

## **PEN-Y-CAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the of the Pen-y-Cae Community Council Meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018.

### **PRESENT**

**Chair – Cllr D.A. Thomas**

Cllr. Mrs C. Davies  
Cllr. Mr K. Gilpin  
Cllr. Mr. N. Claffey  
Cllr. Mr G. Edwards  
Cllr. Mrs. J. Lowe  
Cllr. Ms A. Phillips

Cllr. Dr S.E. Evans  
Cllr. Mrs. P. Matthews  
Cllr. Mrs. S. Jones  
Cllr. Miss P. Davies  
Cllr. Mr J.C. Phillips

Ffion Morus Community Agent for item number 5 – *Issues Relating to Older People*

### **(18)354 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr. Mr R. Salisbury  
Cllr. Mrs J. Jones

Cllr. J. Phillips wished to thank fellow members and the Chair for their support during what had been a very difficult time for his family.

### **18)355 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations from members present

### **(18)356 MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September copies having previously been circulated, were approved and adopted

### **(18)357 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes**

#### **1. Remunerations to members**

The Clerk had received confirmation from the accountants that any remuneration paid to members would be classed as taxable income. All members had now informed the Clerk of their decision on claiming remuneration.

Resolved: noted.

#### **2. Old BMX Track**

Nigel Harper had commenced clearance on the old BMX track and upon further investigation he advised that he would need to hire a digger. This would come at a further cost of around £400. The Chair asked members if they were happy to proceed with the works, all members were in favour.

Resolved: to accept the quote and commence the works as soon as possible.

#### **3. Overgrown Hedges**

Cllr. J. Lowe had received further complaints regarding the hedge on Hall Street and the Clerk had not had a response to the letter sent to the property owners. It was suggested that the Clerk should refer the matter to Elton Watson at WCBC instead.

Resolved: That the Clerk would send correspondence to Elton Watson regarding the hedge on Hall Street.

#### 4. **School Crossing Installation**

The Clerk had spoken with Graham Lloyd of WCBC who had confirmed that the installation of the crossing was due to go ahead but there was a delay in the start date as they were engaging a new contractor for the job. Mr Lloyd advised that he would liaise with the Clerk when the works were due to commence. Joanne Rogers of WCBC had confirmed that they would send enforcement officers to the school site in a bid to discourage illegal parking. Members asked the Clerk to enquire when these visits had taken place. Cllr. J. Lowe advised that the crossing installation was crucial as there had been an incident where a child had been injured following a collision with a vehicle.

Resolved: to await further development.

The Chair asked for members' agreement to suspend standing orders and take matters out of sequence for item 5 on the agenda – Issues Relating to Older People as Ffion Morus, Community Agent had entered the meeting. All members were in favour

#### **(18)358 ISSUES RELATING TO OLDER PEOPLE**

Ffion Morus, Community Agent had submitted her monthly report which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Ffion advised that she had attended meetings with the Doctors surgeries in Rhos along with Michelle Wynne, the Community Agent for Rhos. She advised that the meetings were very productive and Gardden Road Surgery had added their contact details to their Facebook page and placed their details on the website. The coffee morning held at the Football club for international Older Peoples Day had been well attended and those who were there had requested that it become a regular event. The Football club had been very supportive and accommodating and had even produced feedback sheets for Ffion to hand out. Ffion had been trying to arrange a meeting with The Clerk and Alison Tynan to arrange a Christmas Lunch for the older people in the village and asked for members permission to extend the Christmas gifting scheme to those over 50 so that the gifting could be tied in with the Christmas lunch. Members were in agreement. The Chair suggested that a different gift could be purchased for Miss Ruby Ellis who was now 105.

Cllr. J. Lowe asked Ffion if she could consider checking whether her clients were booked in for their flu jabs and if not asking them whether they would consider it.

The Chair thanked Ffion for all of her hard work; following this she left the meeting.

Resolved: noted.

#### **(18)357 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes - continued**

##### 5. **Planting at the War Memorial Garden**

Nigel Harper had planted the beds with the plants as suggested, with 1918 in the left and 2018 in the right hand bed. Cllr. P. Davies had been to view them and advised that it didn't stand out as much as she had hoped but would take some photographs to be shown on social media.

Resolved: That Cllr. P. Davies would forward photographs to the Clerk to upload on Facebook.

