

Cllr Mal John: Presided

Present (10) Cllrs Derrick Baker, Heidi Bennett, David Fowler, Altaf Hussain, Ann John, Mal John, Byron Jones, Alex Marshall, James Radcliffe and Meryl Wilkins
Clerk John Richfield, Lyn Masters, Tondu and Aberkenfig Community Association,
Police Community Support Officer Shannon
Marged Griffiths and Robin Gibbs from Penyfai Village Community Association.
Lisa Jenkins and other members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Gary Haines and Cllr Joyce Haines.

2. Members Written Declaration of Interests on Agenda Items

Before the start of the meeting, Council members made declarations of interest in agenda items on the form provided, as follows:

Cllr Meryl Wilkins - heiress and owner of Dunraven Estates Properties Ltd, the Dunraven Estates lands and hereditaments Dunraven Estates Limited Dunraven Estates Properties Limited, relating to the Pheasant Field asset transfer and the Morganstone Development, Penyfai.

Cllr Alex Marshall – unpaid volunteer with Bridgend Samaritan and trustee

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th October 2019

The following amendment was agreed – to record Cllr Meryl Wilkins full declaration of interest. The minutes were then approved and signed.

4. Matters Arising on the Minutes

On Page 2, it was agreed to send a copy of the note on the item on Police and Pact Matters to the Police to give feedback.

Page 3, Cllr Alex Marshall was in contact with the owners regarding the footpath in Tondu.

5. Report on Police Matters

Police Community Support Officer Shannon was welcomed to the meeting and she listed recent Incidents.

Information was provided on SLIDO (an interactive Question and Answer platform) introduced as an on-line forum to assist if people cannot attend a PACT meeting - in effect a Question and Answer session online chat with the PCSO. The first occasion for it to be used would be Monday 2 December 2019.

It was agreed the details of the online forum would be listed on the NHCC's Website.

Questions were asked of the PCSO.

- How to report an incident - to 101 or 999? – it depended on whether crime taking place at the time – then phone 999.
- Cllr David Fowler complained to police about parking on junctions at Pentrefelin estate. He was advised to take registrations and report to 101.
- Cllr Derrick Baker voiced parking concerns at police vehicles parked very close to junctions in Aberkenfig.
- Cllr Alex Marshall asked about the campaign to keep pavements for people being taken seriously.
- Cllr Meryl Wilkins expressed Penyfai school safety concerns re cars - the PCSO reported she had attended the location – and intended to attend regularly.

Members of Public were also provided an opportunity to ask questions.

Concern was stated about parking at Penyfai School. It was suggested that in Laleston the police enforced the rules vigorously which was reported to have solved problem for a long time.

Members of the public were advised that people need to phone in blocked drives with car registrations to 101.

The Council thanked PCSO Shannon for attending.

6. Lis Jenkins - Penyfai Resident

Lisa Jenkins of Healthy Close attended the meeting to address the Community Council on the difficulties she had experienced with the consequences of the consent granted by the BCBC to Morganstone. It was noted that the role of community councils in matters of planning was simply that of a consultee, and Community Councils had no power to insist on their recommendations being followed. The Community Council had supported the residents in this matter, and would continue to do so. The Community Council discussed the development operated by Morganstone in Penyfai which had caused concern to many local residents. Mrs Jenkins was concerned that the BCBC had not been held accountable for their decisions made on Planning consent. It was felt that this was not the first development that had been foisted on local people. Mrs Jenkins felt that the application had not been considered adequately. The Council would continue to support the residents on the latest planning application from Morganstone, to site an office at the development.

Mrs Jenkins also asked a question on the attendance of members of the Community Council which she had previously notified to the Chair.

The Clerk provided information on the attendance rate of all members of the Council expressed as a percentage of the possible meetings they could have attended since the last election, or since their co-option, rounded to the nearest whole number.

Cllr D G Baker 60%; Cllr H Bennett 93% ; Cllr D Fowler 97%; Cllr J Haines 15%;
Cllr G Haines 49%; Cllr Altaf Hussain 71%; Cllr Ann John 89%; Cllr B Jones 41%;
Cllr Meryl Wilkins 97%; Cllr Mal John 76%; Cllr Alex Marshall 72%;
Cllr J Radcliffe 100%.

It was noted that some councillors had given apologies use to serious illness, or hospital visits.

It was noted that there was always a shortage of dedicated people who wished to serve as Community Councillors, and the NHCC was fortunate to have the members it had, who had always avoided partisan politics, and all councillors were involved with the community in many ways.

6. County Borough Councillors

(a) County Borough Councillor for Penyfai

Cllr Altaf Hussain reported on the following matters:

Pheasant Field

See item 7.

Candidate Sites Assessment Report 2019

It was stated at the last BCBC development Control committee that the small sites outside existing settlement boundaries would be assessed through the settlement boundary review.

Of the following 4 sites; Pheasant Field, open space, Sevenoaks Bungalow,
Land at Heol Eglwys and Kickabout area off Heol Eglwys, none were designated for development.

