



Newcastle Higher Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Castellnewydd Uwch

Minutes of Newcastle Higher Community Council's Meeting at Aberkenfig Welfare Hall and Online on the 18th of April 2023 at 6:30pm

PRESIDING:	Cllr H Bennett	
COUNCILLORS PRESENT:	Cllr Barker	Cllr Flanagan
	Cllr Gebbie	Cllr Griffiths
	Cllr Hopkins	Cllr Kemble
	Cllr Morgan	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Mx C Willcox (Locum Clerk)	
	12 Members of the Public	

01/24 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr G Hewitt, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Brown, and Cllr Botterill

02/24 TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (10 MINS)

A Member of the public addressed Members to enquire as to the attendance of PCSOs at Full Council meetings, and regarding the school crossing patrol. A further request was made that the crime figures be circulated. The Chairperson advised the public that dialogue had taken place between the Community Council and the PCSOs and that attendance was invited and that the PCSO would attend when they were able. The Chair also advised Members of the Public that the School Crossing Patrol was with the Borough Council at this time.

Members of the public also addressed Members regarding Item 09/24.d. Concerns were raised regarding the environment, including the preservation of a lime tree and the bat population. Additional issues concerned additional traffic concerns and access routes, including parking and street furniture. Concerns were also shared concerning the application's proposed building materials and lack of continuity.

In addition, Members of the public spoke regarding concerns with a significant amount of fly-tipping and rodents, in particular, in the locality of Bridgend Road and Riverside.

In closing, Members of the public were thanked for their contributions and encouraged to also approach and email BCBC.

03/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 51 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000. ANY INTERESTS TO BE DECLARED AS ITEMS ARISE THROUGH THE MEETING.

Declarations were received from: Cllr Bennett, Cllr Kemble, and Cllr Griffiths as members of PVCA – Penyfai Village Community Association); Cllr Bennett regarding

BCBC Development Control (affecting planning application Items); Cllr Gebbie regarding BCBC Policy Issues; and Cllr Hopkins regarding Item 09/23.d

04/24 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THEREOF MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 14TH MARCH 2023.

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the 14th of March 2023 be approved as true and accurate.

05/24 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH MARCH 2023 NOT ALREADY ON THE AGENDA.

Cllr Hopkins advised Members that he believes a different decision should have been considered regarding the defibrillator.

Members were advised of updates from the Chair including information that a new set of Standing Orders was being produced by One Voice Wales; interviews were scheduled for the position of Clerk to the Council with handover largely completed from outgoing clerk; the installation of the defibrillator was proceeding; the new website was being updated with transferred content; the annual report was being drafted; the Internal Auditor was engaged as previously agreed and documents would be sent to them in due course. The WAO were seeking clarification on documentation of the cashbook, bank statements, and minutes. The Council continues the dialogue with the WAO regarding these items.

The Chair also advised Members that they had temporarily take on the responsibility of processing Payroll.

Members thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for their continued work in this period.

06/24 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

Reports were received from PVCA representatives. They provided Members with an update regarding the Warm Welcome initiative, current grant applications, and a successful litter pick initiative.

Members noted the good community support and thanked representatives.

07/24 UPDATES AND RATIFICATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. STAFFING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28TH FEBRUARY 2023

Members were updated as to the progress of the recruitment of a new Clerk.

B. MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

An update was provided regarding the previously agreed flower baskets, including a breakdown of the financial agreements for the delegated £6,500.

Members were also advised that contractors had been approached regarding the noticeboards and that a location had been sourced for the grit bin.

Financially, the cutting of Pheasant Field had been agreed and Members were advised that the monies were awaiting claim and allocation.

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the following payments be ratified by Full Council regarding the flower baskets:

A sum of not more than £1450 for uploading and checking

A sum of not more than £140 per visit for between 15 and 25 visits per year (watering and maintenance)

A sum of not more than £1757.00 for flowers and planting.

C. WELLBEING COMMITTEE

Members were advised that the latest meeting had not taken place.

08/24 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & FINANCIAL UPDATE

A. TO NOTE BANK RECONCILIATION SUMMARY AS AT THE 31ST MARCH 2023

Members were advised of the current progress with document handovers. The Bank Reconciliation would be brought back to Full Council in due course.

B. TO APPROVE A LIST OF PAYMENTS MADE UP TO THE 11TH APRIL 2023.

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** to accept the Payment Schedule as advised on the agenda with further ratification of:

£55.00 payable to the Allotments Society (membership)

£100.72 payable to Zoom (software subscription)

£300.00 payable as Councillor Allowance (details to be supplied as statutory requirements)

£25 per hour for the remuneration of a locum Clerk (invoices to be supplied)

C. TO APPROVE A LIST OF RECEIPTS RECEIVED UP TO THE 11TH APRIL

No receipts were presented to Members.