## 6. Annual Remembrance Day Service

Cllr. R. Salisbury had produced the design for the front cover of the booklets and the Clerk passed round the draft for members' approval. All members agreed that the design was excellent and gave permission for it to be used. The Clerk had received confirmation from Clarity Copiers that for 120 copies they would only charge £5.00 as it was for Remembrance Day. The Chair suggested that we include a thank you to Clarity on the booklets. Following the meeting held to discuss the service, it was agreed to change the Welsh Hymn to 'Dyma gariad fel y moroedd' which was suggested by Pastor Joshua. Pastor Joshua had agreed to lead the service and offered to play the last post and reveille on the trumpet. Pastor Joshua's wife Rachael would accompany the hymns on the piano. Cllr. G. Edwards had spoken with a resident near to the War Memorial who had agreed to offer electrical supply via an extension. Cllr. G. Edwards would also erect a gazebo on the day to provide shelter for Mrs Roberts while she was playing the piano. Cllr. J. Phillips had placed a number of poppies on lampposts in the vicinity of the War Memorial and asked members permission to purchase additional ones for next years' service. Members were in favour. The Chair suggested that some large, metal poppies could be purchased to install on the railings of the Memorial in time for next years' service.

Resolved: That the Clerk would commence preparations for the service.

## 7. Litter bins

The Clerk had received confirmation from Steve Jones at WCBC that additional litter bins could be purchased and installed at a cost of £240. The Chair suggested that we suspend discussions of the litter bins until agenda item 8 – *To Discuss the MUGA*, as the subject could be discussed as a whole.

Resolved: That the matter be discussed under agenda item 8.

## 8. Kissing gate on Oakleigh

There had been no further complaint regarding the noise caused by the gate in Oakleigh, the Clerk had not had confirmation that any action had been taken either. It was suggested that the Clerk should check whether it had been attended.

Resolved: That the Clerk ask for confirmation if the gate had been attended to.

## 9. Cemetery in Rhos

The Chair had been contacted following his complaint to Rhos Community Council over the access issue. An impact assessment had been completed and the solution offered was that a radar key could be purchased from the Community Council offices at the Stiwt at the cost of £1. The Chair highlighted that this presented a direct discrimination of disabled people who now had to pay to enter the cemetery outside of their operating hours. Reasons given by Rhos Community Council for locking the main gates were that they had been suffering vandalism and dog fouling, drug paraphernalia had been found in the grounds and people had been riding motor bikes through the cemetery. The Chair accepted that this behaviour was unacceptable and disrespectful but the action taken had been unfair and ill thought out. The Chair noted that the path through the middle of the cemetery had been used as a thoroughfare for years and as such could be suggested to Public Rights Of Way to be kept open as a public footpath.

Resolved: That the Chair would write back to Rhos Community Council and give his thoughts on the matter.

## 10. Unadopted roads

The Clerk had enquired if WCBC held a list of unadopted roads that were considered to be adopted in future by WCBC. Such a list was not in existence and if residents wished for a road to be considered for adoption then they must make representation to WCBC.

Resolved: noted.

## **(18)359**POLICE MATTERS

### **Reported Crimes**

During the period 24<sup>th</sup> September to 21<sup>st</sup> October 2018 the following crimes had been reported.

Criminal Damage – 3

Arson – 1

Theft from a motor vehicle - 2

PCSO Edwards was not present at the meeting but had provided the Clerk with his report.

- No burglaries reported for the period stated
- Pro-active 'crime car' officer assigned to PCSO Edwards' Rota. PCSO Edwards had been out with his colleague and assisted in several stop searches on motorists in the Pen-y-Cae area. They had gleaned plenty of information in the process which could lead to developments regarding drug supply.

Following the meeting held last month on the 24<sup>th</sup> September, PCSO Edwards had provided an update in response to the matters raised by members.

- Cllr. G. Edwards: Request for police presence at the school regarding anti-social parking – council agreed to ask for traffic warden presence.  
**ACTION:** PCSO Tim Edwards would patrol as and when possible and also request the school reiterate the message with parents via their own social media platforms.
- Cllr. K. Gilpin : concerns over a large group of youths attending the Orchard.  
**ACTION:** PCSO Tim Edwards would keep an eye out on patrols and speak to local residents to find out more info.
- Cllr. C. Davies: concerns over two 4-year-old twins being left on their own in a Pen-Cae park for a few hours.  
**ACTION:** Research has confirmed the twins are 10 years old and it is thought the family do not currently reside in Pen-y-Cae. Checks were done with housing.

### **Matters Raised by Members**

Cllr. P. Davies had been made aware of some suspicious activity and would give details directly to PCSO Edwards.

