

PEN-Y-CAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

COVID-19

Minutes of the of the Pen-y-Cae Community Council Meeting held by ZOOM on Monday 26th October 2020.

PRESENT

Chair – Cllr. A. Phillips

Cllr. C. Davies
Cllr. P. Matthews
Cllr. J. Lowe
Cllr. K. Gilpin
Cllr. A Tynan
Cllr. G. Edwards

Cllr. Dr S.E. Evans
Cllr. S. Jones
Cllr K. Phillips
Cllr. J.C. Phillips
Cllr. H. Davies

Rachael Hughes, Community Agent for item number 6 on the agenda – *Issues relating to older people*

(20)99 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr. J. Jones
Cllr. P. Davies

(20)100 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest from members present.

The Chair asked members for their agreement to suspend standing orders to take matters out of sequence for items number 6– Issues relating to older people and item 8 - TO DISCUSS Christmas Gifting Scheme for Older People. All members were in favour of this.

(20)101 ISSUES RELATING TO OLDER PEOPLE

The Chair welcomed Rachael Hughes to the meeting. Rachael’s report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and gave details of her activity for the month.

Rachael gave details regarding the referrals she had dealt with, various meetings attended via zoom and networking calls had been made. Rachael had also made further contact with some of the GP surgeries.

Matters raised by members

Cllr. J. Phillips thanked Rachael for dealing swiftly with an issue he had brought to her attention. Rachael advised that the client was added to her high priority list and was intending to call her on a weekly basis to keep up the level of contact.

Cllr. P. Matthews noted from the report that Rachael had a meeting with a Sherry Weedall and asked who that was – Rachael advised that Sherry had taken over from Netty Hewitson as Commissioning and Planning Officer at WCBC and was now overseeing the Community Agents.

Cllr. G. Edwards asked if was ok to discuss details of a possible new referral for Rachael, The Clerk advised that no details could be discussed at the meeting and that Cllr. G. Edwards should contact Rachael with the information the following day.

Resolved: noted

(20)102 TO DISCUSS Christmas Gifting Scheme for Older People

Rachael had been doing some research into the Christmas Gifting Scheme and asked members to possibly consider an extension to the scheme this year now that the effects of Covid restrictions meant that there would be an increase of people isolated and lonely over the Christmas period. Rachael asked members if they would consider supporting an initiative which would see the Community Council paying for a two course hot meal to be delivered to older people in the community that would likely be alone on Christmas Day. Rachael had found a local non-profit company that would be able to deliver this at a cost of around £5.25 per head and it meant that this could be done in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Rachael advised that she could contact the Salvation Army to ask them to refer any potential Pen-y-Cae based clients and that we could advertise locally for people to register by a certain date to gain an idea of numbers.

Cllr. A. Tynan asked if Rachael could find out what date they would be operating until as this would have a bearing on the delivery.

Members agreed that the scheme had merit but advised that more information would be needed before they could agree to fund it. Members also had concerns about how we would reach the people in the community that were most in need of this. Rachael was asked to find out more information and liaise with the Clerk.

With regards to the over 75s gifting scheme itself, Rachael asked members if they would consider supporting Christmas care packages for vulnerable residents; either instead of the usual gifting or as well as. Members felt that the gifting scheme was important as it stood and that the older residents in the community appreciated a gift regardless of their circumstances and did not wish for this to be put aside this year. Members agreed that care packages were a worthwhile idea but more information would be needed in terms of cost and delivery. It was discussed that collating names for the gifting scheme should be approached differently this year as the list in circulation currently was not accurate and the Clerk had reported again that the previous year's scheme saw a considerable amount of waste and gifts being delivered to wrong addresses. It was agreed that it should be advertised locally and that people wanting to be included in the scheme should contact the Clerk or Community Agent.

Resolved: That Rachael would find out more information regarding the meal delivery service and the care packages.

Following this the Chair thanked Rachael for her hard work and Rachael left the meeting.

