MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT PENYRHEOL COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON THURSDAY, 20th APRIL 2017

Present :

Chair
Cllr T ap Hywel

Community Councillors
W H Allen, H R Davies, Mrs S ap Hywel,
Cllr Mrs M E Sargent, P Slarke

Clerk to the Council - Mrs Helen Treherne
Youth Ambassador – Meg Owen

189. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Cllrs Ms M Britton, C Coombes, S Skivens, J Scriven and Youth Ambassador, Miss Meg Owen.

190. MINUTES OF MEETING

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th March 2017, having been previously circulated, were considered. The minutes were duly accepted and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

191. MATTERS ARISING

(a) The Clerk gave an update on the list of items from the previous meeting that she had been asked to raise with Caerphilly County Borough Council.

(b) CCBC had informed that Bowls Lane had now been cleared of fly tipping and the Enforcement Department had been contacted to call on residents, as it was clearly waste being thrown over from properties that back onto the lane and this was being investigated by CCBC’s Enforcement Department. A mechanical sweeper had also been down the lane and swept drainage gullies and drain tops.

(c) A price for the metal bench to replace the bench that had been burned in Trecenydd Park had been received. It was resolved that the Community Council would pay for the bench and for it to be installed.

RESOLVED – to pay for a new metal bench
(d) CCBC had informed that a new metal barrier had now been erected at the entrance to Trecenydd field, to stop cars driving across it.

(e) CCBC had informed that a review at senior level had been undertaken to discuss whether CCBC should keep the road markings as they were at St Cenydd roundabout, or whether to reinstate the previous road markings. Councillors strongly felt that the road markings should be reinstated as they were before, as the new road markings had not eased congestion, but had made it more difficult for cars to pull onto the roundabout from Trecenydd. Clerk to email CCBC to inform of this, to point out the lack of consultation with the Community Council on the issue, to ask for clarification with regards to the wording in the email and to ask for a site visit to discuss further.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact CCBC

(f) CCBC had informed that the recent bad smell in Hendredenny had been caused by recent spreading that took place at the chicken farm. CCBC had spoken to complainants and they accepted that it was only over a two-day period and not a regular occurrence.

(g) CCBC had informed that the consultation period was now over regarding the problem of cars using the road linking First Avenue to Second Avenue as a shortcut and a public notice of the proposals would now be given.

(h) CCBC had informed that a bigger floor-mounted litter bin would be erected outside the tuck shop at St Cenydd Community School.

RESOLVED – all matters arising to be noted

192. **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS**

**Declarations of Interest – Public Register**

The Clerk reminded Members that it is their responsibility and duty to declare any interest they may have in matters that come before meetings of the Community Council.

RESOLVED – Noted (to comply with requirements of the Local Government Act 2000)

193. **POLICE AND RELATED MATTERS**

PCSO Katrina Hadji-Aghalar was present at the meeting and she reported that 566 incidents had been reported during the period of 19th January to 19th April, compared to 418 for the same period the previous year, but that 75 crimes had been recorded during the above period, compared to 117 in the same period the previous year. Twenty more anti-social behavior incidents had been reported during this period, in comparison to last year. PCSO Hadji-Aghalar informed Councillors that the current priority was anti-social behaviour in the Castle Maen park and underpass area.
Gwent Police had also carried out joint visits with Tenancy and Crime Reduction Officer to the homes of all youths involved in anti-social behavior in the Penyrheol area and 270 letters had been delivered to residents in Penybryn, Pentwyn and Heol Aneurin, urging them to make contact with agencies to report issues. The issue regarding parking in White Cross Lane had been investigated. Although it was possible to extend the prohibition of waiting order, it was felt that this would be detrimental to the residents living on that road. Gwent Police had visited the residents to explain the situation to them.

PCSO Hadji-Aghalar was asked if she could find out how many accidents there had been on the St Cenydd Road roundabout.

The Your Voice meeting would be held on the day of the next Community Council meeting and Councillors were asked to submit any issues they would like discussed to the Clerk so that she could forward them on.

Councillors also asked that an email be sent to the Inspector, to inform him what an asset PCSO Hadji-Aghalar was to the community, that she is enthusiastic and understands the area well.

