
**CYNGOR CYMUNED
PENYRHEOL TRECENYDD ENERGLYN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT PENYRHEOL COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON THURSDAY, 15th JANUARY 2015**

Present :

Chair
Cllr S Skivens

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

Youth Ambassador : Miss Meg Owen

Clerk to the Council - Mrs Helen Treherne

Before the start of the meeting proper, a two-minute silence was observed for the sad passing of Cllr Reg Phillips and Mrs Liz Allen, wife of Cllr W H Allen.

122. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr W H Allen, Cllr Mrs A Nash and Cllr A W Pennington. The Chairman introduced and welcomed the new Youth Ambassador, Miss Meg Owen to the meeting.

123. **MINUTES OF MEETING**

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

124. **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 issue regarding there being no ramp at the bus stop by the Scout's hut was discussed, following receipt of a reply from CCBC, stating that nothing could be done due to safety issues. It was resolved that the Clerk go back to CCBC to ask for a site visit to discuss further. (Ref : meeting 19.06.14, item 26 (g)).

RESOLVED : Clerk to refer back to CCBC for site meeting.

(c) Cllr Mrs M Sargent asked if the Clerk had obtained a price for more pages in the newsletter. The Clerk replied that she was still awaiting that information and would report back to the next meeting with the required price. (Ref : meeting 20.11.14, item 108).

RESOLVED : Clerk to chase prices

125. **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)

126. **POLICE AND RELATED MATTERS**

Due to annual leave and rest days, there was no Police presence at the meeting.

RESOLVED : Noted

127. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no planning applications to be considered at this meeting. However, permission for development to retain a horse stable and tack room was considered (application number 13/0534/RET) and also an appeal for refusal of an application to erect agricultural workers' dwelling at Heol Las Farm (application number 13/0803) Councillors were becoming increasingly concerned about retrospective planning applications and asked the Clerk to relay these concerns back to CCBC.

RESOLVED – Clerk to relay concerns regarding retrospective planning applications to CCBC

128. **REPORTS ON MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS**

a) **Various**

Cllr Ms M Britton reported that she had attended :

Community Christmas Concert sub-committee meeting;
Community Christmas Concert;
Santa's visit;

b) **Various**

Cllr H R Davies reported that he had attended :

Youth Ambassador selection meeting;
Community Christmas Concert;
Santa's visit;

St Cenydd Governors' meeting;

c) **Various**

Cllr Mrs S ap Hywel reported that she had attended :

Caerffili Twinning Association meeting;
Community Christmas Concert.

d) **Various**

Cllr Mrs M E Sargent reported that she had attended :

Christmas sub-committee meeting.

e) **Various**

Cllr P Slarke reported that he had attended :

Community Christmas Concert;
Youth Ambassador selection meeting.

f) **Various**

Cllr S Skivens reported that he had attended :

Community Christmas Concert sub-committee meeting;
Community Christmas Concert;
Santa's visit;
Youth Ambassador selection meeting.

129. **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 H R Davies raised the issue of grit bins and said one was needed in Highfields as a lot of elderly people lived there. The residents had also said that they would look after the grit bin if one was placed there. Cllr Davies asked the Clerk to check the locations of previous sitings of grit bins to see if one had been ordered for that location.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact CCBC re : grit bins

130. **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 from CCBC re : five-man working team working in the area week commencing 16th February 2015. Community Councillors were asked to feed any work that was required through to the Clerk. Cllr S Skivens asked the Clerk to report back that only one side of Heol Las was ever cleaned and there were dead leaves etc on the pavement on other side of the road which were hazardous. Cllr Ms M Britton said that the patch of green at the top of Heol Graigwen was always done, but the edges weren't, which resulted in a lot of brambles etc. Cllr Miss M Britton also asked the Clerk to find out from CCBC which areas within the ward were cleaned as a matter of course.

RESOLVED – Clerk to feed back to CCBC and await any other requests from Councillors

(c) **General correspondence**

An email had been received from Ageing Well in Wales, inviting the Community Council to join. It was suggested that the Community Council join the organisation.

RESOLVED – Clerk to complete application to join Ageing Wales

131. **QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The Clerk presented the quarterly financial statement for the period ending 31st December 2014. The statement showed balances of £2,484.90 in the Current Account, £1097.90 in the Instant Access Deposit Account and £ 63,232.82 in the 14-Day Account.

