



## GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of an ORDINARY Full Council Meeting of Gelligaer Community Council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 6.15pm via remote access in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020.**

### **PRESENT**

**Councillors:** A Angel, D Cushing, C David, W David, T Parry (Vice), and J Pritchard (Chair)

**Clerk:** C Mortimer

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

### **26 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr C Bezzina due to attending another meeting and Cllr T Matthews will remain absent until physical meetings can safely resume.

### **27 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.

Cllr Judith Pritchard, Cllr Teresa Parry and Cllr Donna Cushing declared an interest in minute no. 36 (iii) – Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed

Cllr Alan Angel declared an interest in minute no. 40 – Planning

Cllr Christine David and Cllr Wynne David declared an interest in minute no. 40 – Planning (Case Ref. 20/1018/RET)

### **28 Chairman's Announcements**

Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard announced the following:

Clerk was thanked for arranging the delivery of over 2,000 selection boxes and putting them into quarantine for 72 hours before arranging with Members for collection and delivering to all primary schools in our area..

She extended her warm gratitude to Councillors Alan Angel, Donna Cushing, Christine David, Wynne David, William Griffiths, Martyn James and Jodie Postians.

Community Champion Awards will be presented over the next few days, masked, sanitized and socially distanced on the door steps of some of our well deserved recipients.

### **29 Minutes**

**MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING held on 25/11/2020** were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

### **30 Minutes**

**MINUTES of the ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING held on 25/11/2020** were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

### **31 Matters Arising – there were no matters arising**

### **32 Finance to 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

#### **(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.

## **(iii) Bank Statements**

Bank statements no's 051 & 050 from Unity were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

Members noted that no new statements had been received from Lloyds as yet (13,12,34,33,2 were presented at the last meeting)

## **(iv) Budget v Spend December 2020**

Budget v Spend as of 11th December 2020 was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

Members were requested to start thinking about potential projects, budget and precept for 2021/2022, which is for fuller discussion and resolution in January 2021. Due to an underspend in 2020, resurfacing the Black Ash Path was a possibility. Clerk to further request a copy of the specification.

Caerphilly Conversation Consultation was received and discussed and the following comments approved for Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) to take into consideration when preparing their budget and in shaping the future:

### **1. Overall Satisfaction**

*Gelligaer Community Council are very satisfied with CCBC's overall service during an extremely difficult and challenging year, and we highly commend your efforts. Well done!!*

### **3. There is not one single biggest factor affecting the appearance of our neighborhood but two, which go hand in hand:**

*(i) Green spaces - green spaces are crucial for mental health, physical well being and bio-diversity. The past year has taught us their value more so than ever before and the need to protect and maintain green spaces must feature as a top priority for CCBC.*

*(ii) Litter – the continued service of the litter pickers and the cleansing teams are crucial in ensuring that our green spaces and neighborhoods are litter free areas to be safe and enjoyable spaces.*

### **16. Supporting Businesses**

*Supporting local businesses in our town centres and the economy should be given a high regard.*

*It is important to promote, revitalize and encourage other things in our towns that local people need and want. Footfall is the only way a town centre will thrive or we are fighting a losing battle.*

*In Ystrad Mynach we have two banks and a post office which are essential services, keeping the town alive.*

*We also have hairdressers, barbers, nail salons, gift shops, card shop, butchers, grocers, food stores, dry-cleaning, hardware, jewelers, clothing boutique, charity shops, two cafes, pubs, an Indian restaurant and fast food takeaway outlets.*

*Town centres need more varied activities like cinemas and bowling venues. The popularity of the Maxime Cinema in Blackwood town centre is a fine example.*

*A Credit Union shop would also be beneficial to many people and a huge draw to the town.*

*Cafés/coffee shops should be encouraged more, ideally with access to Wi-Fi.*

CCBC may want to think of sponsoring or partly funding a climate shop, to help with the climate change crisis by encouraging people to take up solar panels, wind turbines and moving from gas to heat pumps. It could double up as a reuse, reduce, recycle shop.

### **19. Working Better with Communities – Community budget**

A community budget is a very good initiative for supporting the very vulnerable in our communities, like a neighborhood watch, which would help to reduce isolation and support people in getting back on their feet, similar to the excellent work of Home-Start,

### **21. Council Service Transformation**

The closure of council buildings and the cessation of face to face services created a very stressful time for many people. Over 41% of people aged 75+ do not have access to the internet.

It is therefore imperative that CCBC should give due regard to this demographic and should not just rely on the internet for promoting services and relaying important information to people.

### **31. Council budget and council tax setting:**

Following a very difficult year and bearing in mind, job losses, many on furlough and those on low income having to pay council tax, we would like CCBC to consider imposing the lowest possible council tax rise in order to protect services.