RESOLVED : Noted

194. **WHQS ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME**

There was no news at present about the bid for funding. Further information would be submitted when available.

RESOLVED – Noted

195. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following planning applications were considered:

(a) 17/0164/FULL – 40 Sunningdale, Caerphilly CF83 1BB
   - Erect first floor extension

(b) 17/0054/NOTA – 28 Y Cilgant, Penyrheol, Caerphilly CF83 2NB
   - Erect two-storey duo-pitch extension to side

(c) 17/0192/FULL – 10 Ynys Bery Close, Caerphilly CF83 2AZ
   - Convert existing integral garage into additional sitting room

(d) 17/0193/FULL – 72 Cae’r Fferm, Caerphilly CF83 2QD
   - Erect first floor extension

(e) 17/0200/CLEU – 4 St Cenydd Road, Trecenydd, Caerphilly CF83 2TB
   - Obtain a Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of the extension at rear of property

(f) 17/0204/FULL – 14 Coed-yr-Eos, Caerphilly CF83 2RS
   - Remodelling of property, including single storey and two storey extensions
The above planning applications were considered by the Council.

RESOLVED – in the general interest of the community that:

having been previously circulated to Members, in respect of application
(a) Councillors asked the Clerk to request a site visit as the buildings had
a historic significance and there were potential issues re: traffic
management and (b) would be the same objections as given previously, ie
Councillors were concerned about the amount of planning applications
submitted by this applicant and the cost to the public of these many
applications, that the dimensions of the outbuilding were not known, the
purpose of the outbuilding was not known and whether or not the
outbuilding would be in keeping with the area.

196. **MEMBERS ITEMS**

(a) **Various**

The Clerk gave an update of matters that have been resolved and matters
that are still under discussion with CCBC.

RESOLVED – Noted

(b) **Various**

The Clerk requested Members to advise her of any matters they have
previously requested to be raised with CCBC that are still unresolved or
outstanding.

The Clerk advised Members that if they report any matters to the
Customer Care Line of CCBC that they obtain the log number as this is
very important in following up matters.

RESOLVED – Noted

(c) Cllr Mrs M E Sargent reported that she had received a letter regarding St
Martin’s Church’s proposed refurbishment and asked if this could be
added to the newsletter.

RESOLVED – Clerk to add to newsletter

(d) Cllr P Slarke had received complaints about the path around Aneurin Park
only going 2/3 of the way around. It was resolved that the Clerk would
ask if the path could be continued all the way around the park.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact CCBC
(e) Cllr Mrs S ap Hywel asked if the old Royal Mail box could be removed from the corner of Ogmore Court, as it was now very rusty. Also, she said the grit bin in Pembroke Court had been moved when they did the pavement and asked if it could now be moved back to its original site.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact CCBC

(f) Cllr Mrs M E Sargent informed that she had reported a leak from Groeswen to Coed Y Pica, above Denbigh Court and she had also reported a toxic chemical smell in Penrhos.

(g) Cllr H R Davies asked the Clerk to query why the barrier at Tesco on the Bowls was open past 11 pm, when it was supposed to be closed from 11 pm, overnight.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact CCBC

(h) Cllr T ap Hywel asked if the Clerk could contact CCBC to ask if the give-way sign could be altered by Groeswen Lane. He said it was very difficult to see cars coming down the lane and there had been some near-misses. He asked if the Clerk could see if cars coming out of the lane could give way instead.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact CCBC

197. REPORTS ON MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

a) Various

Cllr W H Allen reported that he had attended:

St Andrew’s Church meeting.

b) Various

Cllr H R Davies reported that he had attended:

St Cenydd Community School Governors’ meeting;

Hendredenny planning appeal meeting;

Playscheme sub-committee meeting;

Glenfields Residents’ Association meeting.

c) Various

Cllr Mrs S ap Hywel reported that he had attended:

Hendredenny planning appeal meeting.
d) **Various**

Cllr T ap Hywel reported that she had attended:

- Skate park meeting;
- Hendredenny planning appeal meeting.

e) **Various**

Cllr Mrs M E Sargent reported that she had attended:

- Hendre Governors’ meeting and she was delighted to report that the school had received a good Estyn report.

