***Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Thursday 27th October 2022.6.30pm***

***at Crynant Community Centre & via Microsoft teams***

**Members present: Cllr. Keir; Cllr. Roberts; Cllr. Miles; Cllr. Kingdon Cllr. Bevan**

**via Teams: Cllr. Rundle & Cllr. Morris.**

**Acting Clerk/RFO: Heidi Mortimer.**

**925: To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr. Barry Michael (Personal committment) Cllr. Marilyn Gunnel (Illness)

**926: To receive Declarations of Personal/Prejudicial Interest**

No declarations

**927: To adjourn if necessary to receive public questions or statements**

No Members of the public present

**928: To approve and sign the previous Community Council Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** To approve the minutes as true and accurate

**929: County Borough Council matters**

Meeting arranged for 6pm Monday 31st October to meet with Cllr. Hunt.

**930: To receive Police report**

Aled Musslewhite contacted HM 25th Oct. apologised for not being in contact or responding to any email correspondence. PCSO Musselwhite has been on sick leave for six weeks. HM mentioned that neither his voicemessage or out of office had been updated to reflect this.

The previously reported dog warden patrols had not taken place as the representative from NPT was not available on the arranged date.

Aled has assured HM that the Community speedwatch scheme was set up correctly and registered with go safe, however following a risk assessment undertaken by South Wales Police it was suspended. PC Wallen has now confirmed that all community speedwatch exercises can recommence as long as there is a PCSO in attendance and the correct information signage which is in the process of being produced is visible.

Cllr. Kingdon expressed his dissapointment at having to have a PCSO in attendance, as it is difficult enough to arrange the required number without this added requirement.

Community engagement/cuppa with a copper sessions will now be scheduled in, at the Community Centre, although Aled would prefer to join existing groups.

The latest crime figures from SW Police website state 4 recorded crimes for Crynant 2 x Violence and sexual; 1 x anti social behaviour; 1 x public order.

The South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner annual community survey launched: Action: Community Council to publisise survey and promote completion. HM to complete survey on behalf of Council and request paper copies of the survey to be completed at the Centre by anyone who may not have access digitally.

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**931: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which they represented the Council**

Cefn Coed museum - understood via Friends that the delayed report is before cabinet and will be raised with Cllr. Hunt at the scheduled meeting.

HM advised the Town and Community Council liaison forum meeting with NPTCBC had been postponed, new date to be ciruclated once received from Democratic Services.

**932: To consider planning application number: P2022/0734 34 Treforgan Road, Crynant. Proposed development: Two storey and single storey rear extensions, the works for which include the demolition of an existing single storey rear extension. Plus proposed raised terrace to the rear with 1.8m high privacy screening**

No observations.

**933: To receive Independent Review Panel for Wales draft annual report:**

As attached - Consultation paper recommending payment of mandatory payments to Community Councillors in addition to those currently determined. Whilst this is still a consultation the sum of £2300 will need to be included in the budget for the 23/24 precept. increase if 4.25% to annual precept just to cover this item. ACTION Cllr. Keir to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Community Council

**934: To receive the Clerk’s report, to include: Incident Reports; Bank Reconciliation and Payment Authorisation; Training appraisal’s**

HM advised there were two issues/incidents reported one at the woodland walk and the other at Maes yr Hendre cemetery, both had been dealt with and the reports closed.

Bank reconcilliaion agreed confirming bank balances of c/a £19673 r. a/c £44965 (Assoc c£12k current £8500 grant ringfenced).

**RESOLVED:** That payments be authorised as per schedule.

Training appraisal's - Not all Councillors have completed the document. The mandatory return is required by 5th November. ACTION: HM to draft return document and submit to Councillor Morris prior to submission.

Personnel meeting held Monday 17th recommended the post of Clerk be advertised at salary payscale LC2 for a minimum of 14 hrs pw.

**935: To pass a resolution to sign up to the civility and respect pledge**

Cllr. Kingdon advised Council that he had been appraised of this opportunity that had begun in England and if the Council agreed they would be the first to sign up in Wales. HM advised that after some research she could report that behind the pledge was a substantial amount of training and documentation required some of which was already in place and that One Voice Wales were putting together a programme that would be rolled out accross all authorities in Wales. After discussion it was agreed to follow OVW's lead and participate when the programme was ready.

