

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 8th April 2021

Present: Cllr Colin Woodley (Chair), Cllr Richard Jones (Vice Chair), Cllr Lynwen Law, Cllr Jenny Myring, Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach, Cllr Jenny Edwards, Cllr Margaret Amos, Cllr Ceri Woodley, Cllr Morien Morgan, Cllr Non Thomas, Cllr Carol Hindley, Cllr Adrian Harford, Cllr Claire Matsell, Cllr Debbie Smart,

Attending: CBC Graham Thomas, CBC Karen Morgan

Apologies: None

2021/062- Disclosures of Personal Interest

There were no disclosures of personal interest.

2021/063 - PCSO report

The PCSO provided the following written report:

A joint patrol was conducted last month with myself and the council parking wardens. Everything was all in order at the time and no issues to report. Reports of anti-social behaviour have gone down which is also good news. I will also be patrolling around the school more often due the children now being back in.

Cllr Lynwen Law arrived at the meeting at 6.33pm.

Cllrs reported the following issues to the PCSO:

Cllr Carol Hindley reported speeding issues in the Springfield Gardens area. It was agreed that these issues should be reported to 101 at the time they occur. **Action 1** – Executive Officer circulate the PCSO's email address to Cllrs.

Cllr Jenny Edwards reported that there are burnt patches of grass where fires have been lit, along with broken bottles on Hirwaun Village Green.

Cllr Claire Matsell reported an issue with cars gathering late at night at the turning circle on the old Penderyn Road, who's occupants are causing noise, and are discarding their takeaway wrappers and nitrous oxide canisters, along with spoking cannabis. A local resident has had rubbish thrown into her garden.

Cllr Non Thomas reported an issue with a large amount of nitrous oxide canisters being discarded at the Welfare Ground, along with cars gathering there at night.

Cllr Richard Jones asked that any emails sent to the PCSO by Cllrs should have the Executive Officer cc'd in.

The Executive officer reported an issue at The Havens where there have been instances of anti-social behaviour with youngsters entering their garden area. Plants have also been stolen from the garden.

Cllrs raised concerns in relation to the increased incidences of anti-social behaviour in the village and asked that we have a bigger police presence in the village.

Cllr Ceri Woodley left the meeting at 6.40pm.

2021/064 – County Borough Cllr reports

CBC Karen Morgan provided her apologies for not being able to provide a written report for last month's meeting. She provided the following written report for this month:

- Breakfast Clubs. Received many complaints, including the online application system crashing, many parents unable to get a place. There is a reserve list but numbers are restricted due to less space available in schools. The service is for any children who need a meal before school and priority cannot be given to keyworkers.
- Attended virtual meeting with NRW, Cae Felin residents and MS about flood risk. Going forward there will be a community flood group to put in place whatever measures are available to manage flooding, prior to, during and after any event. It is hoped the group will also be a communication pathway between all agencies.
- Ironworks Bridge. Have received a response informing me that the contractors should be siting the new bridge by this summer.
- Lights on Coop steps reported again. Concerned that this issue needs addressing before any formal adoption of site.
- Fly tipping. Reported incidents rear of Glannant Street and Caswell Close, Swansea Road (bottles emptied from minibus), and contents of bin strewn across Tramway Playground.
- A465 dualling. Received complaints about preparatory works at the rear of Denbeigh Court. Spoke to Community Liaison and asked them to deliver letters with contact details to residents, also asked for road sweeper for mud and debris on Swansea Rd
- Longfield Court – problems with footpath and mud coming off new school site
- Rose Row Traveller Site. An enforcement notice is due to be served but will need to go to planning committee first. At the moment the site is empty apart from Geese.
- A joint patrol with Parking enforcement and local police has taken place following reports of abusive and intimidating behaviour towards enforcement. No problems on the day.
- Recently wrote to the Police Inspector to express concern about plans to move our PC from the neighbourhood team to the response team which would have meant being without a PC for at least 3 months, thankfully the Inspector has reversed the decision.
- Tower restoration – received complaints about the mess behind the Welfare (described as like Beirut). Next meeting not until end of May.
- Enviroparks. Planning committee reaffirmed the decision to refuse the application on 28th March. Waiting to hear now whether the applicant will appeal or proceed with 45m stack (environmental permit dependant). Very frustrated at RCT stance that the recent documents released by the

Environment Minister do not apply to this application. The action group believes this stance is open to challenge.