198. **YOUTH AMBASSADOR**

The Youth Ambassador was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a written report to say that she had had a meeting with the Head Teacher of St Cenydd Community School which had been very successful. She had discussed the school bursary and the school would be interested in feeding back to the Community Council as part of the KS3 oracy presentations. The school would like to support plans for the skate park and a consultation would be taking place with pupils in the near future. The search for a new Youth Ambassador would now take place, as the Youth Ambassador was turning 18 and going away to university. It was also resolved that a £100 gift voucher would be purchased for the Youth Ambassador, as a thank you for her excellent work and to help her with any study materials she would need to buy.

**RESOLVED – Noted**

199. **QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT, END-OF-YEAR BANK RECONCILIATION, ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR END 31 MARCH 2017**

The Clerk presented the quarterly financial statement and the budget was discussed. It was resolved that the budget was on track and would not be changed. The Clerk also presented the end-of-year bank reconciliation and annual accounts. It was resolved to accept the accounts as a true record.

**RESOLVED – To accept the annual accounts as a true record**

200. **INTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Clerk informed that, as per Councillors’ wishes, Mr Roger Williams would be conducting the internal audit.

**RESOLVED – Noted**
201. **SUMMER PLAYSCHEMES**

   The Clerk reported that a sub-committee had been held to shortlist applicants for the playworker positions and the play leader position. Interviews had been carried out and three playworkers would need to have Level 2 in playwork. However, only three candidates with this qualification had applied and it had been decided by Councillors after the interviews to appoint two out of the three candidates, as it was felt that the third candidate was not suitable for the post. Councillors supported this decision. It was also resolved that the playworkers would be paid the increased living wage of £7.50 per hour.

   RESOLVED – To appoint only two out of the three candidates with Level 2 in Playwork

202. **SCHOOL BURSARIES**

   No communication had been received from Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni or Cardinal Newman.

   RESOLVED – Noted

203. **NEWSLETTER**

   The newsletter was on track and would be printed by mid-June.

   RESOLVED – Noted

204. **SKATE PARK**

   The working group would be meeting again end of April/beginning of May and action points would be reported to next meeting.

   RESOLVED – Noted

205. **CORRESPONDENCE**

   (a) **Press Items**

   The Clerk outlined press cuttings of interest that affected the Council’s area.

   RESOLVED – Noted

   (b) **Caerphilly County Borough Council**

   An email had been received regarding the public consultation on CCBC’s draft Active Travel Integrated Network Map.

   RESOLVED – Noted
(c) **General correspondence**

No general correspondence had been received.

206. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONATIONS**

No acknowledgements had been received.

207. **DONATIONS**

(a) **Penyrheol Bowling Club**

RESOLVED – in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £400 be approved, to repair damaged wall surrounding the green

(b) **Aber Valley Wolves**

RESOLVED – in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £200 be approved

(c) **Penyrheol Ladies Bowling Club**

RESOLVED – in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £200 be approved

208. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APRIL**

The following payments were approved by the Council:

(a) Clerks salary – April 2017
(b) Clerks expenses – April 2017;
(c) Inland Revenue – April 2017;
(d) Members expenses – April 2017;
(e) One Voice Wales membership - £745;
(f) St Cenydd Community School bursary - £500.

209. **ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT NEXT MEETING**

The Clerk was asked to add the purchase of defibrillators to the next agenda.

RESOLVED – Noted

210. **CLERK REQUEST FOR INCREASE IN WORKING HOURS**

The Clerk submitted a request for an increase in her working hours as she was not able to do everything she was required to do in the current hours. She was now carrying out extra duties, such as maintaining the website, more regulations with regards to the playscheme, the skate park project, more liaison with CCBC regarding issues within the community and further requirements for audit purposes. One suggestion was to raise the precept and the Community Council would still have one of the lowest precepts. The Clerk left the room whilst this issue was being discussed. She was then called back into the room and advised that it had been resolved to agree six extra hours per week.
RESOLVED – To increase Clerk’s hours by six hours per week

211. **NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Thursday, 18th May 2017 at 7.00 pm, preceded by the AGM at 6.00 pm.

The Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking Community Councillors who would not be running for re-election for their dedication and hard work to the community and wished them well for the future.

**PLEASE NOTE**

Should there be any queries relating to these minutes would Members kindly contact the Clerk.