At the start of the meeting, a presentation was given by Ms Jade Smithson-Perring of the Prince’s Trust to report on the success of the Prince’s Trust Fairbridge Programme.

The aim of the programme had been to improve the young people’s personal and social skills and life skills. Many agencies had been contacted prior to the course to try and obtain names of young people who would benefit most from the course. A taster day with 14 young people had been held before the programme began. In total, 47 awards were earned by the young people. Six young people had continued in their engagement with the Fairbridge Programme, either by attending sessions, or through one to one support. Five young people were currently engaging with/or making enquiries with other training providers; one young person was now volunteering full time and three young people were currently applying for employment and gaining interviews. The programme appeared to be a success and more information would be received from Prince’s Trust in six months time in order to see where the young people were at that time. Up until now, however, the young people had reported a reduction in antisocial behaviour and criminal activity, an increase in confidence and communication skills and they reported a wider range of opportunities that they now know is available to them.

An update report would be received by the Council in due course and a discussion would be held as to whether another course would follow, perhaps in conjunction with other Community Councils.

RESOLVED - Noted

138. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Ms M Britton, Cllr Mrs A Nash and Cllr Mrs M E Sargent.
139. **MINUTES OF MEETING**

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20th February 2014 having been previously circulated were considered and duly accepted and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

140. **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. She was still awaiting a reply on all items.

(b) Cllr Mrs M E Sargent said that she had attended the opening of the new Energlyn train station (ref: minutes of meeting 16.02.14, ref item number: 105 (e)).

   RESOLVED: Noted

(c) The Clerk had received a reply from CCBC regarding the speed bumps in Caledfryn to say that all of the speed cushions in Caledfryn Way had been checked and their individual dimensions/heights complied with the The Highways (Road Humps) 1999. CCBC was also intending to relocate two sets of speed cushions located near the school entrance in the near future, however these were to be replaced with cushions of an identical size. Other than these works, there were no proposals to either remove/replace any of the existing speed cushions in Caledfryn Way (ref: minutes of meeting 16.02.14, item number 106 (f)).

   RESOLVED: Noted

(d) The Clerk informed Councillors that the Gwent High Sheriff’s funding meeting would be held on 22nd March at Monmouth Community Centre. The Chairman asked for volunteers to attend the meeting with him as the Clerk was unable to attend. The Clerk had also contacted John Poyner to ask if he could get some young people together to attend the meeting (ref: minutes of meeting 20.02.14, ref: item number 130).

   RESOLVED: Noted

141. **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)

142. **POLICE AND RELATED MATTERS**

As per agreement, there was no police presence at the meeting.

   RESOLVED: Noted
143. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following planning applications were considered:

(a) 14/0090/FULL – 9 Heol Pwllypant, Energlyn, Caerphilly CF83 2ND
    - Erect single-storey extension to side and rear and install new dormer roof

(b) 14/0103/RET – 19 Cae’r Fferm, Caerphilly CF83 2QB
    - Retain change of use from domestic garage to dog grooming facility

The above planning applications were considered by the Council.

RESOLVED – in the general interest of the community that:

having been previously circulated to Members and having received no comments or objections in respect of applications (a) and (b) the Clerk’s action in informing the Planning Authority that the Council does not wish to make any comments or raise any objections to the applications be noted.

RESOLVED – Noted

144. **REPORTS ON MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS**

a) **Various**

Cllr W H Allen reported that he had attended:

Newsletter sub-committee meeting.

b) **Various**

Cllr Mrs S ap Hywel reported that she had attended:

Twinning committee meeting.

c) **Various**

Cllr H Davies reported that he had attended:

Community Council liaison meeting;

50 Year Celebration of Groeswen/St Cenydd;

Governors’ meeting at St Cenydd Community School;

Police meeting at Caerphilly Library;

Procession of the Army;

Traffic meeting with CCBC officers.
d) **Various**

Cllr P Slarke reported that he had attended:

Traffic meeting with CCBC officers.

e) **Various**

Cllr S Skivens reported that he had attended:

Hendredenny Park Governors’ meeting;

Newsletter sub-committee meeting;

Meeting re: website at CCBC offices;

Traffic meeting with CCBC officers.

145. **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) **Various**

Cllr W H Allen brought up the issue at Y Felin Ffrwd. Residents had asked if the trees could be cut back. CCBC had looked into the matter but could not find out who now owned the land. Unfortunately, CCBC did not have enough money in the budget to cut all the trees back. Councillors did not want to set a precedent regarding paying for trees to be cut back but this was a unique situation in that no one knew who actually owned the land. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote from CCBC and also a private quote and to report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED – Clerk to obtain quotes


146. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Press Items**

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

RESOLVED – Noted

(b) **Caerphilly County Borough Council**

Email received from CCBC re: Mayor’s Charity Appeal event, an evening with Roy Noble on Thursday, 10th April 2014.

RESOLVED – Noted

Email received from CCBC re: the Welsh Government’s publication of a consultation on proposed regulations and supporting guidance to be made under the Playing Fields (Community Involvement in Disposal Decisions) (Wales) Measure 2010. The Clerk asked Councillors for any observations/comments by the next meeting

RESOLVED – Councillors to read through publication and come back to next meeting with any observations/comments

(c) **General correspondence**

No general correspondence had been received.

RESOLVED – Noted

147. **UPDATE ON MEETING REGARDING TRAFFIC PROBLEMS**

The Chairman informed Councillors that they had met with officers from the Highways Department at CCBC to discuss the traffic problems within the wards. Councillors from Aber Valley Community Council had also been in attendance. The Chairman had drafted a report which he gave to Councillors to peruse and comment upon and said he would complete the report and send it back to the Head of Highways.

RESOLVED – Noted

148. **TO DISCUSS ANY ITEMS NOT BEING FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED BY CCBC**

Cllr W H Allen brought up the issue of the street light required at the top of Court Road. A response had been received from CCBC to say that there was no funding available for a new light. The Clerk had obtained a quote from CCBHC (£3,500 plus VAT, with a further annual electricity charge of £30 plus VAT). It was suggested that more information be gathered by the next meeting and Cllr P Slarke offered to go and have a site visit. The Clerk would also ask PC Steve Dyer to go and have a look, to look at it from a crime prevention angle.

RESOLVED - Cllr P Slarke to visit the site and Clerk to contact PC Steve Dyer
149. **SUMMER PLAYSCHMES**

The Clerk informed Councillors that she had received 32 application forms for two vacant posts. The next step would now be shortlisting. She had received a response from Mr Gareth Rees, Head Teacher of Cwm Ifor and governors had agreed that the Penyrheol playscheme could now go back to Cwm Ifor this summer. All other arrangements were ongoing.

**RESOLVED – Noted**

150. **NEWSLETTER**

The Clerk informed Councillors that a sub-committee meeting had been held and she was now in the process of collating articles for the newsletter.

**RESOLVED – Noted**

151. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONATIONS**

No acknowledgments had been received.

152. **DONATIONS**

a) **CCBC – Bands in the Park**

**RESOLVED – in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £100 be approved.**

153. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR MARCH 2014**

The following payments were approved by the Council:

(a) Clerk’s salary – March 2014;
(b) Clerk’s expenses – March 2014;
(c) Inland Revenue – March 2014;
(d) Members’ expenses – March 2014;
(e) County Borough Supplies (£28.98).

154. **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

a) There was no other urgent business.

**RESOLVED – Noted**

155. **NEXT MEETING**

**RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Thursday, 17th April 2014 at Penyrheol Community Centre at 7.00 pm.**

**PLEASE NOTE**

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