Cllr. J. Phillips reported that an issue with the CCTV cameras had arisen again; they had been brought to his attention by PCSO Edwards. Following some enquiries it was discovered that the fault was with BT Openreach who would be attending the fault on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Cllr. Phillips advised that it was unacceptable that the cameras should be out of operation so soon after they had been upgraded and that WCBC needed to act more proactively when faults arose. The Clerk noted that Ffion Morus, Community Agent had received a complaint from an elderly gentleman she had been supporting who had asked when they were likely to be fixed as there had been a burglary attempt at his property. Cllr. Phillips asked the Clerk to write to Aled Pugh-Jones at WCBC highlighting the vulnerable residents affected by non-operational CCTV.

Cllr. C. Davies had been made aware of bad behaviour by youths in the playground on Afoneitha. She would follow up details with PSCO Edwards.

### **(18)360 STREET LIGHTING**

#### **Reports**

A report had been received detailing repairs and maintenance visits carried out for September.

Resolved: Noted

#### **Maintenance Contract**

Cllr. G. Edwards had met with MEGA the previous week and escorted them around the village to enable them to get to know the area a little better. Faults had been identified to them and Cllr. Edwards had requested that Vision should release a small number of LED Lanterns to MEGA so that if any replacements were needed that they could be done so quickly. Rhos Community Council had also advised that they had a stock of lanterns and were happy to lend some if needed. The Chair advised that there was money ring fenced from the Solar Farm that could be used to purchase lamps if needed. Cllr. Edwards had updated the lighting inventory and devised a column numbering system to be implemented during the upgrade programme.

Resolved: To await further development.

#### **Salix Loan**

The Clerk had submitted the Salix funding bid and at present was answering the queries presented by the technical team.

Resolved: to await further correspondence.

### **(18)361 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There had been no planning applications for the period.

Resolved: Noted

### **(18)362 TO DISCUSS the MUGA**

Cllr. J. Phillips advised that since the pod seating had been installed, there had been an increase in the amount of litter at the site and asked members to consider providing a litter bin in the area. The Chair advised that members should consider any other areas in which litter bins were needed and then an order could be given to WCBC. Members agreed to fund three new litter bins, one at the MUGA, one on the large green at Groesfan and one on Stryt Issa next to the bus stop opposite the chemist.

Cllr. J. Phillips asked if progress could be made on stage 2 of the MUGA development, which was the skate park. The Chair asked if members were happy for the existing members of the working party to continue, all were in favour.

The open day had been arranged for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 11am. It was suggested that Cllrs. J. Phillips and J. Lowe would cut the ribbon. The Clerk had received permission from the Headmaster at Pen-y-Cae to distribute letters inviting pupils and parents to the event. The football club had a match on the same morning so the club could not provide the kitchen facilities. It was agreed to hand out goodie bags instead of providing refreshments.

Resolved: That the working party meet to discuss progressing stage 2 of the development

**(18)363 TO DISCUSS the Footpath on the Old Railway Line**

Cllr. J. Phillips had previously met with David Hesketh of WCBC to highlight the poor condition of the path in question. Mr Hesketh advised that there was external funding available for improvements and advised that linking the community council, schools and local members support could prove beneficial to the bid submitted. Members agreed that the Clerk should contact the local schools and ask if they would be prepared to write letters of support for the bid and also for the Clerk to write a letter of support on behalf of the Community Council detailing how improvements to the footpath could impact on residents as it was a safe route to school and also used as a route to work and to the local amenities in nearby villages. Cllrs. J. Phillips and J. Lowe would also write letters lending their support in the matter.

Resolved: that the Clerk would organise letters of support.

**(18)364 TO DISCUSS Christmas Events**

The Chair asked members to consider whether the Community Council should organise a Christmas Market at the Football Club again this year. Prior to the meeting the Clerk had generated some positive interest in the event on Social Media and the general feeling was that it would be supported. Members agreed and asked the Clerk to confirm availability with the football club for either the 8<sup>th</sup> or the 15<sup>th</sup> of December. Cllr. J. Phillips asked the clerk to confirm with Alison Tynan what date had been agreed for the Community Group/Community Centre event so that they did not clash.

Cllr. K. Gilpin asked regarding the Christmas trees for this year and sought confirmation that a larger tree was to be purchased for the site near the War Memorial again. Members agreed that this worked well last year and should be continued. The Chair also suggested that the planters around the tree should be planted to compliment the arrangement in the beds in the War Memorial Garden.

Resolved: That the Clerk would liaise with the football club and Alison Tynan regarding dates.

