## Crynant Community Council

The Community Centre, Woodland Road, Crynant. S10 8RG

***Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 6:30pm on Thursday 28th March, 2019 at the Community Centre, Woodland Road, Crynant.***

**453: Apologies for absence/Reason given**: Cllr.Peter Shopland (illness); Cllr. Pat Wood (holiday); Cllr.Sian Phillips (work commitment); Cllr.Colin Bevan (personal commitment).

**454: Register of attendance**. Duly completed Cllrs in attendance: Cllr. Brian Lewis (Chairman); Cllr. Barry Michael; Cllr. Andrea Hart; Cllr. Roger Miles; Cllr. Suzanne Waldron; Cllr. Sean Keir & Clerk Heidi Mortimer.

**455: To receive Declarations of Interest**: No declarations received.

**456: To approve and sign the Council meeting minutes**. **Resolved:** That the minutes signed as true and accurate.

**457: Matters arising from the minutes (for information only). To include, sale of land adjacent to 70a Main Road; Complaint re parking at Welfare Hall.** Negotiations for the sale of land to be conducted in writing, clerk to send correspondence. Letter to be sent to all business and homeowners with copy of the relevant minutes for information.

**458: To adjourn if necessary, to receive public questions.** No members of the public present.

**459: To receive Police report.** No report available PCSO Tossell off work unwell. Clerk to contact Claire Rogers to obtain figures.

**460: County Councillor Harris report.** Typed report attached for information. County Councillor Harris reported that she had been trying to contact the police on various matters but was not receiving any replies. In respect of the brook/potential flooding risk at Treforgan – County Cllr. Harris also advised that potentially the positioning of a fence was making access to the brook difficult, Council requested Cllr. Harris legally ascertain the position of the fence in question.

**461: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which he or she represented the Council.** Cllr Suzanne Waldron attended the NPT Liaison forum meeting. Requested agenda item regarding the damage caused by off road vehicles to Sarn Helen was removed as officer not in attendance, item was however discussed at Cllr. Waldron insistence and request that it was dealt with by legal as this would be the department required to take forward, a meeting to be set up to discuss the possibility of restricting/prevention of off-road vehicular access to Sarn Helen**.** Cllr. Sean Keir attended the One Voice Wales area committee meeting provided report and highlighted two areas for further action the Environment Wales Act and the Independent renumeration panel recommendations, one voice wales are looking into the legality of accepting or declining renumeration payments as a Council. Cllr Peter Shopland sent report from Creunant Primary School Governors meeting and advised Council that the school was reviewed last week by Inspectors from the Estyn Education Authority as a follow up from last year’s school Inspection. The children, staff and governors were scrutinised over a period of three days again and I’m happy to announce they passed with flying colours. The inspectors were particularly impressed with the interaction and work carried out by the children on the Centenary of the 1st World War commemorations.

**462: Planning application no: P2019/0208 Mr & Mrs G & K Williams, 20 Alderwood Close, Crynant. Proposed development: Two storey side extension incorporating integral garage to ground floor with first floor living accommodation. Resolved:** No observations be submitted.

**463: Clerks report to include (a) Bank reconciliation (b) Payment authorisations (c) Personnel report (d) Association report.** (a) Bank reconciliation presented stating closing balance for February £13,809.6**3 (b) Resolved:** That the Chairman sign the cashbook to confirm. **Resolved:** That the following payments made:

Barclays Bank £ 12.90 service charge

Post office £ 8.04 postage

HMRC £3031.37 Tax for year end 04/2019

Wages for Mar £2617.11 Including deductions

I.C O. £ 40.00 Annual registration direct debit

(c) Mr Paul Egan One Voice Wales provided brief for review, work to continue with Clerk. Clerk to report back to Council monthly. (d) PAT testing completed by Laker Electrical, Hartson Fire replaced damaged extinguisher we will ask them to quote at annual inspection. Blocked drains at the rear of building cleared by J&F drainage - whilst clearing, inspected pipework at the rear of the building found to be in order although, standing water pooling under one of the pipes which is slightly misaligned due to age. J & F. are able to undertake survey of the pipework believed to be cracked under the car park and quote for any work required. BT complaint resolved. Coffee morning annual contribution to be made in cash. Computers not yet linked to internet PiSys will survey this month. Clerk presented legal document on constitution of the Management Committee, Council to decide how they wish to proceed and who is going to draw up consultation document.

**464: General Data Protection, to receive: General data protection; information security; acceptable use of ICT; information security breach; removable media and mobile device security policies for adoption. Resolved:** Policies adopted in full. Clerk to provide a best practice document on GDPR for all members.

