**Minutes of The Benefits Panel Meeting held on 25th November 2020**

Present:

Councillors: Mr. D. Cawsey (Chairman), Mrs. S. Coy, Mr. R. Lewis,

 Mr. G. Llewellyn and Mr. L. Reynolds.

Co-opted Members: Mr. R. Kemeys, Mr. P. Littlewood and Mr. L. Thomas.

**1. Apologies for Absence**.

 None, all present.

**2. Declarations of Interests**.

 Mr. Littlewood, due to Mrs. Littlewood being the named referee for Banwen

 Gardening Club. Mr. Llewellyn in the same application.

**3. To confirm the minutes of The Panel Meeting held on 11th March 2020**.

 It was RESOLVED that the minutes were a true record of the minutes.

**4. Matters Arising**.

(i) Equipment. Mr. Thomas reported that equipment was being shared between

 Onllwyn AFC and Banwen RFC.

(ii) Community Hub at Banwen RFC. Work was virtually complete. The WRU

 had visited the club, placed photographs of the work on social media and had praised the club for a successful outcome. The work will result in energy bills being halved. An official opening will take place in due course.

(iii) Banwen Riding Club Electricity Supply. There is a hold up with this project due to difficulties with land ownership which are being resolved.

**5. To consider the following Applications**.

(i) No.081 Seven Sisters Onllwyn AFC. Team shelters and perimeter spectator barriers.

 The question was put as to whether Seven Sisters would benefit from the bid. The Panel were assured that the money would all be spent at Onllwyn. The Club were going for a higher position in the Welsh League and the improvements applied for were a requirement. Mr. Hinder advised that the club may well, in future, apply for possibly a PA system or stand, for example, which would not be eligible under the criteria contained in the Guidance Notes. Members were not prepared to unanimously support the application and a vote was taken with 5 members in support, 2 against, with 1 abstention. Therefore, this application in the sum of £14,573 be recommended for approval by NPT Council. The clerk was asked to write to the Club informing them of the point raised by Mr. Hinder and the criteria contained in the Guidance Notes.

(ii) No. 082 Banwen Gardening Club. Energy generation and storage and raised beds.

 It was unanimously agreed that this application in the sum of £11,716 be recommended for approval by NPT Council.

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(iii) No. 083 Dulais Valley Youth Rugby. Players’ match kit and uniforms.

 Uniforms for players were considered to be ineligible due to them being for players’ personal use only and not shared by the team. It was unanimously agreed that this application in the sum of £5,000 be reduced to £1,397 and recommended for approval by NPT Council. The cost of printing the WALTERS logo on the kit to be added, when known.

(iv) No.084 Onllwyn Community Council. Environmental Improvements to the R of W at the rear of Moorlands.

 The question of the height of the proposed trees was raised following past complaints from Moorlands residents re. the existing tall conifers obstructing their view. The Panel were assured that the cherry blossom trees trees when fully grown would not obscure the view. It was unanimously agreed that this application in the sum of £11,993 be recommended for approval by NPT Council.

(v) No. 085 Onllwyn Community Council. Roman re-enactment group and weekend festival associated with St. Patrick.

 Depending on Covid 19 restrictions it is proposed that an event be held on

 17th March 2021 with a festival and Roman pageant over 2/3 days in June 2021. It is envisaged that this event will take place annually, organised by the Council, and involving the whole community. This is a “one off” application which will not be financed by the Fund in future years. The application contained £400 for contingencies which was considered to be ineligible. It was unanimously agreed that this application in the sum of £12,000 be reduced to £11,600 and recommended for approval by NPT Council.

**6. Correspondence**.

 None.

**7. Clerk’s Report**.

 Accepted.

**8. Dates for the next round**.

 Open on 11th January, close 12th February and meet on 24th March 2021.

**9. Any Other Business**.

(i) The clerk was asked to make enquiries as to an update on the Welfare film.

(ii) Mr. Hinder informed the meeting that the Covid 19 Resilience Fund will accept applications up until 24th February, 2021.

 Chairman :……………………………. Date :……………………..

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**Clerk’s Report to The Panel meeting to be held on 24th March 2021**

Payments since The Panel meeting held on 25th November 2020.

 Cheque no. £ p

B.L. Parfitt, November 2020 167 218. 50

Spoilt cheque 168 ----

Banwen Gardening Club 169 11,716. 00

Seven Sisters Onllwyn AFC 170 14,573. 00

Dulais Valley Youth Rugby 171 1,397. 00

B.L. Parfitt, December 2020 172 218. 50

Onllwyn CC. Moorlands, Pageant & admin 173 23,593. 00

B.L. Parfitt, January 2021 174 218. 50

Update on projects.

057. Onllwyn Welfare film Report at the meeting

058. Tenovus weight courses 1x8 weeks course remaining

070 Ospreys Held up due to Covid

071 Banwen RFC Hub PCR imminent

078 Onllwyn CC Ranger Report at the meeting

079 Pond and Planters Report at the meeting.

080 Banwen Riding Club Electricity supply. Held up due to land

 Ownership issues.

081 Onllwyn Seven Sisters AFC Ongoing

082 Banwen Gardening Club Report at the meeting.

083 Dulais Valley Rugby Youth Ongoing

084 Onllwyn CC Moorlands Report at the meeting.

085 Onllwyn CC Roman Pageant Report at the meeting.

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