minute no.125 Application no 35

Cllr S Milford declared an interest in minute no.119

Clerk, declared an interest in minute no.119

Cllr A Angel declared an interest in minute no.120

## 112 **Chairman's Announcements**

Cllr Judith Pritchard had been nominated and elected by the Community & Town Council Liaison Committee as a representative of 17 Community & Town Councils on the Caerphilly Public Service Board (PBS).

The PBS is responsible for bringing public bodies together to work in collaboration to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Caerphilly county borough. They are responsible, under the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act, for overseeing the development of the new Local Wellbeing Plan which is a long term vision for the area.

Cllr Judith Pritchard had attended an interesting meeting of the Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council on the 21<sup>st</sup> November at Rodney Parade

## 113 **Minutes**

Minutes of the **ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL** meeting held on **23rd October 2019** was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

## 114 **Matters Arising**

## 115 **Projects**

**(i) Project Summary** – the following Project Summary was received and noted with two projects previously under CIL moved to WHQS 3&4:

### **ANNUAL 2019/20 PROJECTS**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Intergenerational Luncheon - Lewis School Pengam for the 50+<br>To support the provision of luncheon club<br>£1,500  |
| 2 | Christmas Lighting 2019<br>Erect Christmas lighting throughout all areas<br>£10,500<br>LGA 1972 s.144 (encourage tourism/visitors)   |
| 3 | Ystrad Mynach Christmas Market<br>Contribution towards the Christmas market to ensure its continuity<br>Saturday 16th Nov 2019<br>£2,000<br>LGA 1972, s.145 (provision of entertainment, festivals & support of the arts)    |
| 4 | Hanging Baskets at Ystrad Mynach<br>17.5 summer hanging basket throughout town plus 3 planters of flowers attached<br>Installation, watering, taking down and storage.<br>£3,840 LGA 1972 s.144 (encourage tourism/visitors) |

- 5 Family Day Trip  
Fund 5 x 49 seater coaches  
(x1) Gelligaer Comm Centre Sat 2nd Aug  
(x1) Lindsay Club Sat 10th Aug 2019  
(x1) Hengoed Comm Centre Sat 10th Aug  
(x1) TYB Primary Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Aug  
LGA 1972 s.137 / LG (Wales) Measure 2011 (well-being power)
- 6 Pantomimes  
(1) Penybryn Village Hall Wed 04/12/19 6.30pm  
(2) Gelligaer Comm Centre Mon 9/12/19 Dec 6.00pm  
(3) Lyndsey Club Wed 11/12/19 5.30pm  
(4) TYB Primary Thurs 12/12/19 6.30pm  
(5) Lewis Girls Sunday Sun 15/12/19 2.30pm  
(6) Glanynant Memorial Hall Sun 15 /12/19 7.00pm  
(7) Hengoed Community Centre Mon 16/12/19 Dec 5.30pm  
(8) Cascade Community Centre Thurs 19/12/19 5.30pm  
LGA 1972, s.145 (provision of entertainment, festivals & support of the arts)
- 7 Presentation at Llancaiach  
Presentation of Young Citizens and Community Service awards & grants to clubs (up to 10 nominees) 1,690  
80 -100 volunteers invited  
23rd November 2019 2.00 - 4.30pm  
£1690 (funded with Chairman)  
LGA 1972 s.137 / LG (Wales) Measure 2011 (well-being power)
- 8 Community Newsletter Issue - no. 10 (Summer/Autumn)  
Spring/Summer & Autumn/Winter Art & print £1395 x 2; Distribution £485 x 2  
LGA 1972 s.142

#### **OTHER PROJECTS & COMMUNITY BENEFIT**

- 9 Ceramic poppy - to frame and display at Derwendeg Primary Cost £150
- 10 Youth Centre, Cefn Hengoed - to refurbish toilets and painting of hall & cupboards  
£2,000
- 11 Cwm Calon – installation of notice board at the newly installed park and near f/path  
£1,200 plus installation costs of £250
- 12 Lewis Boys Pengam – to research WW1 Henry Edwards and clean grave at Hengoed Chapel  
estimated cost £500
- 13 Library, Ystrad Mynach – install a new notice board
- 14 Ystrad Mynach Public Toilets – Refurbish and maintain for 5 months £7600  
(move item to annual projects in 2020/21)
- 15 Glanynant Park – Supply bench at £245, assembly and installation cost tbc
- 16 Poppies - purchase 200 lamp post poppies and ties for various locations £363

#### **CIL PROJECTS**

## WHQS PROJECTS

WHQS 1 VAS Signs on junction of Glyngaer & Duffryn Park

£5,000 11/04/2019

WHQS 2 1-21 Claerwen to create pathway on grassed area

03/04/2019

WHQS 3 Black Ash Path - To resurface remaining half of path

Hengoed Avenue to New Road TYB

WHQS 4 The Walk by kissing gate - Tarmacing

### (ii) Ystrad Mynach Christmas Fayre 16<sup>th</sup> November

Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard thanked all members for their attendance at the fayre and fronting the stall. Footfall had increased to 7761 this year, that's 1877 more than last year.