### **33 Completion of Audit Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

Email and letter from BDO confirming completion of audit with no matters arising was received and noted.

(ii) Annual Return from BDO was received and approved as completed

(iii) Notice of Completion of Audit, was received and noted. A copy will displayed on our external notice board and published on our Facebook page and website.

### **34 Audit Wales' Schedule for 2020/21 onwards**

(i) Letter from Wales Audit Manager Deryck Evans was received and noted

(ii) Audit Schedule (page 11 is applicable to us) was received and noted.

2020/21 – FULL AUDIT

2021/22 – BASIC AUDIT

2022/23 – BASIC AUDIT

### **35 Financial Assistance/Grants 2020/21 – there were none received.**

### **36 Projects 2020/21**

(i) **New project proposals** – there were none.

(ii) **Project Summary** - was received and discussed.

#### **Annual Projects – Committed/Budgeted**

1 Intergenerational Luncheon - Lewis School Pengam for the 50+  
To support the provision of luncheon club £1,000

2 Christmas Lighting  
Erect Christmas lighting throughout all wards £10,710  
LGA 1972 s.144 (encourage tourism/visitors)

3 Ystrad Mynach Christmas Market- CANCELLED  
Contribution towards the Christmas market to ensure its continuity Saturday 21st  
Nov £2,000 LGA 1972, s.145 (provision of entertainment, festivals & support of  
the arts)  
*VIRED TO SPEND ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTING Minute 254 (ii)*

- 4 Hanging Baskets at Ystrad Mynach  
17.5 summer hanging basket throughout town plus 3 planters of flowers attached  
Installation, watering, taking down and storage.  
£3,917 LGA 1972 s.144 (encourage tourism/visitors)
- 5 Family Day Trip – CANCELLED 24/06/2020  
Fund 5 x 49 seater coaches £775  
LGA 1972 s.137 / LG (Wales) Measure 2011 (well-being power)  
*VIRED TO SPEND ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTING Minute 254 (ii)*
- 6 Pantomimes - £5,040 - CANCELLED
  - (1) Penybryn Village Hall Wed 02/12 6.30pm
  - (2) Gelligaer Community Centre Mon 07/12 6.00pm
  - (3) Lindsay Club Wed 9/12 5.30pm
  - (4) TYB Primary Thurs 10/12 6.30pm
  - (5) Lewis Girls Sunday Sun 13/12 2.30pm
  - (6) Glanynant Memorial Hall Sun 13/12 7.00pm
  - (7) Hengoed Community Centre Mon 14/12 Dec 5.30pm
  - (8) Cascade Community Centre Thurs 17/12 5.30pm
 LGA 1972, s.145 (provision of entertainment, festivals & support of the arts)  
*VIRED TO SPEND ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTING Minute 254 (ii)*
- 7 Presentation at Llancaiach - CANCELLED  
8 awards agreed to be presented on their door steps Minute 259  
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 £1417 x 2; Distribution £500 x 2  
LGA 1972 s.142
- 9 Ystrad Mynach Public Toilets - CLOSED  
Maintenance/cleaning £10k

VIRED from Project No. 2, 3 & 5 for Christmas Lighting LED Figurines (Qty 25) £7,815

#### OTHER PROJECTS & COMMUNITY BENEFIT

- 10 Youth Centre, Cefn Hengoed  
Installation of new roof £3,000
- 11 Cwm Calon –the conversion of 4 columns £1,200 & supply & installation of 4 no.  
Christmas LED figurines along Heol Cwm Calon approaching school £1,600
- 12 Ystrad Mynach Town Christmas Lights – purchase of tree & installation and  
dismantling costs £250
- 13 Ystrad Mynach Christmas Fayre – promotional items £1,500 CANCELLED
- 14 Glanynant Garden Christmas Lights – supply & install feeder pillar and supply  
LED lights for December 2020 £1,287 (£887 plus £400)
- 15 Glanynant Garden – Supply picnic bench at £245, assembly and installation cost  
£500
- 16 Poppies - purchase 100 lamp post poppies and 200 ties for various locations £363