**936: To receive an update on Remembrance Sunday service; Christmas events and decorations**

HMadvised that she had been is discussions with parties regarding the act ofRemembrance, to resolve the misunderstandings of last year and to make it clear that it was the Community Council's responsibility to ensure the event took place as a civic duty. To that end a meeting has been arranged for 7.30 27/10/22 with Rev. S. Bodycombe,(Church in Wales) Rev. R. Locke (Saron Chapel) and invited Dr. Morris (Bethel Chapel) & Mr. Alan Thomas (RBL- poppy appeal coordinator), where they would be requested to work with the Council to ensure the event takes place in a timely and respectful manor. HM to advise of the Council's service details and requirements, so all other organisations can arrange their events and services around the coming together at 10.45 at the memorial plaques

Cllr Roberts updated Council on the Christmas lunch preparations.

Being mindful of the cost of living crisis and the hardship faced by many it was agreed that a replacement for the damaged star decoration on the church not be replaced this year.

**937: To** **receive an update on the management of the assets, environment and amenities**

a. **Pump track and Outdoor gym** - Cllr. Rundle advised that the suppliers of the gym equipment were due shortly for the annual service of the equipment and to investigate the issue with one item at the primary School.

**b. Community meadow and nature walk** - Cllr. Rundle advised that the volunteers had commenced the next phase of hedge laying around the Meadow and that a wood shredder had been purchased from the volunteer support budget which would enable the hedge laying to be of greater benefit to the environment as it would mean less burning of brash would be required.

**c. Childrens playarea's -** No issues raised.

**d. Community Centre -** TheBoiler had been repaired under warrenty, HM raised concerns about the potential cost of heating the centre and how important it was to manage the system properly on a day to day basis.

**938: Correspondence: (a) the Local Government and Housing Committee’ published report into community assets (b) Welsh Government consultation that sets out an ambitious long-term agenda for modernising electoral administration and wider electoral reform in Wales. (c) Well-being of Wales Report, Welsh Government have published the 2022 version of the report**

ACTION: HM to send out the links to items a - c for reference.

(**d) To request Community Council representation at a meeting of the Dulais Valley Action Group.**

HM confirmed that the Dulais Valley Action Group was a Group set up to protest against the proposed Hirfynydd Renewable Energy Park**.**

ACTION: HM to advise that the Community Council is not in a position to send a representative to this meeting.

HM advised all Members of the Community Council that: It is important that any members who would ultimately be voting on a matter at some point do not predetermine their position. The Community Councilis a statutory consultee on the proposed energy park. The Council and its Members have a duty not to predetermine their position. Obviously it will be the individual Members choice as to whether they choose to speak out on such a matter but to do so there could be consequences that they would be seen as having predetermined the matter.

The Council will form a liaison committee where all Residents will be invited to submit opinions both for and against the proposals, the Community Council will also have all of the reports and information available from EDF at the Community Centre (rather than the nearest public library) where the documents will be available for all to inspect.

**939: Any other business:**

Cllr. Kingdon expressed disappointment that the stored playground equipment is on the proposed site for the grant funded polytunnel. HM confirmed that the grant had been made to the Community Association, Cllr. Keir advised that the best course of action would be for Cllr. Kingdon to attend the next meeting of the Association.

There was no further business, the meeting closed at 7.28pm

Payments Schedule October 2022

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Description | Amount | Project Authorised by |
| 10 | Wages | tbc | 01 as per contract |
| 09 | Barclays Bank | 17.90 | 01 - Monthly Bank Charges |
| 09 | HMRC | 820.08 | 01 - Qtly PAYE payment |
| 10 | KLG Audit services | 410.00 | 01 - Annual internal audit fee |
| 10 | Cadno Contracting & Consultancy | 175.00 | 08 (b) - Meadow Maintenance |
| 10 | Preserved Timber Products | 64.00 | 08 (b) - Hedging supplies |
| 10 | HiTec Security | 190.00 | 08 (a)- Annual service |
| 10 | SK - Receipts | 92.15 | 08 (b) |
| 10 | NPTCBC | 75.00 | 01 - Election admin fee |

Council will also be requested to consider making a payment of £1585.00 being the 50% share to repay in full the agreement for the John Deere Tractor. There are no early charges or fees.