- Chased up double yellow lines for outside the new houses on Penderyn Rd. Unfortunately, these will only be as effective as the enforcement of them.
- Made representations on behalf of residents and as a result dropped kerbs are to be installed at Bethel Place and near the bus stops at Greenwood Drive. Recently had an incident where a resident struggled to get up the kerb with a pushchair when trying to get to safety due to a speeding car.

Cllr Ceri Woodley returned to the meeting at 6.45pm.

The following matters were reported to CBC Morgan:

Cllr Jenny Myring advised that she hadn't heard anything about the flood group meeting being held in Cae Felin Parc. CBC Morgan replied that it had only been advertised on social media and that she would try to do a letter drop for the residents not on social media. Cllr Myring advised that she would try to inform the residents not on social media also.

CBC Graham Thomas provided the following written report:

- Cynon Valley Gateway - Consultation regarding Cynon Valley Gateway. When is the consultation period and why has Hirwaun & Penderyn Community Council not been consulted as yet given the application went in on 24th February? I was also asked whether they could invite a planning officer to attend the next Hirwaun & Penderyn Community Council to provide information and answer any questions. Reply from Planning Officer: The application is still being processed and the consultation dates will be provided to the Community Council in the usual way. A planning officer has offered to attend a meeting of Hirwaun & Penderyn Council to answer any questions raised. I have notified the Executive Officer who has been in contact with the planning officer to make the appropriate arrangements.
- Request for Dog Bin opposite Church Foel Road - Request sent to Streetcare/Customer Care. Reply from Streetcare - Post opposite Church is a Western Power post we are unable to attach a bin to this. No suitable location in area, due to narrow road and lack of passing places.
- Penderyn Quarry Notice Board - Following my notification to Penderyn Quarry that planning permission will be required by National Parks. Penderyn Quarry has requested whether the Community Council could make the application as they are unable to release people to cover the application. Penderyn Quarry will cover all costs including any planning application fees.
- Enviroparks - The second committee meeting, regarding the Enviroparks 90 metre stack planning application, took place on March 25th. This re-affirmed the decision to refuse and was supported by the committee with no votes against that decision. It is anticipated that this will be the subject of Appeal to the Inspectorate. It is worth noting, that whatever the outcome of that Appeal, Enviroparks will still have to secure a permit to operate from Natural Resources Wales whether it is a 90 metre stack or a 45 metre stack permitted under current consent.
- Penderyn Quarry - Complaint of strong odour possibly from the roadstone coating plant on 19th March. Complaint from 26th March of material carried onto the highway being thrown up in clouds of dust by passing vehicles. Lorries have to go through wheel wash at weigh bridge so material is either of the sheeted load and/or body of lorries. If this cannot be satisfactorily controlled there needs to be a more effective road cleansing schedule.
- Superfast Broadband FTTP - Meetings have been held with Beth Winter MP and Vikki Howells MS over recent months to roll out Superfast Broadband (FTTP) via a community voucher scheme. Vouchers drawn down by residents and businesses and matched by Welsh Government to meet a target to implement a scheme. The current scheme came to a conclusion on March 31st with target

being met. Another scheme will follow. You will have seen work at Bryn Onnen; LLwyn Onn and Woodland Park. When infrastructure is completed over the coming months residents will be able to access the service via the usual service providers.