Illegal Tipping

Concerning the complaint about illegal tipping and untidy land raised by Mrs Brady the BCBC had assigned Ms Ruth Davies, Development and Building Control Manager, to investigate.

Hillside Development

Mr Edwards had been visited for measurements and further discussion.

A Complaint from Mrs Viant of 29 Hillside had been received. She reported that the developers had knocked down her fence and wall. The developer had agreed to reinstate.

Meeting with Mr Guy Smith

Cavendish Park - the kickabout area was maintained by the Parks Department - there may be a possibility to transfer it to the Community Council. Noted the site was currently impacted by poor vehicular access which may be addressed under section 106 moneys.

Penyfai Common - although the parks department presently maintains part of the kickabout and play areas the BCBC does not own the land so there was no scope for a Community Asset Transfer.

Mr Smith indicated that there were no playing fields and pavilions in either the Aberkenfig or Penyfai areas to be impacted by the full cost recovery model.

It was suggested as NHCC had approval for the Pheasant Field CAT, to provide a cut service for the common site and football pitch and to request a CAT on the Cavendish Park land behind Sibrwd y Dail. to be discussed in December.

Remembrance

Cllr Husain attended the Service with Cllrs Mal John, Ann John and Meryl Wilkins.

500 Christmas cards had been delivered to Penyfai School to fulfil the undertaking given to the winner in 2018.

Cllr Hussain was thanked for his report.

(b) County Borough Councillor for Aberkenfig

Cllr James Radcliffe reported on the following matters:

Candidate Sites Assessment Report and LDP process

No housing was to be built on Pandy Park following the completion of the Candidate Sites Assessment Report.

Cllr Derrick Baker requested that James Radcliffe ask the Legal Officers at BCBC to see the original deed of gift at Pandy Park to check what it said about conditions of access, or concerning any restrictions.

Cllr Heidi Bennett asked if landowners could appeal against the decision of the Candidate site assessment? It was reported that they could not.

Noted that the BCBC preferred strategy was out for consultation and the importance of making a response.

Employment

The Paper Mill wanted to expand the factory – James Radcliffe to attend the open meeting – the possibility of 80 jobs in the Paper Mill was welcomed.

Cllr Radcliffe was thanked for his report.

7. Preparations for Community Asset Transfer Pheasant Field

The Expression of Interest for the Pheasant Field had been approved by the BCBC CT Steering Group

Cllr Alex Marshall had obtained quotations for cutting grass of up to 13 times a year.

Actions required now were to:

Work out costs for how much to precept to take on this amenity. To cover grass cutting, path maintenance and additional insurance.

The Council's annual Budget would be set at December meeting, the agenda to include a potential CAT at Cavendish Park play area.

There was a possibility of a capital grant available which needed to be completed by the end of February. Cllr Heidi Bennett taking this forward, and would draft a note for the Clerk to apply for the grant.

When the Heads of Terms document was available Guy Smith would be invited to attend a meeting with the Council to deal with the details.

8. Maintenance Committee Report

(a) Woodlands Work Programme and Footpaths

Quotes had been sought for work at woodlands, following completion of the survey.

The Council had invited 4 companies to quote, of which 3 replied, and one was unable to complete a quote.

Two possible quotes were available for about £3000 each.

The Council considered the quotes from J V Tree Services, a local company, and Ed Tucker Countryside services from Neath. It was decided to opt for JV tree services who were based in Cowbridge.

The Clerk would instruct them to start, Cllr Alex Marshall to oversee their progress on site.

Concerning Footpath 1 – BCBC had asked for a meeting with Cllr AM and Ramblers officers.

(b) Planting of Daffodil Bulbs

The daffodils had now been planted, with photos taken to show what had been done. Matt Scott had carried out the work, Mrs Jan Brady, Court Colman residents, had received some bulbs to plant in Court Colman.

The report of the Maintenance Committee was received and adopted.

9. Finance and Policy

(a) Accounts for Payment

	£	
St John's Church (remembrance booklets)	45.00	(201695)
ACD Skips (skip)	218.40	(201696)
Octopie Ltd (cards for Penyfai school)	261.60	(201697)
Cllr D G Baker (allowance)	150.00	(201698)
Royal British Legion (wreaths)	300.00	(201699)
Wales Air Ambulance (re trumpeter at Remembrance)	50.00	(200700)
Eeva Salou (Trumpeter at Remembrance)	25.00	(200701)

(b) Report on Audit 2019

The Wales Audit Office had written to state they were to complete the audit. The Clerk reported that he had taken all the documents that the Council had available to their Office.

(c) Update on Clerk's Contract and Job Description for Clerk

It had previously been agreed that the Clerks contract would be reviewed by a working group of Councillors, (Cllrs Mal John, Chair, Cllr Altaf Hussain, Deputy Chair, Cllr Heidi Bennett and Cllr Byron Jones) the Clerk would seek suitable dates from those concerned initially.

The Clerk suggested the contract and job description be future proofed due to his intended retirement from the Council.

10. Community Associations Update

(a) Tondu and Aberkenfig

The Council welcomed Lyn Masters to the meeting, now Chair of the Association.