(20)103 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th September 2020 copies having previously been circulated, were approved and adopted subject to the following correction

(20)95 2. EMAIL FROM David Roberts re request for new street Light – also reported by Cllr. J. Phillips will be discussed at following meeting of full council.

(20)104 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes

1. Interactive Speed Signs

The Clerk had been trying to contact the tech support department at TWM the manufacturers of the interactive signs and had left messages but got no response. The Clerk had also asked MEGA for their advice regarding the positioning of the sign to see if that had any bearing on its accuracy. There had been no response from MEGA on this or a reply to a request for an update on the installation of the remaining two signs. Cllr. J. Phillips advised that this was unacceptable and that the warranty was running

down on the signs while they were sitting waiting to be installed. It was suggested that the Clerk write to MEGA once again to express members' dissatisfaction with the lack of response.

Resolved: That the Clerk would write to MEGA once again to advise that the lack of response was unacceptable
That the Clerk would chase up tech support at TWM.

2. Maes-y-Nant Path

Sion Roberts advised that he was going to inspect the path w/c 19th October but no update had been received

Resolved: That the Clerk would contact Sion Roberts at WCBC and ask for an update

3. Maintenance Contract for the leased area of the MUGA

Cllr. J. Phillips had met with representatives of the Streetscene department regarding the grass cutting and a one off cut had been completed in the area. The decision whether it could be added to the department's schedule now rested with Kerry Williams who would be giving his decision in due course.

Resolved: To await a decision from Kerry Williams.

4. Speed survey on Church Street

The Clerk had received an email from Graham Lloyd who had contacted other community councils asking for sites they had identified for speed surveys. It was hoped that once a list had been compiled that they would be issued in a block booking

Resolved: to await further communication from WCBC.

5. Bench on Plas Bennion

The Clerk had received confirmation that the bench would be delivered w/c 23rd November 2020.

Resolved: To await delivery of the bench.

6. Land at old BMX Track

The Clerk had spoken to the legal department at OVW who had advised that as preliminary steps had been taken to speak with the landowner and no further progress had been reached, it was now a decision for council to make whether they would take the case to a solicitor. There was no guarantee of a positive outcome. It was agreed that the Clerk could find out some idea of preliminary costs for taking the matter further and revisited at a future date. It was agreed that the matter should not be dismissed as it could set a precedent for the future.

Resolved: That the Clerk would try and ascertain an idea of possible legal costs.

7. Citizens Advice Bureau

The CAB had provided a report on their activity from April to September 2020. Members had asked how the bureau had been advertising its support during the lockdown period and how they were getting the message out to residents that they were providing telephone support.

Resolved: That the Clerk would ask how the CAB were advertising their services.

8. **Police Meeting**

Inspector Mike Norbury had responded to say that Sgt Dewberry had been on leave for some time and that he would pick the matter up with him on his return. Inspector Norbury advised that they didn't use meeting tools such as Zoom but had a dial in conferencing tool that they could use if needed. It was agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting.

Resolved: Noted.

9. **Remembrance Day Service**

In line with the current Welsh Government Guidelines it had been agreed to hold a much scaled back version of the annual Remembrance Day service this year. As the guidelines dictated that not more than 30 people could be present at an outdoor gathering it had been decided that the Chair, Vice Chair, Cllrs J. Phillips and J. Lowe would represent the community council and lay a wreath on behalf of the community while representatives from the churches and organisations such as the Scouts, Police and Fire Service would be invited to do the same. It was agreed that in the interest of safety that members of the public would be asked to stay at home and join us in a moment of silence at 11am from their doorsteps instead. There would be no formal service and no wreath and processions had been banned under Covid regulations. Members suggested increasing the donation to the Royal British Legion this year as their usual funding through collections this year had been severely hampered due to lockdowns.

Resolved: That the Clerk would circulate the information regarding the remembrance day service. That the Community Council would increase its donation to the Royal British Legion to £100 this year.