Some feedback relayed from shop keepers was received and noted.

It was suggested and agreed that perhaps the Community Council stall could be opened at the later time of 11am.

### (iii) Llancaiach Fawr Presentation 23<sup>rd</sup> November

The presentation went very well with some very complimentary feedback received from the clubs.

### (iv) New project proposal:

No Cold Calling Zone Cwm Calon – this item was noted and deferred to the next meeting.

## 116 Defibrillators – Register and Maintenance

The British Heart Foundation have developed The Circuit – the national defibrillator network, to give those who have suffered a cardiac arrest, the best chance of survival by linking a national network of defibrillators to every Ambulance Service in the UK.

The Circuit will also help you to look after and maintain your defibrillator. You'll receive regular reminders to check that your defibrillator is ready to use and that the pads are in date, be able to connect with other guardians in your area and even organise for someone to check it if you're likely to be away.

It's replacing our existing Welsh Ambulance Service defibrillator database so it's important you register your defibrillator so we know where it is and if it is available to use in an emergency.

Registering your defibrillator on The Circuit is quick and easy to do - just make sure you have to hand the following details:

- its location and surroundings
- brand, model and serial number (usually on the front of your defibrillator)
- times when its accessible
- pads expiry dates
- confirm it is displaying its ready signal
- access code (if applicable)

The link to set up accounts and register your defibrillator is: [www.thecircuit.uk](http://www.thecircuit.uk)

The clerk has circulated this information with networks.

ADDENDUM: Ystrad Mynach library defibrillator has been registered with The Circuit as of 13/12/2019.

## 117 Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) Budget 2020/21 Consultation

Items (i) – (iii) were received and discussed. (Consultation Closing date: 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020)

(i) Join the Caerphilly Conversation Questionnaire – was received and noted

(ii) Drop-in sessions were received and noted

27.11.19	10.00am - 12.30pm	Rhymney Library
27.11.19	3.30pm - 6.00pm	Caerphilly Library
28.11.19	10.00am - 12.30pm	Newbridge Library
29.11.19	10.30am - 1.00pm	White Rose Resource Centre
02.12.19	10.00am - 1.00pm	Bargoed Library
04.12.19	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Nelson Library
05.12.19	10.30am - 12.30pm	Blackwood Library

**(iii) Appendices 1,2,3 - 2020/21 Draft Savings Proposals were received and the following comments, in order of priority with the top being most important, are to be relayed to CCBC.**

D09 Public Protection (£20k) – Review pest control fees and charges and introduce a charge for rat treatments

Opposed - because if charges are applied, rat sightings and infestations will go unreported, thus becoming a public health issue.

C28 Corporate Policy (£80k) – Reduction in voluntary sector budget

Opposed – Gelligaer Community Council abhors cuts to the voluntary sector. Caerphilly County Borough Council should be looking to support the most vulnerable people in our communities. Implementing cuts will undermine the invaluable and supportive work that these organisations (CAB, Gavo & Groundwork) carry out in the community at a time when the Council are looking to the private sector for services Council provides, especially to the vulnerable. Citizen's Advice is a life line to the most vulnerable in our communities. Lives would become desolate and wretched without these services. We urge you to support our most vulnerable by removing this cut from the budget in its entirety.

D13 Catering (£28k) – Increase price of meals by 25p from April 2020

D14 Catering (£54k) – Increase price of secondary school meals by 10 from April 2020

Opposed to D13 & 14 – on the grounds of child poverty. We have pockets of high deprivation in our area and we are conscious of the value of a decent school meal for our children, in terms of benefitting their physical and mental well-being.

C16 Community & Leisure Services (£10k) – reduction in playground maintenance budget

Opposed to the reduction on health and safety grounds.

CCBC could potentially see an increase in insurance claims.

C25 Public Protection (£24k) – Decommission of all BT line rental cameras

Opposed to the proposed decommission of 6 cameras at Pengam Station on the grounds of highway safety due to the inevitability of vehicles flooding the adjoining streets.

C29 Corporate Policy (£11k) – delete remaining technical assistance budget

Opposed because it will have a detrimental effect on the voluntary sector again, preventing many from applying for grants to external bodies, often securing grants on worthwhile refurbishment projects to their community buildings.