09/23 CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR RESPONSE TO BCBC

Councillors Bennett and Hopkins left the room

A. PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: P/23/83/FUL LOCATION: 2 CLOS Y TALCEN PENYFAI BRIDGEND CF31 4BU PROPOSAL: SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION; CANOPY OVER PATIO

There were no objections

B. PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: T/22/38/TPO LOCATION: 16 RIVERSIDE ABERKENFIG BRIDGEND CF32 9DA PROPOSAL: REMOVE ASH TREE DUE TO ASH DIEBACK AND REMOVE HAZEL TREE DUE TO HEAVY LEAN

There were no objections

C. PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: P/23/166/FUL LOCATION: LONGACRE OLD COACHMANS LANE COURT COLMAN BRIDGEND CF32 0HD PROPOSAL: REPLACEMENT GARAGE

There were no objections

D. PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: P/23/134/FUL LOCATION: PLOT ADJACANT TO 8 SWN YR ADAR PENYFAI BRIDGEND CF31 4GE PROPOSAL: PROPOSED NEW 3 BED DWELLING

Members noted the strong feelings from Members of the Public. Members considered concerns raised in Item 02/24 and would respond to the Planning

Authority with a formal response raising concerns with matters such as environmental and wildlife issues, traffic and access issues, and building material issues.

Cllr Gebbie left the meeting.

E. PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: P/22/484/FUL LOCATION: LAND AT PRIMROSE STABLES, OLD COACHMAN'S LANE CF31 4NG PROPOSAL:USE OF LAND AS TRAVELLING SHOW PERSONS ACCOMMODATION YARD FOR FAMILY MEMBERS TO INCLUDE THREE MOBILE LODGES/CARAVANS, 2 COMMUNAL DAY ROOMS AND ASSOCIATED WORKS (AMENDED PLANS AND NOISE SURVEY RECEIVED)

Members would respond with a formal response raising concerns with the land use falling outside of the remit of the Local Development Plan, and strong concerns regarding the routes and access for pedestrians to the local amenities. It was also advised that Active Travel concerns be raised, especially regarding any young people and school access.

10/23 TO DISCUSS KING'S CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

Cllr Bennett, Cllr Gebbie and Cllr Hopkins re-joined the meeting.

Members were advised of local events at the Church of God, Aberkenfig, and All Saints Church, Penyfai. It was noted that there were no current plans with the Community Council for events.

11/23 MEMBERS REPORTS

There were no further Member reports.

12/23 UPDATE FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

The Chair provided Members with an update regarding ongoing casework, speed, and fly-tipping issues. The lack of a bus service had been raised at borough level.

Along with litter concerns, Cllr Gebbie reiterated the concern with speeding issues and advised Members of the new 20 mph speed limits being enforced in the future. Members were keen to engage with the public regarding a consultation for the speed changes.

Cllr Gebbie also informed Members of the Protect Duty, and shared concerns that little information had been shared to date.

13/23 CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr Gebbie left the meeting.

AUDIT WALES

Members were advised that the WAO had written to request clarification on three points.

LETTER RE PHEASANT FIELD - T. MORGAN

Members were advised that a letter requesting grass cutting at the above field had been received for football club use. A response had been sent The Clerk advised

Members to consider a Hire Agreement for the use of the field on a prolonged basis and would send the required documents for consideration.

FOI: Members were also advised under this item that an FOI request had been received from a County Councillor and was actioned as per requirements.

14/23 SOUTH WALES POLICE REPORT (FOR INFORMATION)

Members received a report of crime figures received from the police.

15/23 DATE OF NEXT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

The date of the next Maintenance Committee meeting would be agreed and an agenda sent out in due course. The forward committee plan would also be sent out in due course.

Introduction of Standing Order 3(d) – by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, members of the press and public shall be excluded

16/23 TO DISCUSS HR ISSUES

The Chair updated Members on the progress of recruiting a new Clerk along with the handover process to date. The dates of the interviews were shared. Members were keen that the new Clerk be supported in their role and discussed CiLCA certification and training.

Conclusion of Standing Order 3(d)

17/23 TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meetings would be the AGM and Full Council meeting to take place on the 9th of May 2023

There being no more business, the meeting closed.

Signed

Date

Chair of Newcastle Higher Community Council