10. **New Light at Tainant**

Following the request from a resident at Tainant for the installation of a new Street Light, Cllr G. Edwards advised that he needed to see the location for himself; to determine whether the suggested pole in situ would be suitable for using for a new connection. Cllr. J. Phillips advised that it was a Scottish Power pole and that it should be acceptable. Cllr. G Edwards advised that he would visit the location and look into it, Cllr. Tynan also advised that she could look into the suitability of the existing equipment.

Resolved: To await further information.

(20)105 TO ACCEPT the notes form the meeting of the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee had met on the 15th October via zoom. All members had received a copy of the notes prior to the meeting. At the meeting members had reviewed the budget figures to date and had made some recommendations to members regarding ring-fencing funds in reserves for future projects. These included –

1. To match fund the existing £18838.09 held in reserves for part 2 of the MUGA development and provide a further sum in the region of £20,000 to enable the project to be completed.
2. To allocate a sum of £5000 to refurbish the War Memorial Garden and planted areas.

3. To allocate a sum in the region of £5000 towards fencing for the funded community garden project.

All members voted in favour of allocating the suggested funds for the projects listed.

Resolved: That the notes from the finance committee be accepted and the above sums allocated to the projects as noted.

(20)106 TO RECEIVE an update from the Working Party for the War Memorial Garden

The Working party had met on the Monday 19th October via zoom to primarily discuss changes to the maintenance contract specification. Changes had been suggested and agreed upon and Cllr. G. Edwards was looking into shaping a new contract to take forward to tender. Other items that had been discussed were obtaining quotations for replacing the wooden edging in the War memorial garden with stone to make it look more appealing and to be more hard wearing and to seek quotations for brick or stone edging around the planted areas outside the Pant. Members agreed that quotes could be sought for the works.

Resolved: That the Clerk would obtain three quotes for the works at the War memorial and the planted areas around the Pant. .

(20)107 TO DISCUSS the Photography Competition

To date there had only been 6 entries for the competition and therefore not enough to fulfil an entire calendar. It was suggested that the deadline be extended till September next year to give people more time and that it would hopefully enable people to capture photographs of all the seasons.

Resolved: That the Clerk would advertise the extension to the competition.

(20)108 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

OVW: Cylchlythyr Comisiynydd Pobl Hŷn Cymru - Medi 2020 / Older People's Commissioner for Wales Newsletter - September 2020 – sent on to Rachael.

John Rowlands – We are the Cae update – Noted to say that all further meetings would be postponed until further notice.

Local Officer Contact poster – Police PCSO contact details – placed on notice boards and on the website

Wrexham Rural Update 23rd October 2020 – Police – sent out to members

Letter from Family Friends – request for funding – advised that donations and grants will be discussed in February

Letter from Cerebral Palsy Wales – request for funding– advised that donations and grants will be discussed in February.

(20)109 MISCELLANEOUS

Resolved: To note receipt of the following:

1. Forthcoming plans for a virtual consultation on the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm| Cynlluniau sydd i ddod ar gyfer ymgynghoriad rhithiol ar Fferm Wynt Alltreath Awel y Môr
2. Marjorie Dykins OBE Volunteer Memorial Awards 2020 – AVOW
3. Update on housing during lockdown – Carol Coull WCBC
4. Notes from Food Poverty Meeting – AVOW
5. European Union Settlement Scheme – Caia Park Partnership
6. Press Release - Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW) Launch a New Knowledge Hub- AVOW

(20)110 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. J. Phillips advised that there had been an issue with the community garden project. Upon enquiring regarding the fencing for security purposes for the garden, Fields in Trust had responded to say that the project itself would breach the terms of the dedication as the land was to be kept as a public recreational space and as such a community garden was against the terms of the dedication. Cllr. J. Phillips asked members if they agreed in principle to explore the idea of taking on the lease at the Orchard and to move the project there. Members agreed to find out more information regarding this option.

Cllr. Dr S. Evans advised that she had seen a gentleman cutting back hedges on Plas Bennion near the solar farm.

(20)111 FINANCE

Payments

The following payments were approved for September

Bank Transfer – Salary, postage	£1282.48
Bank Transfer – Salary	£919.84
Bank Transfer – Salary	£280.00