



**96/24 To consider matters arising from the Extraordinary Council Meeting held August 2nd 2023**

None, matters arising were taken under appropriate agenda headings

**97/24 To note resignation of Cllr G Brown**

The Chair noted the resignation which was accepted, and confirmed it had been reported to BCBC.

**98/24 To receive reports and approve recommendations from committees where held: Maintenance Committee Report**

- Cllr Hopkins provided an overview and update on the Maintenance Committee's recommendations .
- An update on the previously agreed approved quote to remove Ash trees and trimming at Mount Pleasant. Cllr Hopkins confirmed this would be completed 1st week of October .
- Met with the contractor regarding for the Pheasant Field cutting and is using a new machine which cuts better, and the grasscuttings are being collected and moved to the corner of the field. Another cut is due in September.
- Hanging baskets Spring 2024: The committee had this on the next agenda and would look at placement of baskets and replacement of brackets (quotes previously received)
- Clearing out of Aberkenfig Square: It was recommended that a tender needed drafting as a matter of urgency so this could be completed over winter months. It was noted this would be a big and expensive job.
- Grit bins: previous quotes of up to £300 per bin depending on size (and placement should not cause obstruction so may need to be smaller). Up to 5 bins could be placed (£1500). Filling of the bins were circa £350 each, but would continue be refilled by BCBC free. It was recommended Cllrs Bennett and Gebbie lead on the work of grit bins for Aberkenfig, and that these are placed in time for winter.

Council RESOLVED to approve and agree the recommendations noted above

**99/24 Wellbeing Committee**

Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated

- It was recommended the Wellbeing committee fully utilise the noticeboards to showcase local activities and events (space allowing) and plan an event for Wellbeing Week : during the last week of June 2024. Committee would approach Welfare Hall and invite the Samaritans, Age Concern Cymru, Health & Wellbeing Counselling, Police/PCSO's, etc for adults and older people.
- A Bio Diversity Statement was discussed and recommended for adoption
- The committee recommended Planter baskets for railings entrance to the village and by Tondy lights to be priced up and considered for future meeting .

Council also discussed the possibility of tiered displays at village entrances.

Council RESOLVED to approve the recommendations and endorse the committee to move forward with the quotes and planning to be brought to a future meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Barker Seconded Cllr. Griffiths

#### **100/24 Finance and Audit Committee**

- Further to Full Council approving Financial regs and Standing orders in August the Committee had not met.

Cllr Hughes raised the development of a procurement policy and framework of suppliers to enable Council to deliver improvements more quickly as it was challenging obtaining quotes for each piece of work, and Council was expending a lot of energy on chasing suppliers who may/may not be interested in quoting.

Council RESOLVED the F&A Committee would take this forward.

Proposed: Cllr Bennett. Seconded Cllr. Gebbie

#### **101/24 To To approve arrangements for supply and fit of Christmas Lights and tree**

- Christmas Tree and Christmas lights for Tyn y Garn. BCBC usually complete this work and are providing a quote. This would be emailed to members for decision in order to meet the booking-in timescales, and be ratified at the next meeting
- Christmas lights: It was recommended that 4 more motifs to be purchased for top end of Aberkenfig and approach to end of Aberkenfig by Pentrefelin. Catalogues ranged in costs with the cheapest quotes being around £300 each. It was recommended that £1200 for purchasing additional lights be delegated to Maintenance committee,
- Fitting lights across the two villages has currently been discussed with 3 providers. One quote had come in and others would be chased. It was recommended to approve a budget of up to £4600 plus vat to move this forward and to not miss the deadline for booking-in the work. However, members would be notified on email should lower quotes be forthcoming in the meantime.

Council RESOLVED to approve and agree the recommendations noted above and would delegate up to £5800 (plus Vat) to Maintenance Committee to approve Christmas lights purchase and installation.

#### **102/24 Approval of Finance and accounts payable**

(a) Reconciliation

Provided to members in advance of the meeting. Council noted bank reconciliation 31/3/23

(b) To approve outgoing Chairs chosen donations:

Council approved donations of £215 each to Coed Penyfai Woodland group, PVCA and TACA

(c) To approve incoming receipts : none

(d) To approve a list of payments made and to be made

Rowan	maintenance	£2290.00
OVW	Training	£76.00
Cllr Flanagan	Flag	£82.26
BTC	Contract Qtr 4 / Qtr 1	£2080.00
Crown	Maintenance	108.08
TACA/PVCA/Coed Penyfai	Previous Chair donations	£645.00
Wesley Centre	Room hire x2	£60.00
Blakes	Maintenance/CAT	£398.00
OVW	Annual subs	£726.00

The quality of the Welsh flag (£82.26) was noted and Council agreed to purchase a similar quality Union Flag. Cllr Flanagan would action this in time for Remembrance Day.

