MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT PENYRHOLE COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON THURSDAY, 15th MAY 2014

Present :

Chair
Cllr S Skivens (Chairman)

Community Councillors
Cllr W H Allen, Cllr Ms M Britton, Cllr H R Davies, Cllr Mrs S ap Hywel, Cllr Mrs A Nash, Cllr Mrs M E Sargent,

Clerk to the Council - Mrs Helen Treherne

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The re-elected Chairman, Cllr S Skivens welcomed Councillors to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr R Phillips and Cllr P Slarke.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th April 2014 having been previously circulated were considered and duly accepted and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

3. 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) The Clerk updated Councillors on the issue of the overgrown trees at Y Felin Ffrwd. An email had been received from CCBC saying that they would not recommend complete removal of the trees due to privacy/security issues and the fact that no other trees/shrubs had already been planted in their place. CCBC gave a quote of £7,000 for total removal of the trees in the future if other measures were put in place and a quote of £7,000 for pruning back all the trees was also given. The Clerk was still awaiting a private quote. (Ref : Council meeting 17.04.14, item number 158 (b)).

RESOLVED : Clerk to arrange for Chairman to meet with private contractor on site to discuss quote and report back to next meeting
4. **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)

5. **POLICE AND RELATED MATTERS**

Inspector Gareth Jones and PC Steve Dyer were in attendance, along with a PCSO. Inspector Jones informed Councillors of the upcoming retirement of PC Dyer. PC Wayne Alexander would be taking over the role of Community Officer for the ward. Councillors thanked PC Dyer very much for his dedicated service to the community and wished him well in his retirement. The Chairman informed the officers of the refurbished website and invited them to put on any information they thought would be useful and also said a link could be incorporated into the website to go to the Gwent Police website. PC Dyer reported that there had been problems with young people congregating in the old quarry near Caledfryn. A charity box had been stolen from the Chinese takeaway in Penyrheol. They had been dealing with parents parking outside Cwm Ifor Primary School and had been linking in with the school to try to ease the problem.

Although the crime rate in the ward had increased in the past few months, Inspector Jones said that it was still one of the lowest crime rates to the ratio of people in the Gwent Police area.

Inspector Jones reported on the findings of the speeding problems at Ty Isaf. The speed of 43,635 cars had been checked. The highest speed recorded was 52 mph. Fifty one per cent of the cars were exceeding the speed limit of 30 mph. It had been decided that a speed camera was not a viable option. CCBC were reviewing all the B roads regarding signage etc.

The Chairman said that he had attended the Police engagement meeting and had been told about the re-launching of PACT and was pleased to see that the Police wanted to provide a service for the community via these meetings.

RESOLVED : Noted

6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following planning applications were considered:

(a) 14/0231/FULL – 5 Moel Fryn, Penyrheol, Caerphilly CF83 2BU
   - Erect single storey side extension to semi-detached bungalow

(b) 14/0241/FULL – 43 Skomer Island Way, Caerphilly CF83 2DB
   - Convert garage to children’s play room

(c) 14/0255/NOTA
   - Erect a single storey shed

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.

With regards to (c), Councillors asked the Clerk to see if this was the same site as the previous application, to find out what this new shed would be used for and what buildings were already on site.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact CCBC regarding this planning application

7. REPORTS ON MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS

a) Various

Cllr H Davies reported that he had attended:

St Cenydd Community School governors’ meeting;

Playscheme interviews.

b) Various

Cllr Mrs A Nash reported that she had attended:

Trecenydd Community Centre Management Group meetings;

St Cenydd Community School Eisteddfod;

Senghenydd Memorial Trust meeting;

Presentation evening at St Cenydd Community School;

Hendre Infants School governors’ meeting;

Family Fun Day at Trecenydd Community Centre.

c) Various

Cllr S Skivens reported that he had attended:

Playscheme interviews;

Police engagement meeting.
8. **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 Mrs Sue ap Hywel reported that the main road to Hendredenny Primary School was damaged.

RESOLVED – Clerk to write to CCBC

(d) **Various**

Cllr P Slarke had asked the Clerk, in his absence, to report that he had been asked by a resident why there was no memorial for Abertridwr, or any kind of record for those who had died in the war. Councillors discussed the issue and said that this would be a matter for Aber Valley Community Council.

RESOLVED - Noted

9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) **Press Items**

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

RESOLVED – Noted

(b) **Caerphilly County Borough Council**

No correspondence had been received from CCBC.

(c) **General correspondence**

No correspondence had been received from CCBC.
10. **TO DISCUSS ANY ITEMS NOT BEING FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED BY CCBC**

There were no items to discuss at this particular meeting.

11. **SUMMER PLAYSCHEMES**

The Clerk reported that two new playworkers had been appointed from the interviews that had been held. All other arrangements were in hand.

   RESOLVED – Noted

12. **CIVIC SERVICE**

As Cllr S Skivens had been re-elected as Chairman this year, he felt that he had already had a Civic Service and would like to do something different this year, eg a children’s party. He said he would like to incorporate this into finding a Young Ambassador for the ward. It was agreed that a sub-committee would be formed and this would be discussed at a meeting of that sub-committee.

   RESOLVED – Meeting to take place of sub-committee to discuss ideas etc

13. **NEWSLETTER**

The Clerk informed Councillors that the newsletter would be going to print the following week.

   RESOLVED – Noted

14. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONATIONS**

Acknowledgements had been received from Bethel Baptist Church and Menter Iaith Caerffili.

15. **DONATIONS**

   a) **Aber Valley Wolves**

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

   b) **Penyrheol Bowling Club**

      RESOLVED – in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £300 be approved;

   c) **Shining Stars**

      RESOLVED –in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £150 be approved.
16. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR MAY 2014**

The following payments were approved by the Council:

(a) Clerk’s salary – May 2014;
(b) Clerk’s expenses – May 2014;
(c) Inland Revenue – May 2014;
(d) Members’ expenses – May 2014.

17. **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

a) The Clerk asked Councillors if she could have a debit card in order for her to purchase items for the playscheme etc, rather than spending her own money and claiming it back. She said that the Clerk of Caerphilly Town Council was using one and permission would still have to be sought from Councillors about any spending. Councillors agreed and asked the Clerk to speak to the Co-Operative Bank to see how this could be done.

RESOLVED – Permission given for Clerk to obtain debit card

18. **NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Thursday, 19th June 2014 at Penyrheol Community Centre.

**PLEASE NOTE**

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