**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 16th January 2023.**

Present: Chairman: Mr. S. Thomas.

Councillors: Mr. D. Cawsey, Mrs. S. Coy, Mr. E. Griffiths,

Mr. W.G. Hopkins, Mr. A. Jones, Mr. G. Llewellyn, Mr. L. Reynolds and Ms. R. Stone.

**122. Apologies for Absence**

Ms. A. Thompson.

**123. Declarations of Interests**.

Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Thomas in item no. 129.

**124. Dulais Valley Action Group**.

No further action was considered necessary.

**125. Matters needing urgent attention**.

(i) Mr. Griffiths reported a potentially dangerous hole near the path around the pond. Mr. Wheeler to be informed.

(ii) The Angling Club will deal with the slippery timber decking on the bridge.

**126. Policing matters**.

None.

**127. To confirm the minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 12th December 2022**.

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

**128. Matters Arising**.

(i) R of W 36. The tarmac path at the side of the shop had been attended to.

(ii) Opencast Account. It was decided not to transfer money from this account to the current account at this time. The clerk to speak to Lloyds re. an increase in interest.

(iii) R of W Moorlands to the bridge. The clerk had written to both directors of Shirlan Construction but had not received a reply. As advised by NPT Council, improvements to the surface cannot be made without the company’s consent.

(iv) Gates on the old railway. The clerk to speak to Spick and Span re. the untidiness of the concrete around the hanging post. Gates had been welded to the hinges, thanks to the Gardening Club. A lock to be purchased.

(v) Gate and fence for Mr. J. Williams. The clerk to speak to Spick and Span.

**129. Pantyffordd Hall**.

(i) The clerk had been informed that the NPT Council jetter will visit the hall and attempt to clear the drain.

(ii) Now that additional areas of floor will have to be taken up the clerk had asked the insurers to clarify as to what they were prepared to contribute towards the cost.

(iii) The clerk to make enquiries as to the likely cost of the repair work involving a cement screed with damp course over the existing concrete and with a vinyl tile finish.

(iv) Mr. Llewellyn informed that a person was prepared to remove and take away the floor boards.

(v) Heating is on for 3 hours a day.

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**130. Clerk’s Report.**

It was RESOLVED that the expenditure for December 2022 be approved.

**131. Members on Outside Bodies**.

(i) The clerk to write to both NPT Council and Powys Council requesting that liaison meetings continue at the Nant Helen site.

(ii) NPT Council had requested confirmation that Mr. Llewellyn continued to be a school governor.

**132. Planning Matters**. There were no objections to the following application :-

P2022/0717. 66A Main Road, Dyffryn Cellwen. Attached double garage.

**133. Correspondence**. None.

**134. Benefits Fund**.

Dove had requested that at the March Panel meeting enquiries be made as to whether an application for funds to extend the Ranger’s post is likely to be considered.

**135. Grass cutting of the play area by the RFC**.

This had not been discussed at the last committee meeting.

**136. Play area Lease with the RFC – Solicitor’s advice**.

Council’s solicitor had provided a copy of the relevant clause (clause 4) relating to the transfer of land from British Coal (now the Coal Authority) to Banwen RFC. Clause 4 of the transfer states that if any part of the property is used for purposes other than as a rugby football club then Banwen RFC would:-

1. Notify British Coal of any such change of use.

2. Pay British Coal a sum representing the full market value of the Property.

Banwen RFC, through their solicitors, have advised that they do not want to involve British Coal in the granting of a lease to Onllwyn CC. The reason may be that Banwen RFC would be liable for the payment to British Coal and would subsequently seek payment from Onllwyn CC.

Council’s solicitor warns that there is a risk that Onllwyn CC may be required to pay the full value of the Property which could amount to tens or hundreds of thousands of pounds.

The solicitor states that the Council has 3 options:-

1. Obtain an indemnity insurance policy, complete the Lease without involving British Coal and take the risk that British Coal may enforce Clause 4.

2. Reject the indemnity insurance route, seek Banwen RFC’s consent to make contact with British Coal and then contact British Coal prior to entering into the Lease. Should Onllwyn CC and /or Banwen RFC decide to make contact with British Coal, Onllwyn CC would be unlikely to qualify for an indemnity insurance policy.

3. Enter into a License with Banwen RFC instead of taking a 125 year Lease.

**The solicitor strongly recommends the second option** – obtain Banwen RFC’s consent and make contact with British Coal prior to entering into a Lease.

Mr. Cawsey volunteered to speak to Banwen RFC and to speak, informally, with Lisa Pinney of the Coal Authority.

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**137. Matters raised by Members. None**

Chairman :…………………………Date:………….

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**Clerk’s Report to the meeting to be held on 13th February 2023**.

**Income** **£ p**

Cemetery 150. 00

**Expenditure Cheque no.**

B.L. Parfitt, January 2621 226. 30

SSE Pantyffordd 2622 213. 95 incl. VAT

**Planning Matters**

None to date

**Correspondence**

GCRExcellence Reply to Council’s request to continue the liaison meetings.

£

NPT Council Grass cutting 2022/2023 5,586 excl VAT

2021/2022 3,476 “ “

2020/2021 3,408 “ “

**Account Balances**

Current Account at 18.01.23 28,569

Benefits Account at 31.01.23 2,260

Opencast Account at 09.01.23 57,033

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