

## GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL Meeting of Gelligaer Community Council held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021, 7.00pm in REMOTE format in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

#### PRESENT

**Councillors:** C Bezzina, D Cushing, W Griffiths, M James, A McCarthy, T Parry and J Pritchard.

**Clerk:** C Mortimer

In Attendance: Mr Paul Cooke, Caerphilly County Borough Council's (CCBC) Senior Policy Officer to talk about Empowerment Fund.

*Chair Cllr Donna Cushing welcomed everyone to the meeting*

#### 79 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr A Angel, Cllr C David and Cllr W David due to sickness, Cllr S Milford due to work commitments and Cllr T Matthews due to technology issues.

#### 80 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 Donna Cushing declared an interest in minute no's 86 (i) Melody Makers and 87 (ii) Santa's Sleigh

Cllr Martyn James declared an interest in minute no. 86 (i) Melody Makers and Min no.92 Planning Case Ref. 21/1055/FULL

Cllr Teresa Parry declared an interest in minute no.87 (ii) Santa's Sleigh

#### 81 Community Empowerment Fund - Paul Cooke, CCBC Senior Policy Officer

The fund provides an allocation of £4,490 per CCBC ward member, so it requires their support/endorsement but groups can propose projects to their ward member to seek support.

Despite several attempts and due to poor sound quality it was agreed that Paul Cooke's attendance be deferred for another date.

#### 82 Chair's Announcements

The Chair had attended an Alzheimer's fund raising event at the Cross Key's public house with Cllr Teresa Parry and donated selection boxes from her Chair's account towards the event.

#### 83 Minutes

**MINUTES of the ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING held on 17/11/2021** as an accurate record were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

#### 84 Matters Arising

Cllr Judith Pritchard was nominated and accepted to serve as our Minor Authority Representative at Hengoed Primary School.

#### 85 Finance to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

##### (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. It was noted that Cllr W Griffiths' cheque was returned from the bank. We will therefore either issue him another cheque or pay via BACS.

**(iii) Bank Statements**

Bank statements no's 25, 46, 66 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**(iv) Expenditure v Budget**

Actual spend to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 v Budget was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

**(V) Transfer of Funds**

**RESOLVED:** Council permitted the clerk to transfer £34,000 from Unity Trust Bank to Lloyds Business Bank Instant Accounts \*\*\*\*961 to bring the Unity Account below £85,000, which is the protected limit under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

*Cllr Donna Cushing and Cllr Martyn James declared an interest in the next item and played no part in the discussion.*

*Cllr Judith Pritchard chaired the meeting.*

**86 Financial Assistance/Grants 2021/22**

**(i) Melody Makers – deferred for further information**

*Cllr Donna Cushing and Cllr Martyn James returned to discussions.*

*Cllr Donna Cushing resumed to chairing the meeting.*

**87 Projects 2021/22**

**(i) Project Summary – was received and noted**

*Cllr Donna Cushing and Cllr Teresa Parry declared an interest in the next item and played no part in the ensuing discussion*

*Cllr Judith Pritchard chaired the next item.*

**(ii) Santa's Sleigh**

Members received and agreed suggested routes for Santa's Magical Sleigh  
**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to fund the sleigh at a cost of £300 per village

*Cllr Donna Cushing and Cllr Teresa Parry returned to discussions,*

*Cllr Donna Cushing resumed to chairing the meeting.*

**(iii) Members noted the new dates:**

- Presentation at Llancaiach – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022 2.00pm - 4.00pm
- Ystrad Mynach Spring Fayre Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**(iv) New project proposal - monthly or bi-monthly market at Ystrad Mynach**

**RESOLVED:** Council agreed that ward members are to approach traders in the spring to firstly assist them in forming a committee/chamber of commerce and secondly, to help facilitate a small bi-monthly market to encourage an increase in footfall. Clerk to attend any meetings.

**(v) New Project Proposals – there were no new projects.**

## **88 Events Working Group**

Nominations were invited to form an events working group to meet periodically to discuss facilitating events with volunteers.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Donna Cushing Cllr Carmen Bezzina, Cllr Martyn James, Cllr William Griffiths and Cllr Amanda McCarthy were accepted to form the group.

