

CYNGOR CYMUNED GELLIGAER ~ GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the ORDINARY Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th December 2023 7.00pm at Gelligaer Community Council Office in a MULTI-LOCATIONAL format in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

PRESENT

Councillors: A Angel, G Bruford, D Cushing*, A McCarthy*, C Moss, T Parry (Chair), H Pritchard, J Pritchard and A Wood (Vice Chair).

Clerk: C Mortimer

In Attendance: PCSO McKean and PCSO Bateman of Gwent Police, Caerphilly County Borough Council's (CCBC) Decarbonisation Officers Mr P Cooke and Ms H Richardson.

* denotes remote attendance.

Chair Cllr T Parry welcomed everyone to the meeting.

132. Apologies – apologies were received from Councillors M James and R Callison due to illness, and Cllr R Bevan due to another commitment.

133. Declarations of Interest

Councillors and Officers 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.

There were no declarations.

134. Police Update – Officers of Gwent Police provided the following updates:

(i) Police Report for November 2023 for the St Cattwg Ward.

Crime & ASB Overview

St Cattwg	37
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↑ Crime Category	# of Crimes	%
Total	37	100%
Public Order Offences	11	30%
Violence Without Injury	11	30%
Vehicle Crime	5	14%
Violence With Injury	4	11%
Criminal Damage & Arson	3	8%
Drug Offences	1	3%
Residential Burglary	1	3%
Shoplifting	1	3%

Some of the incidents include;

Vehicle theft – Gelligaer
Window smashed – Penpedairheol
Attempt vehicle break – Penpedairheol
Van broken into – Penpedairheol
Theft from Van – Penpedairheol
Group of people fighting – Gelligaer
Threats to cause damage – Penpedairheol

Anti-Social Behaviour calls received:

St Cattwg	3
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Closing Class 1	# of Incidents	%
	3	100%
ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVI...	3	100%

Some of the incidents include;

Unknown male sleeping at the back of Morrisons – from Gelligaer

Nuisance emails – Gelligaer

Upcoming Police Surgeries

12/12/2023 – 1800-1830hrs

Gelligaer Community Centre

(ii) Police Report for November 2023 for Ystrad Mynach and Hengoed ward

Crime & ASB Overview

Crimes recorded for all Ystrad Mynach Wards

Ystrad Mynach	42
Hengoed	34
Nelson	14
Maesycwmmmer	19

Ystrad Mynach incidents include –

↑ Crime Category	# of Crimes	%
Total	42	100%
Violence Without Injury	10	24%
Vehicle Crime	9	21%
Criminal Damage & Arson	7	17%
Violence With Injury	5	12%
Public Order Offences	4	10%
Rape	2	5%
All Other Theft	1	2%
Drug Offences	1	2%
Misc Crimes Against Society	1	2%
Other Sexual Offences	1	2%
Shoplifting	1	2%

Criminal damage –

Stones thrown at windows – Heathlands.

Screwdriver damaged car – Cwm Calon

Graffiti on property – Commercial St

Front door kicked – Neighbour dispute – Bryn Mynach

Play station smashed up – Known offender.

Smashed window by family – Tredomen

Damage to hospital by service user

All other theft –

Attempt theft from Holy Trinity Church.

Vehicle crime –

All 7 relate to a spate of Van breaks in Cwm Calon Estate – One male caught and on bail.

Rape – Both incidents are known offenders which have been arrested and under investigation.

Other sexual offence –

Unwanted touch to arm by shop assistant – Ystrad town.

Misc crime against society –

Fly tipping by Penallta Industrial estate.

Shoplifting – Lidl, no police action wanted offender banned from store.

Drug offences relate to Risca – crime logged under wrong area.

Hengoed incidents include –

↑ Crime Category	# of Crimes	%
Total	34	100%
Violence Without Injury	11	32%
Violence With Injury	6	18%
Criminal Damage & Arson	5	15%
Public Order Offences	4	12%
Vehicle Crime	4	12%
Rape	2	6%
All Other Theft	1	3%
Theft From The Person	1	3%

Stones thrown at house – Hengoed Ave

Letter box broken by family member – Trem Penallta

Damage caused to house from family member – Alexandra Rd

Kitchen window smashed – Birch Crescent

Vehicle crime –

Car stolen – Keys left inside – Lansbury Ave

Theft from Vehicle – Heol Gethin

Van broken into Park Rd

Car stolen – Ashgrove

Rape – 2 crimes relate to same offence, known offenders arrested and under investigation.

All other thefts –

Online black mail – Lansbury Ave

Theft from person –

Theft of phone – Beechfield Ave – No complaint made.

Anti-Social Behaviour calls received for all Ystrad Mynach Wards

Ystrad Mynach	6
Hengoed	1

Ystrad Mynach incidents include –

- Heron Drive – Teenagers in communal area
- Heathlands – Youths throwing stones
- 3 of 6 relate to homeless male in the area

Hengoed incidents include –
No youth ASB

Upcoming events

Ystrad Mynach Neighbourhood team have 3 Christmas craft events being run at Ystrad Mynach library for youths with a visit from Santa during December.

They are on a ticket basis being booked through the library themselves due to the large amount of youths and parents that attended the Halloween event we held.

Police Surgeries

Monday 4th December 2023

2:00 – 2:30 @ Ystrad Mynach Library

3:30 – 4:00 @ Hengoed Train Station Car Park

Thursday 21st December 2023

10:00 – 10:30 @ Ystrad Mynach Library

12:30 – 1:00 @ Hengoed Train Station Car Park

Gwent Police Officers were thanked for their update and they both subsequently left the meeting.