**465: To receive update on grants and project work.** Cllr. Waldron provided an update on the NRW forest walks project. Grass cutting project the Clerk advised that: A. The tractor will be purchased for the purposes of maintaining the playing/rugby fields, along with the woodland trails, other recreational areas within the community council’s area, the grass outside Saron Chapel, St. Margaret’s Church & The Scout hut. B. The Community Council will be responsible for actually purchasing the tractor direct from the manufacturer/retailer [credit provider] and that the purchase price will be paid for by the Council solely entering into a financial credit agreement with the credit provider. C. The purchase arrangements with the credit provider will consist of a down payment of £10,000 to be followed by defined instalments paid by the Council to it: at the conclusion of which the legal ownership of the tractor will pass from the credit provider to the Council. D. The Crynant Rugby Club will provide the Council with £5000 towards the down payment [referred to in C above] and will also provide the Council with 50% of the outstanding amount due by the Council to the credit provider by instalments over the term of the credit agreement. E.That when legal ownership of the tractor passes from the credit provider to the Council [at the end of the credit agreement], that the tractor will then be both legally and beneficially jointly owned by both the Council and the Rugby Club in equal shares [50:50]. F. The Council and the Rugby Club have already verbally agreed in principle the above intentions and arrangements: which they wish to formalise by a written agreement between them.

Mr. Paul Watkins, Corporate solicitor NPT has confirmed the following: I would confirm that my advice to you was that in my view the Council are legally able to enter into an agreement with the Rugby Club to jointly procure the tractor by utilising the “well-being power” available to it under Section 2[1][b] & [c] of the  Local Government Act 2000 , on the basis that such an arrangement and expenditure by the council would achieve the following objects:- The promotion of the social well-being of its area [maintenance of public recreational facilities] and The promotion or improvement of the environmental well-being of its area [maintenance of the landscape ]. Section 2[4] of that legislation makes it clear that in order to achieve the above objects a Council may “incur expenditure” and “enter into arrangements or agreements with any person” to achieve those objects. Therefore you are able to enter into an appropriate agreement with the rugby Club to achieve the above “well-being” objectives.

I also advised that I have spoken to our Head of Financial Services who confirmed to me that local authorities [including community councils] are able to enter into credit agreements to acquire equipment from retailers. **Resolved:** To purchase John Deere 2026R Tractor, Trimax mower, R54RKB mower from Powercut (Wales) Ltd. **Resolved:** To enter into 5 year Credit agreement with John Deere Finance.

**466: To receive progress report on Cefn Coed Museum**. Cllr. Peter Shopland provided report: Again a follow up to what I reported at the last meeting: - the £250.000 that I stated was being found by NPT for the museum is for match funding on the major grant possibly £3 to £5 million from the Valley’s Regeneration Programme. There is no further information on the erection of the headgear. We have been meeting with the Community Development Coordinator for Swansea University who wants to interact with the new steering group for various projects at the museum, these people have been involved and have considerable experience with other museums i.e. Copperopolis etc. we will encourage this rapport as we foresee them an asset to the future of the museum.

**467: Correspondence**: (a) Formal letter of resignation from Cllr. J. Rundell.; (b) Offer letter regarding purchase of plot of land adjacent to 70A main Road (c) request for One Voice Wales membership renewal £288. (a) **Resolved:** To accept resignation and correspondence to be sent thanking Cllr. Rundell for her contribution to the Council. (b) **Resolved:** Email sent rejecting offer and advise the sum the Council require for the sale of land to proceed. (c) **Resolved:** To renew One Voice Wales Membership.

468: Any other business. County Councillor Harris advised that the locked gate blocking access to the public footpath at Pen Pentre now open. Cllr. Roger Miles invited Council to a presentation he is making on 2&3D modelling in steel to enhance facades, location and time to be provided.

No further business and meeting closed at 7:55pm

Item 460 County Councillor Harris Report

Cllr S Harris – report 28 March 2019

* Council have inspected the brook at Treforgan. Spoke to a couple of residents. Highways and drainage have undertaken some dredging work at this location on a without prejudice basis. At that time, NPT sought legal advice regarding the ownership of the brook. NPT are currently awaiting a meeting with their legal department to determine the land ownership once and for all. I have been asked to bear with them until this meeting has taken place. NPT inspected the brook, and there does not seem to be an immediate risk of flooding during normal storm periods I will keep you updated.
* Photos taken of the square and sent to enforcement team.
* Area at top of Treforgan has to be tidied up in the next two weeks. Work has been taking place to sort out the issue, still ongoing. Waiting to see if the land is made more pleasing to the eye.
* Privately owned field opposite the Gradon, team of litter pickers cleaned the area on Sunday. Area now is 100% better. Seemed to be all old rubbish, not a lot of recent rubbish so hopefully this can be kept tidy.
* Report of damage to benches down the donut area. Tagged Commuity Council in post on FB to be aware.
* Bus-stop by Treforgan has been reported as unsafe. Old wooden casing is rotted and the glass not overly safe. Reported to NPT Council on Sunday awaiting a reply. Not sure if there is money in my pot for this, so might have to dip into my £10,00. Bus-stop is used by the young children in the morning.
* Clamping signs have appeared at the top of School Road – update on Thursday. Only sent a report in today.
* NPT Council have agreed with Education to pay the bill for new wall between Mr and Mrs Furber Gardner and Mr and Mrs Whiteman and then the school. Wall was deemed unsafe a year ago, hopefully this will all be sorted soon.