RESOLVED – Quarterly financial statement approved

132. **NEWSLETTER**

The Clerk informed Councillors that the newsletter had now been delivered to over 5,000 homes. Cllr W H Allen asked that the Clerk be thanked for her hard work once again in producing the newsletter. Cllr Skivens reported that he had received several comments from residents as to how they did not realise how much work the Community Council did. Cllr M E Sargent asked if the Clerk could get a quote from the printer for more pages and to look into the possibility of enlarging the print.

RESOLVED – Clerk to get quote for more pages

133. **PRECEPT 2015-16**

The Clerk presented a financial report of income and expenditure for the current financial year up to the period 31st December 2014, estimated income and expenditure to 31st March 2015 and estimated expenditure for 2015/16. At the previous finance meeting Councillors had resolved the following :

RESOLVED that :

- (i) the estimated expenditure of £56,400 for the financial year 2015/16 be approved;
- (ii) £655.96 be used from balances (deficit of £655.96);
- (iii) the precept requirement be set at £55,744.04 for the financial year 2015/16 which would be a 0% increase on the previous year;
- (iv) the Clerk informs Caerphilly County Borough Council that the precept for 2015/16 is £55,744.04.

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

There were no items to discuss at this particular meeting.

135. **TO DISCUSS ISSUE REGARDING OVERGROWN TREES AT Y FELIN FFRWD**

The Chairman reported that he had met with CCBC officers regarding this ongoing issue. It had been agreed that CCBC would chop down the remainder of the dead Popular trees as these were deemed a possible danger. It was suggested that the Clerk put in a formal complaint about the trees. In the meantime, Cllr S Skivens would follow up with CCBC.

RESOLVED – Clrk to submit formal complaint to CCBC about the trees and Cllr Skivens to follow up with CCBC

136. **COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR VACANCY – SIAN WILLIAMS**

There had been no application from voters for an election. This meant that the Community Council could now co-opt onto the Community Council. The Clerk would be putting up advertisements in the community, on the notice board and on the website about expressions of interest for co-option. If several expressions of interest were received, it was resolved that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would view these and report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED – Clerk to advertise re : co-option

137. **YOUTH AMBASSADOR**

The new Youth Ambassador, Miss Meg Owen, introduced herself formally to Councillors. It was decided to insert a regular item on the agenda for the Youth Ambassador.

RESOLVED – Noted

138. **PENYRHEOL SKATE PARK**

Councillors had previously agreed to form a working party for the skate park, consisting of Cllrs Steve Skivens, Huw Davies, Sue ap Hywel, Peter Slark, Youth Ambassador Meg Owen and local resident Tim Proctor. A meeting would be arranged as soon as possible to discuss the way forward.

RESOLVED – Clerk to set up meeting

139. **REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND SANTA’S VISIT**

The Chairman reported that both events had gone very well again this year. The only real problem was the anti-social behaviour of some young people on the evening of Santa’s visit. He suggested that the Clerk ask the Police for their presence next year. It was also suggested that Santa’s visit for next year could be held at Trecenydd Community Centre. The Chairman also informed Councillors that Mr Geraint Evans of Aber Valley Male Voice Choir had received the British Empire Medal in the New Year’s Honours List and asked the Clerk to send him a congratulatory letter.

RESOLVED – Clerk to speak to Police regarding next year’s Santa’s visit, to seek availability of Trecenydd Community Centre and send letter to Mr Geraint Evans

140. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DONATIONS**

Acknowledgements had been received from Trecenydd Community Centre and Llamau.

141. **DONATIONS**

a) **Caerffili and District Twinning Association**

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

b) **Windsor School of Dance**

RESOLVED – in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £150 be approved and a clearer breakdown of expenditure requested for next year;

c) **Aber Valley Male Voice Choir**

RESOLVED – in the interest of benefit to the community that a donation of £150 be approved.

142. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS FOR JANUARY 2015**

The following payments were approved by the Council :

- (a) Clerk's salary – January 2015;
- (b) Clerk's expenses – January 2015;
- (c) Inland Revenue – January 2015;
- (d) Members' expenses – January 2015;
- (e) Elsbury Access – repair of festive lights - £453.60;
- (f) Eversons – Civic awards - £157.50;
- (g) Mazars – annual audit - £420;
- (h) Canon – photocopier - £115.57;
- (i) Elsbury – festive lights - £3150.60;
- (j) Christmas buffet (£80.06);
- (k) Clerk reimbursement – selection boxes (£300).

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

There were no items to be discussed at next meeting.

144. **NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Thursday, 19th February 2015 at Penyrheol Community Centre.

PLEASE NOTE

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