C30 Corporate Policy (£6k) – further reduction in the Well-being budget

Opposed as this could undermine partnership working within our communities.

D08 Waste (£25k) – increase charges for bulky collections (from £16 to £25 for 1 to 3 items)

Opposed as the increase is too high too quickly which could have an adverse effect and be counterproductive, with a rise in fly tipping. Suggested increase to £20.

C18 Community & Leisure Services (£32k) – 50% reduction in public rights of way budget.

Opposed on the grounds of health and safety. Walking has many health benefits and should be encouraged. Reducing maintenance of our public rights of way could compromise safety.

C23 Community Centre (£18k) – reduction of 1 hour Caretaker support across all centres

Opposed: Gelligaer Community Council would oppose any attempt to transfer the responsibility of structural maintenance and gas, electric and water installation to the Community Centre Management Committee.

**118 Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) Annual Report (pages 41 – 49)**

Deadline:10/12/19

**RESOLVED:** Members approved the draft determinations 42-51

Determination 42 – the payment of £150 is mandated for every member unless they advise Clerk that they wish to forego it. It is taxable.

*Cllr Simon Milford declared an interest in the next item and subsequently left the meeting*

**119 REF 3235980 - S. 38 Common Land Application - Gelligaer & Merthyr Common**

Following a letter of complaint to the Planning Inspectorate of Wales, the consultation deadline had been extended to 29<sup>th</sup> November.

Minute no.75 of our ordinary meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 summarises the concerns raised by Mr Philip Davies of the Welsh Horse and Pony Group in relation to the proposed earthworks and the earlier address by Mrs Miles was discussed further.

**RESOLVED:** Council had no objections to the proposals.

*Cllr Simon Milford returned to the meeting*

**120 Planning Applications – there were no planning applications**

**121 Finance**

**(i) Balance of Funds**

'Balance of Funds' document was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**(ii) Reconciliation**

Reconciliation document was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**122 Additional Expenditure**

(i) Resolved: Council ratified the additional spend of £1319 on the supply and installation of flushes, units, tiles, hot water tank and piping. Plus signage to the sum of £182 at the public toilets, Ystrad Mynach.

(ii) Resolved: Council agreed to the additional spend of £100 for the Christmas tree at Siloh Square and £80 for the installation.

**123 Motion passed to exclude press and public**

**124 (i) Bank Statements (on pink paper)**

Bank statements 95,94,22,97,33 &32 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**125 Financial Assistance 2019/20 – (all on pink papers).**

- Friends of Lewis Girls Application No.34  
Resolved: Council agreed to grant the sum of £300
- Tuesday/Friday Bingo Club Application No.  
*This item was deferred for further information*

*Cllr Jodie Postians declared an interest in the next item and left the meeting*

- Tiryberth Helping Hands Application No.35  
Resolved: Council agreed to grant the sum of £300

*Cllr Jodie Postians returned to the meeting*

- Rhymney Valley Music Club Application No.36  
Resolved: Council agreed to grant the sum of £300

**126 Projects / Quotations (on pink papers)**

A council resolution was required to proceed with the following:

(i) Spec & quotation in respect of additional works to the public toilet at Ystrad Mynach to remedy the backflow which currently means the toilet tissue is not flowing away and frequent blockages are occurring.

RESOLVED: Council agreed to the additional works to the sum of £1900

(ii) Quotation for the supply and installation of a mini feeder pillar including cable, festive cut out with socket and to provide a duct from the pillar to the tree base at Glanynant Garden was received and noted.

RESOLVED: Council agreed to the cost of £887 with additional costs for the purchase of lights at approx. £400 but further agreed that the work be undertaken in the new year.

(iii) Ystrad Mynach electronic roller shutter door

RESOLVED: Council agreed the sum of £710 for the supply and installation of a black electronic roller shutter door and fob plus 2 additional fobs

**127 Motion passed to re-open meeting to press and public**

**128 Gelligaer and District Amateur Boxing Club – Seeking a 25 year lease from CCBC**

RESOLVED: Council approved the proposal.

**129 Vacancies: Minor Authority Representatives on the Board of Governors**

Nominations were invited for representation on the following schools:

Glanynant Learning Centre - vacant

Greenhill Primary School- vacant

Tiryberth Primary School

RESOLVED: Council agreed nominee Cllr Jodie Postians as Minor Authority Representative on the Board of Governors at Tiryberth Primary School

YGG Bro Allta - vacant

Ystrad Mynach Primary School- vacant

**130 Next Ordinary Meeting Date: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**Meeting Closed at 9.45pm**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chair

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019