Concerning PI6/35668 Llanmoor development, a joint meeting of interested parties was suggested, with Simon Grey and colleagues from Llanmoor developers present to discuss their proposals with the local councils and community association.

It was agreed to hold such a meeting on Wednesday 4 December at 18.30 hosted by Ynysawdre Community Council in the parish Room. All members of NHCC were invited to attend.

With thanks to James Radcliffe, it was reported that the gates at Pandy Park had been replaced.

It was also reported that the Park at the top of Coronation Street was open and accessible now.

The Association had been concerned at the speed and numbers of traffic on the A 4063. Highways stated the signage was adequate, but drivers needed to obey the Highway Code.

Cllr James Radcliffe would request the signs were washed to enhance visibility. It was reported that motorists continued to 'jump' the traffic lights at Tondu Bridge.

Cllr Altaf Hussain suggested that the Association might send a written report for meetings, for the Clerk to circulate, to save meeting time.

(b) Penyfai Village

The Community Association report comprised the item on the Pheasant Field CAT.

11. Correspondence

The notes circulated on the incoming correspondence were taken as read by the Council, the correspondence was as follows:

1. Cllr Alex Marshall

Estimates have been sought from present BCBC suppliers for maintenance of Pheasant Field Penyfai.

2. Bridgend Town Council

Details of their arrangements for the Remembrance Day parade and service 10 November. Any NHCC Member not involved in our own events invited to take part from 09.45 at Carnegie House. Parade 10.30

3. BCBC Leader's Office

Press release saying Community Asset transfers now more important than ever. Circulated to members of Community Council.

4. Cllr Altaf Hussain

Confirmation that he chaired a meeting with Guy Smith CAT Officer, Community Cllrs and Members of Penyfai Village Community Association. The Clerk had notified Mr Smith of the NHCC's continued interest in the CAT.

5. Cllr Heidi Bennett

Details of lease, costs, grant and action required on the CAT.

It was noted that the Council needed to consider action at a future meeting, including insurance, precept, legal advisor to look at lease, quotes for maintenance, capital equipment, how to use people, paid or unpaid to maintain the site. Members of NHCC confirmed agreement in correspondence.

6. BCBC

Mr Guy Smith confirmed that the Expression of Interest has been approved by the CAT Steering Group on a 35 year lease with an option to extend duration, if required, as a condition of funding. Heads of Terms will be issued shortly by the BCBC Corporate Landlord to enable the lease to be progressed.

7. Maintenance Committee (AM)

Estimate for replacement of tarmac path at Pheasant Field between £9 and 12,000

Annual grass cutting cost to follow.

8. Mrs Janet Brady

Copy of message to Cllr Hussain about damage to footpath and stile.

9. Mr Guy Smith BCBC

Advising Cllr Hussain, concerning the kickabout at Cavendish Park there is scope for a Community Asset transfer, the site is impacted by poor vehicular access which may be addressed under section 106 monies in future. The Penyfai Common play area did not come under BCBC ownership so there was no option for a CAT. It was likely the number of grass cuts will be reduced or stopped.

10. Wales Audit Office

The Wales Audit Office would complete the audit for 2019.

11. ACD Skip

Invoice for skip to allotments £230.40

12. Octopie Printing

Invoice for printing of Christmas Cards £261.60. Councillors have some for use, balance to Penyfai School.

12. Planning Committee Report

(a) Planning Applications

The Council noted the following planning applications had been notified to the council since the last meeting.

P/19/740/FUL The Pheasant, Penyfai CF31 4LY

P/19/777/FUL 2 Hillcrest, Penyfai CF31 4NL

(b) Planning Wales Policy Consultations

Councillors were commended to review the consultations on the Planning Wales website.

13. Other Reports from Councillors

Cllr Meryl Wilkins reported her concerns at levels of traffic at Pentrefelin.

Cllr Alex Marshall reported that there were 2 dead trees that needed to be removed for the Woodlands project, on Delyth Thomas's land at Penylan Farm. This had to be tidied as part of the work, he would advise Mrs Thomas.

Cllr Derrick Baker and other members of the Council reported a successful day at the monument, in particular the children had welcomed placing the small wooden crosses.

14. Any Other Business

The Council discussed the recent attendance of Cllr Gary Haines, with reference to section 75 of the LFA 1972, as he had missed six consecutive meetings of the Council. It was noted that Cllr Haines had been in a very difficult personal circumstances recently, and had attended whatever occasions he could for the Council, most recently laying a wreath on Remembrance Sunday.

However, the situation was in contravention of the LGA, so the Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Gary Haines asking to clarify his intention.

An item on Membership of the Council would be on the December agenda.

The Clerk would write to Morganstone regarding the damage to grass verges by lorries attending their development asking about reinstatement of the damage.

It was agreed that the NHCC needed to respond to final LDP Preferred strategy

Cllr Meryl Wilkins welcomed the presence of the Scouts on the remembrance parade in Penyfai.

Cllr Ann John commended the use of the Church community room at Penyfai church for coffee after the Remembrance Service.

There being no more business, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m. The next meeting would be held in Penyfai School, on Tuesday 10 December 2019.