**(18)365 TO RECEIVE an update regarding the new website**

The Clerk had been provided with some images of the layout of the new website by Paul Griffiths and passed them around for members to view. The Clerk was trying to arrange a meeting with Mr Griffiths with a view to him demonstrating how the site was accessed and to discuss uploading content. Cllr. P. Davies asked if she could be present at any meetings as she had some ideas for input. The Clerk asked members if they could provide a small bio section to include some brief information about themselves. The Chair suggested that the campaign leaflet used during the elections could be used as a basis.

Resolved: That members would submit small information pieces to be included in the bio section.

**(18)366 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

An email was received from Welsh Government concerning a consultation event on unadopted roads and a link providing access to the consultation. The Clerk would forward this to members.

An email forwarded by Cllr. R. Salisbury from Social Farms & Gardens detailing grants available for community spaces. Cllr. Salisbury thought it may be useful for setting up a

shed club on the Orchard. The Chair asked if the details could be passed to the community group.

An email from Farhan Khan of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales advising that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales are to review the electoral arrangements for Wrexham County Borough Council with a view to considering and formulating proposals for future arrangements. The consultation period begins on 15 October 2018 and closes on 07 January 2019 and an official letter would follow later that week announcing the start of the review. The Chair asked the Clerk to share the details with members.

### **(18)367 MISCELLANEOUS**

Resolved: To note receipt of the following:

1. Promotional brochures from Viking detailing Stationery offers.
2. An invitation to the Mayor's Charity Dinner Dance at the Ramada on the 19<sup>th</sup> October.
3. An email brochure from Earth Anchors detailing picnic benches.
4. An email from Robert Loudon advising that AVOW could undertake DBS checks for any volunteers working under the Community Agents at a charge of only £10.
5. An email forwarded on by the Chair from Shelter advising of a campaign to end 'no fault evictions' and a link to sign a petition.

### **(18)368 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The following issues were raised under the above heading:

1. Cllr. J. Phillips advised that WCBC were continuing their roll out scheme for the recycling trolleys across the County Borough and that Pen-y-Cae had not been awarded any more this time round. Cllr. Phillips would ask WCBC to consider expanding the scheme to include Maes Teg, Pont-yr-Afon and Cae Gabriel when more funding became available. The Chair advised that if the move to three weekly collections was to go ahead then the current recycling receptacles were not sufficient in size and would need to be better supported.
2. Cllr. J. Phillips advised that the hedges needed cutting back along the footpath in Plas Bennion near Tai Bithell and also the footpath leading down to Ruabon was becoming hazardous due to leaves building up. Cllr. Phillips also noted that the hedge on Stryt Issa near where the field floods into the road needed to be addressed. The Clerk would follow up with Streetscene.
3. Cllr. J. Phillips advised that he had been to view the new Pupil Referral Unit and was impressed with the facilities; Cllr. Phillips advised that the headmaster had extended an open invitation to members to go and view the school.
4. Cllr. P. Davies asked if there had been any planning applications submitted at the new travellers site, Cllr. J. Lowe advised that to her knowledge, none had been submitted.
5. The Chair advised that he had completed the knotweed spraying course and had identified knotweed along the river bank at the bottom of Coed-y-Nant. There would be a cost implication for treating the area and for equipment and storage which would need to be discussed at a later date. The Chair advised that further training could be arranged for any members wishing to take part.
6. The Chair advised members that if they wished for information to be shared or they wished to request that items be placed upon the agenda that they must seek permission from the Chair and cc him into any emails to the Clerk for consideration.

7. The Chair asked members to be mindful of posting on social media and that any matters pertaining to the community council directly should be submitted by the Clerk or the Chair.
8. Cllr. J. Lowe advised that there had been a fly tip on Cristionydd Farm and asked the Clerk to inform Paul Jones at Rhos Farm.

**(18)353 FINANCE**

The finance sub-committee had met prior to the meeting.

**Payments**

The following payments were approved for October

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| 102764- Jones Lighting - maintenance         | 616.90  |
| 102765- ROSPA – inspection of MUGA           | 474.00  |
| 102766- RBL –Wreaths for remembrance service | 50.00   |
| 102767 – Luncheon club grant                 | 50.00   |
| 102768- Older persons grant                  | 50.00   |
| 102769 – Community Centre Room Hire 2016/17  | 1000.00 |
| 102770 – Community Centre Room Hire 2018/19  | 1500.00 |
| 102771 - Salary                              | 994.31  |
| 102772- Expenses                             | 32.76   |
| 102773 - Salary                              | 872.29  |
| 102774 - Postage                             | 6.03    |
| 102775 – WCBC – Stryt Issa car park          | 5000.00 |
| 102776 – HMRC – tax & NI                     | 514.01  |