

## Cyngor Cymuned Onllwyn Community Council

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 held at Dove Workshop, Banwen.

### **Present:**

Cllr Ruth Stone, Cllr Emlyn Griffiths, Cllr Steve Thomas, Cllr Angie Thompson, Cllr Gareth Llewellyn and Cllr Andrew Jones

### **Apologies:**

Cllr Lee Reynolds, Cllr Sonia Coy, Cllr Dean Cawsey

Meeting commenced at 1855 hours.

1. a. Matters requiring urgent attention – No matters raised  
b. Matters raised by members – previously mentioned by Cllr Dean Cawsey the subject of pre-booking a burial plot. Clerk informed council that this was not done generally in a local capacity however would make enquiries to see if it is actioned elsewhere and what procedures may be in place.  
c. Receive any other correspondence – none.
2. Confirmation of the minutes from the previous monthly meetings of 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
3. Matters arising from previous minutes:
  - a. Cllr Andrew Jones stated that the angling club would agree to meet the community council at 1730 hours prior to the next monthly meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at the Dove building. It was agreed that any questions to be asked be sent to the clerk by members to collate. He stated that the angling club were looking for support from the community council on matters such as dogs and their mess and some clear rules going forward.
  - b. Cllr Dean Cawsey in his absence emailed in for the meeting to confirm that Ben Cross had given an initial quote of £350 for removal of the playpark at Moorlands. It was resolved that this seemed reasonable and that subject to clarification of exact work being carried out this was agreed. Information to be forwarded to Cllr Dean Cawsey to make further contact.  
It was also mentioned about the removal of the bench from the Church and placing this by the Dram in the village. Also that the stone wall had been pushed over at the bottom of Roman Road and Cllr Gareth Llewellyn will speak to Alan Keenan about repair.

- c. Meeting with GCRE, no information to date but to pass back to Cllr Dean Cawsey to make contact and arrange.
  - d. Previous meeting mentioned about asbestos underneath the flooring within the community centre prior to work being carried out. Neath Port Talbot council had been contacted and were given contact details for Cllr Steve Thomas to arrange attendance. Examination of this would not be at any cost to the Community Council.
  - e. Community Councillor allowance forms explained in relation to completion and actioned by those present all declaring no interest in receiving payment. It was explained that a councillor payment could not be transferred to someone or something else in lieu of themselves.
4. Clerk updated Community Council that banking changes were being made and that Clerk had been added to account, could contact bank to discuss balances and that internet banking was being arranged. Payment list produced and signed for monthly payments which included Clerk Salary, Insurance premium and grant payment. Clerk mentioned that the bank would issue a 'bank card' to assist with payments that need to be made however felt that at this time it was prudent to get internet access arranged and this could be discussed in the future. Grant payment was resolved previously on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 for Party in the Pitch event to assist however a request has been made for this to be made to an individual rather than the Rugby Club and they would forward on. All councillors agreed this should not happen this way and Cllr Emlyn Griffiths would speak to the Rugby club to clarify further.
  5. No planning applications received. Cllr Gareth Llewellyn stated that in relation to Ty Maesmarchog development he had attempted to phone Rhodri Griffiths without success. That any contact that has been made with the Council has resulted in correspondence of planning speech. Cllr Sian Harris was seen by Gareth and during that she had mentioned a new developer was in talks with the council surrounding the run off of water.
  6. Cllr Gareth Llewellyn mentioned that a meeting at Maesmarchog school was held on the Wednesday to discuss a financial settlement. He informed the community council that Miss Evans was going and that the teaching assistants were going. The budget was in a deficit position. Information received from members that the school would consist of 4-year groups and numbers were getting low. Discussed that this is happening across the Dulais Valley and there were proposals years ago of a combined school to service the area although no further action has ever been taken.

7. Matter that on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024 the Police had been in attendance at Roman Road concerning anti-social behaviour consisting of 4 police vehicles. Persons who do not reside in the area and around the ages of 12/13 and 15 years were removed as they had absconded from their accommodation.

8. Pantyfford Hall.

Clerk updated Community Council that the Insurance company had agreed a sum of £13700 for replacement of the flooring. Details passed to Cllr Steve Thomas who will progress with suppliers to arrange work to be carried out. Cllr Steve Thomas did state that the hall was being used for the forthcoming elections and any work would need to be after then. He also mentioned that the existing wooden floor would need lifting first and that that this could be carried out by the contractor employed at a cost of £600 and it was resolved this should happen to move the hall into a state for use as there were many enquiries coming in to book the facilities.

9. Toilets: Cllr Gareth Llewellyn mentioned that previously the toilets were only closed and payment was made for this. Opening and closing is double the work however looking at costs previously mentioned surrounding payment. It was felt that contact be made with Dove to see what plan could be drawn up to assist with this aspect although felt that with previous contract a charge was made. Cllr Angie Thompson suggested an automatic lock although thoughts are this may be expensive. Information given that this has come about where the shop keepers were being asked regularly surrounding public toilets. Contact to be made with Dove to ascertain what action can be taken working in partnership.

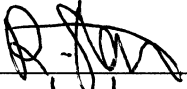
10. Cllr Gareth Llewellyn and Cllr Angie Thompson declared interests in this matter. Clerk informed community council that 4 contracts had come up for renewal in relation to rental payment and it was felt that a decision was needed on how to charge fairly whether per plot or land size. Cllr Angie Thompson explained that her rental was part of a community interest group and therefore not making a profit although not requesting a reduction. It was mentioned how well the allotments are being looked after and all agreed that this was a matter that would need further looking into. All agreed that the Clerk would circulate all the current agreements to all councillors to see what existing contracts were in place pending a further meeting. Cllr Gareth Llewellyn mentioned that a new resident has expressed an interest in renting land for a garage and he has been asked for the resident to contact the Clerk to lodge this officially. He also mentioned that Cllr Sian Harris had recently attended at the Dove for a surgery

where she mentioned that members of the Community Council are in attendance and this may be an opportunity for discussion or questions.

11. Community Council resolved that the symbol on the playpark be used for the Community Council and the Clerk was further tasked with arranging this.
12. Cllr Gareth Llewellyn read the invoice for the grass cutting 2023/24 year and it was mentioned that the council may be cutting grass when not required. A general consensus that they had not cut as many times as detailed on their worksheet and general disagreement made by members of the sum to be paid. Resolved that the spreadsheet would be sent to all members for them to comment on and this would then be collated by the Clerk to send a response to Neath Port Talbot council. Also mentioned in relation to stopping cutting by Neath Port Talbot council and contact with Cllr Dean Cawsey may clarify this, also suggestions that may be the community council want it cut when and where they want to improve the area as it may not be being looked after the best way. Suggestion made to gain a contractor to do the work instead and contact to be made with Lewis, the previous Ranger to see what he can offer.
13. Memorial for late Clerk, Lyn Parfitt. Cllr Gareth Llewellyn to speak to Sheila and propose that something is actioned along the lines of a seat or bench and where to put it. To report back to Council.
14. Resolved.
15. No confidential matters raised.
16. Cllr Ruth Stone mentioned that the wooden playpark at the Dove workshop site had timber laying down on the floor. Areas were rotten and it needs a long-term plan to replace. Suggestion that the Windfarm was approached to assist with funding and she would have the loose items removed out of the playpark for safety. Clerk to make contact with Paul Hinder at Neath Port Talbot Council.

Meeting concluded at 2040 hours.

Next meeting: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated: 8/7/24 \_\_\_\_\_