Council RESOLVED to approve the above payments

Proposed Cllr Morgan. Seconded Cllr Barker

It was noted one councillor had booked on 3 training sessions but not turned up to two which had resulted in unnecessary charges to the Council. OVW are good at allowing postponement, transfers and cancellations with reasonable notice. Further to discussion it was agreed that Councillors should be recharged for 'no shows', unless there was an exceptional/emergency situation which could not be avoided on the day.

Dog bins charges were queried. This led to a brief discussion regarding the potential employment of a 'community caretaker'. It was agreed that the total cost of contracts for bins and maintenance be looked at with a view to ascertaining if the budget would be better spent on employing someone directly. This would be presented to a future meeting.

### **103/24 Biodiversity Plan:**

Cllr Richard Hughes prepared a succinct overarching plan outlining 5 key pillars which well being committee agreed to develop biodiversity activity and projects around as future activity

Council RESOLVED to adopt the Biodiversity Statement/Plan

Proposed: Cllr Hopkins. Seconded Cllr. Kemble

### **104/24 Members Reports:**

Cllr. Gebbie noted she is the elected member for Pyle, Kenfig Hill and Cefn Cribwr but offered to support Aberkenfig whilst the ward councillor is unwell. She made clear that she remains willing to help constituents, and by the nature of her role often takes referrals from across the County, but that such referrals need to be made via direct contact and not via social media 'tagging'.

Cllr Barker gave updates on the Glanrhyd bins; she noted ownership and responsibility was unclear and Health staff had been emptying the bins but were no longer prepared to handle dog waste which was increasingly being dumped on the floor. She was advised a wheelie bin had been placed as a temporary measure .

Cwrt y Cadno lights had been fixed further to a number of attempts

The Flashing 30mph sign at Tyn y Garn needs disconnecting (by 17th Sept), and utilising elsewhere. Centregreat may disconnect if we approach them

Crossing patrol vacancies were noted.

In light of recent activity and concerns for safety, Councillors asked to have their personal details removed from the NHCC Council noticeboards and websites and contact to go through the Clerk.

### **105/24 Correspondence**

Council noted correspondence, and asked for SWP figures to be circulated.

Bridgend Carers centre letter, Council noted they did not currently have a grant process to consider applications. It was RESOLVED that this passed to Finance and Audit to progress at a future meeting.

Proposed Cllr Griffiths Seconded Cllr Gebbie

### **106/24 Consideration of Planning applications: Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)**

None to consider

### **107/24 Dates of Forward Committee meetings**

To be agreed with the new clerk.

### **108/24 To Confirm the date of the next meeting**

10/10/23 at 6.30pm. Venue TBC

### **109/24 Public Interest Test**

The council RESOLVED that by virtue of the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that with regards to the

next two agenda items, disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the personal and confidential nature disclosed in the business to be transacted.

Proposed: Cllr Griffiths      Seconded Cllr Gebbie

**110/24 Clerk Recruitment:**

It was confirmed that interviews had been held by a panel of 3 Councillors from the HR Committee and two candidates were shortlisted. Induction, support and probationary were agreed. Cllr Griffiths as Chair of HR would be the line manager.

It was RESOLVED by Council to offer the contract to the recommended named candidate subject to satisfactory references.

Proposed: Cllr Gebbie      Seconded Cllr Hewitt

**111/24 Social Media misinformation**

Further to what had transpired in the last 7-10 days through misinformation being peddled on social media, Council agreed a course of action.

Cllr Gebbie had been in touch with police and received advice and also suggested a meeting risk assessment process for future meetings.

**112/24 Remembrance Sunday**

Whilst not on the agenda, Chair allowed as an urgent business item, Council would approach contacts regarding Remembrance day and whether people were available for a Sunday or Saturday service (11/11/23 is a Saturday). Cllr Bennett to enquire and feedback.

The Chair thanked all those attending.

The meeting closed at 830pm