*Cllr Teresa Parry left the meeting due to other commitments*

## **89 Governance and Financial Management Community and Town Councils Self-Evaluation Toolkit**

It was noted at our last meeting we agreed to take part in a pilot Governance and Financial Management Self Evaluation Tool Kit, developed by OVW, SLCC and WG (draft version is attached), which will be of great benefit to new clerks and will generally improve standards for the more experienced clerks, councillors and the sector as a whole. It's a really good piece of kit.

The evaluation pilot is split into two parts – 1. Health check 2. Self Assessment

And there are 6 themes and we have been invited to look at Business processes over the next 6 weeks:

- 1.Vision, purpose and community planning
- 2.Leadership and people
- 3.Community engagement and partnerships
- 4.Business processes
- 5.Resources and financial management
- 6.Evaluating Impact

At an introductory session it was recommended that the clerk work alongside the chair and possibly a couple of members who may like to be part of the exercise.

Nominations were requested.

**RESOLVED:** Council agreed that Clerk, Chair, Cllr Judith Pritchard and Cllr Amanda McCarthy contribute towards the pilot.

## **90 Lewis Street and High Street, Ystrad Mynach – experimental one-way restrictions system and active travel improvements - cycle track**

The experimental one-way system and cycle track in Lewis Street, Ystrad Mynach has been in operation for approximately 14 months and over the next few months Caerphilly County Borough Council needs to make a decision as to whether the scheme should be made permanent or removed.

Our comments are required as to whether you support the scheme being made permanent and if you feel it has improved road safety outside the school.

Deadline for responses: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

YM Ward Members were disappointed that CCBC had not consulted with residents directly on this matter but Cllr Martyn James knocked every door in the locality only to find the community split. But quite a few residents commented on improved road safety. As a result it was felt that the local residents should ultimately decide as to whether or not the one way system is to remain.

Members were unanimous in agreeing that the cycle path served no purpose as it didn't go anywhere and so was seldom used. It was also noted that the cycle path was two directional on a one way road system and so potentially very dangerous to cyclists, because motorists were only likely to look one way for oncoming traffic, especially those not used to the lay out.

**91 Good Practice Exchange team at Audit Wales - Town Centre Regeneration Webinar on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021 10:30AM**

Nominations were invited to attend. – Cllr Judith Pritchard and Cllr Amanda McCarthy would try to attend. The clerk had previously attended a similar event delivered by Planning Aid Wales and One Voice Wales, back in June.

**92 Planning Applications**

Planning applications were received and discussed. Comments or enquiries must be emailed to [planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk) within 21 days of receipt of the email date.

Email: 25/11/2021

Case Ref. 21/1115/FULL Site Area: 132m<sup>2</sup>

Location: 1 Griffin Drive Penallta Hengoed CF82 6AB (UPRN 000043164347)

Proposal: Erect single storey rear extension

Case Officer: Joshua Burrows ☐ 07874 641749 ☐ burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314276 (E) 195412 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

**RESOLVED:** There were no objections

*Cllr Martyn James declared an interest in the next item and played no part in the ensuing discussions*

Email:22/11/2021

Case Ref. 21/1055/FULL Site Area: 211m<sup>2</sup>

Location:40 Pantycelyn Street Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7BL (UPRN 000043019537)

Proposal:Demolish existing outbuilding and erect single storey rear extension with alterations to vehicular access with creation of parking space to front and detached garage to rear

Case Officer: Joshua Burrows ☐ 07874 641749 ☐burroj1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314360 (E) 194651 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

**RESOLVED:** There were no objections

*Cllr Martyn James returned to discussions*

Email:22/11/2021

Case Ref.21/1082/RM Site Area: 3591m<sup>2</sup>

Location: Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr Hospital Ffordd Ystrad Fawr Ystrad Mynach Hengoed CF82 7GP (UPRN 000043018258)

Proposal:

Seek approval of the reserved matters in respect of landscaping of planning consent 20/0514/OUT (Erect a dedicated Unified Breast Unit building and associated works and seek approval of access, appearance, layout and scale)

Case Officer: Jacob Cooke ☐01443 864347 ☐cookej1@caerphilly.gov.uk

Ward: Ystrad Mynach Map Ref: 314687 (E) 193649 (N)

Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated

**RESOLVED:** There were no objections

**93 Next meeting Date: Ordinary Meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, 7pm**

**Meeting closed at 8.35pm**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chair Date: 19th January 2022.