- 17 CAB – to reinstate CAB £6,000
- 18 Schools Environmental Project - £3,000
- 19 Community Centres – to assist with cost to keep open £3,000 – CANCELLED
- 20 Chapel Tce – Installation of bollards – GCC to facilitate with CCBC
- 21 Rear of Kings Hill – Installation of fruit trees – Keep Wales Tidy (KWT) – Clerk to continue without volunteers and work alongside Project Officer from KWT
- 22 Wild flower planting throughout our area – members to submit suitable areas
- 23 Gelligaer Cemetery – an additional standing pipe as elderly and infirm are having to walk great lengths to obtain water. Ideal location would be on the slight incline. Clerk awaiting response from CCBC.
- 24 BT Phone Boxes at Ystrad Mynach and Penpedairheol – time capsule project for schools depicting the good and bad in 2020 through art, stories pics etc  
Boxes to be cleaned, painted and re-glazed in parts and sealed. Cost tbc
- 25 Relocation of Roll of Honour from Horeb Chapel to Glyngaer Primary Cost £360
- 26 Selection boxes to all 9 schools. Members to deliver to schools. Schools to distribute to children to minimize contamination.
- 27 Food Bank, Cascade – further information required.
- 28 ROW Cascade to Tiryberth – support the replacement of a style with a gate

#### CIL PROJECTS

- CIL1 Bedwlwyn Road Footbridge - Analysis £3600 – completed  
 CIL2 Welfare, Cefn Road Hengoed - Install footpath & drop kerb £1819 – completed  
 CIL3 Ystrad Mynach Toilets Refurbishment – £13,454

#### Potential Projects:

Black Ash Path – To resurface remaining half of path – Hengoed Avenue to New Road  
 TYB

The Walk by kissing gate – Tarmacing

*Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard, Cllr Teresa Parry and Cllr Donna Cushing declared an interest in the next item, remained in the meeting therefore remaining quorate, yet played no part in the ensuing discussions.*

*Cllr Alan Angel chaired the next item*

#### **(iii)Project no. 10 Youth Centre Cefn Hengoed**

**RESOLVED:** Council agreed to cover the hire costs of a skip at £216

*Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard, Cllr Teresa Parry and Cllr Donna Cushing returned to discussions.*

*Cllr Judith Pritchard returned to chairing the meeting.*

#### **37 Christmas Lighting Update**

Following several night scouts the clerk has determined that there remained a shortage in figurines (7) and faulty figurines (2). Clerk has agreed with the company to return the disappointing scrolls/ice cream shaped figurines (22) as they were not the ones ordered.

**RESOLVED:** Council agreed an additional sum of up to £7,000 for the purchase of 32 holly sails to replace returned items plus the shortfall and faulty figurines with one spare, vired from Project no's 1 and 8 and an underspend of £2,165 from Other Projects/Community Benefit.

**38 Ystrad Mynach Toilets**

**RESOLVED:** Council agreed that the toilets remain closed until it was deemed safe to reopen.

**39 Planning Inspectorate Appeal Decision DISMISSED in relation to land Adjacent to Tiryberth Farm, Hengoed Rd., Penpedairheol, Hengoed to erect residential development up to 131 houses and associated works**

**Ref: APP/ K6920/A/20/3257989 / Application Ref 20/0025/REF 18/0160/OUT**

Members were pleased with the appeal outcome and that planning permission had been dismissed. Many compliments had been received from the residents of Carn Gethin especially directed at Cllr Wynne David for speaking in their favour at the Planning Committee, also ward members Cllr Teresa Parry and Cllr Donna Cushing , and for the work undertaken over the years by the Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard, Cllr Teresa Parry and Cllr Donna Cushing.

*Cllr Alan Angel declared an interest in the next item and left the meeting*

**40 Planning Applications - Planning applications were received & discussed.**  
Comments or enquiries are to be emailed to [planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk) within 21 days of receipt of the email date.

**Email date: 11/12/2020**

Case Ref. 20/1006/FULL Site Area: 1149m<sup>2</sup>

Location: 4 Clos Cae Rhos Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 7TJ (UPRN 000043078171)

Proposal: Convert garage into living accommodation and erect new detached garage

Case Officer: Anthony Pyne ☐ 01443 864523 ☐ [pynea@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:pynea@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref: 314665 (E) 197009 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

**RESOLVED:** No objections

*Cllr Christine David and Cllr Wynne David declared an interest in the next item and played no part in the ensuing discussions*

Case Ref. 20/1018/RET Site Area: 379m<sup>2</sup>

Location: 21 Tai'r Heol Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 8DL (UPRN 000043012365)

Proposal: Retain raised decking and fence to the rear of the property

Case Officer: Mike Jones ☐ 01443 864528 ☐ [jonesm5@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:jonesm5@caerphilly.gov.uk)

Ward: St Cattwg Map Ref: 313889 (E) 197887 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

**RESOLVED:** No objections on the proviso that the neighbour's privacy is maintained.

*Cllr Christine David and Cllr Wynne David returned to discussions*

**41 Next meeting Date:** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 7.00pm – Remote.

**Meeting Closed at 9.00pm**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chair**      **Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021