135. Caerphilly County Borough Council's (CCBC) Mr P Cooke Decarbonisation Manager

Mr Paul Cooke introduced himself and gave members an interesting verbal presentation.

In summary, in June 2019 CCBC declared a Climate Emergency and committed to making CCBC a net zero carbon authority by 2030. A Decarbonisation Strategy was formulated a year later and an action plan agreed to:

Reduce – using less energy with low energy lighting, heating, more efficient heating systems, capital investment in insulations and changing behaviour.

Produce – generating our own green electricity and heating through photovoltaic systems or solar thermal.

Offset – offsetting carbon emissions through tree planting

Buy – everything purchased will have a carbon footprint and therefore this must be considered during the procurement process.

Paul Cooke was leading a small team of 4 staff, with a further 2 to be appointed in the spring to help reach an ambitious target of net zero carbon by 2030 with the aim of guiding the wider community in reaching it by 2050.

Gelligaer Community Council have £20k set aside for “green” projects and would like the Decarbonisation team to look at suitable technology/software being installed at the schools for pupils to measure and understand energy readings and usage.

Installing solar panels on our public toilets and community council office was also suggested.

Members were also keen to explore a hydro project with Bute Energy.

Mr Paul Cooke would discuss further with Mr Paul Ross and would get back in touch.

Mr Cooke and Ms Richardson were thanked for their attendance and they both subsequently left the meeting.

136. Public Participation – there were no members of the public present.

137. Chair's Announcements

Chair Cllr Teresa Parry announced the following:

On the 22nd January 2024 there will be an event to identify loneliness with a Community Connects event in Cascade Community Centre. Posters will be distributed and advertised on social media.

Chair also announced that she had made a contribution towards the Ystrad Mynach 2024 calendars.

138. Minutes of the ORDINARY COUNCIL meeting held on 25/10/2023 were received, approved and signed as an accurate record.

- 139. Matters Arising** – there were no matters arising
- 140. Finance to 7th December 2023**
- (i) Balance of Funds**
'Balance of Funds' document was received, approved and signed as an accurate record.
- (ii) Reconciliation** - there was no reconciliation document, as all cheques had been cleared.
- (iii) Bank Statements**
Bank statement no. 54, 70, 98 & 99 were received approved and signed as an accurate record.
- 141. Financial Assistance/Grants 2023/24**
- (i) Noah's Ark Children's Hospital Charity**
RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £350 to Noah's Ark Children's Hospital
- (ii) Urdd National Eisteddfod Maldwyn 2024**
RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £250 to the Urdd National Eisteddfod
- (iii) Ysgol Penalltau PTA**
RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £350 to Ysgol Penalltau PTA
- (iv) Penybryn Village Hall**
RESOLVED: Council agreed to fund the sum of £125 toward the Christmas party.
- 142. Biodiversity/Eco Officer Update**
There had been no update received this month, due to an early monthly meeting.
- 143. Projects**
- (i) Project Summary 2023/24** – was received and noted.
- (ii) RBL Silhouettes**
- (a) Glyngaer Primary** – deferred
- (iii) New project Proposal** - The Urdd's Fund for All appeal
Members supported the project in principal however requested further information as to how it would work.
- 144. Vacancies exist - Minor Authority Representative on the Board of Governors at**
- (i) Ysgol Bro Allta** (deferred)
- (ii) Trinity Fields School** - Nominations were invited
RESOLVED: Council agreed Cllr Alan Angel's nomination as our minor authority representative on the board of governors.
- 145. Twyn Hywel Energy Park**
Members were unanimous in supporting Bute Energy's proposals, considering the climate crisis, with the agreement of environmental enhancement work. The clerk will write to PEDW to that effect.
- 146. Appropriate Sum under Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 - Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2024-25**
Members received and noted the following: An appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act) for Community and Town Councils in Wales for the financial year 2024-25 is £10.81. Section 137(1) of the 1972 Act permits each Community or Town Council to incur expenditure for purposes for which it has no other specific powers if the Council considers that the expenditure is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants, providing that the benefit is commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

Community and Town Councils are also permitted under section 137(3) to incur expenditure for certain charitable and other purposes. The maximum expenditure that can be incurred under both section 137(1) and (3) for the financial year 2024-25 will be £10.81 per elector.

For the financial year 2024-25, the appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) is calculated by applying the formula set out in Schedule 12B to the 1972 Act. The Retail Prices Index increased by 8.86% between September 2022 and September 2023. This means that, by application of the formula, the appropriate sum for the financial year 2024- 25 increases from £9.93 to £10.81 per elector.

Therefore, members noted that for 2024/25, for Gelligaer Community Council the following applies:

13,879 electors x £10.81= £150,031.99 for Section 137(1) and £150,031.99 for Section 137 (3)

147. Training for 2023/24

- (i) OVW training for 2023/24 – it was noted that the schedule would be emailed directly to members.
- (ii) Training plan was noted.

148. Planning Applications

Members received & discussed the following planning application.

Comments or enquiries must be emailed to planadmin@caerphilly.gov.uk within 21 days of receipt of the email date.

Case Ref. 23/0829/HH Site Area: 158m² Location: 21 Hengoed Road Hengoed CF82 7NW (UPRN 000043020543) Proposal: Erect detached garage to rear Case Officer: Joe Simmons (07874 641751 : simmoj1@caerphilly.gov.uk Ward: Hengoed Map Ref: 314862 (E) 195060 (N) Community Council: Gelligaer Community Council Expected Decision Level: Delegated
ADDENDUM

RESOLVED: There were no objections.

**149. Next meeting Date: ORDINARY Meeting on Wednesday 24th January 2023, 7.00pm
Gelligaer Community Council office.**

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed: _____ **CHAIR**

DATE: 24th January 2024