- Tower Liaison Committee - I have asked why we are not meeting until May when the last meeting was in January and should be bi-monthly. Not received a response other than it will be passed on for a reply. There are issues to be raised in terms of final restoration/flooding and buried tyres.

The following matters were reported to CBC Thomas:

Cllr Margaret Amos asked for an update on the culvert at Bryn Onnen. CBC Thomas replied that the culvert is 35 years old and is on land leased to Penderyn Community Centre. He is currently looking into if the culvert is the cause of the flooding, and who is responsible for any repairs to the culvert.

2021/065 – Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting of 11th March 2021 were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Jenny Edwards and seconded by Cllr Non Thomas and agreed nem con.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2021/066– Cynon Gateway Planning Application

The Executive Officer advised that RCT were in agreement to attending a meeting with Cllrs to discuss this planning application. **Action 2** – Executive Officer to arrange.

2021/067 – Quad Bikes on Arway

The Executive Officer advised the site visit is still in the process of being organised.

2021/068 – Hirwaun Primary School Car Park Planning Application

The Executive Officer provided an update on the planning application. Cllr Richard Jones confirmed that he had a draft response to submit. **Action 3** – Cllr Richard Jones to send draft response to the Executive Officer to submit to RCT.

2021/069 – PPE Graphic

Cllrs discussed the PPE poster drafted by Cllr Richard Jones. It was agreed that we need to continue getting this message out to residents and to step it up in stages. **Action 4** – Cllrs to continue sending in photos.

2021/070 – Finance Training

The Executive Officer advised that One Voice Wales had apologised for their error with the training session for Cllr Non Thomas and had provided a free place for the correct session.

2021/071 – Vexatious Comments Guide

The Executive Officer advised that this was ongoing and would be added to the website by the next meeting.

2021/072 – Litter picking Consultation

The Executive Officer confirmed that a Special meeting had been held and comments had been submitted.

2021/073 - Good Cllrs Guide to Cyber Security

The Executive Officer advised that this was ongoing and will be dealt with by the next meeting.

2021/074 – Light up Wales to Remember

The Executive Officer advised that this was advertised via posters around the village and via the Facebook page.

2021/075 - Planning Applications

- Change of use to include refurbishment and extension of two steel framed buildings – Tower Colliery, Rhigos Mountain Road, Rhigos.

Cllr Ceri Woodley left the meeting at 7.20pm.

- Change of use of land for erection of a structure for use by coaster karts, alterations to existing lamp room, above ground land reprofiling, creation of vehicular access and closure of existing vehicular access – Land at Rhigos Mountain and former Tower Colliery site – Rhigos Road, Hirwaun.
- Proposed extension – 52 Llys Cynon, Hirwaun.
- Penderyn Community Centre – Decision notice – Permission granted.
- Cysgod Y Carfan, Church Rd, Penderyn – Decision notice – Permission granted
- Garth Madrin, Church Road, Penderyn – Decision notice – Permission granted.

2021/076 - Community Councillors reports:

Cllr Jenny Edwards confirmed that she has attended the Let's Talk about the Outdoors Meet and Greet, along with the Woodland Wellbeing session. She also reported that a resident had reported rubbish dumped on the turning circle at Old Penderyn Road and that a tree had come down there, falling into a resident's garden. RCT have removed the tree but the stump, roots and hole are still there. **Action 5** – Executive Officer to contact RCT in relation to the tree stump.

Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach advised that she had assisted a resident with an issue getting a place at breakfast club. She also referred to the Great British Spring Clean launch event that she attended.

Cllr Debbie Smart advised that she had been contacted by the Blood Service in relation to blood donor sessions being held. **Action 6** – Executive Officer to advertise the sessions on the Facebook page.

Cllr Adrian Harford advised that he had been liaising with CBC Karen Morgan and the PCSO in relation to cars racing between the Hirwaun and Rhigos roundabouts and fires being burnt on the old Ferraris site. He also advised that he is currently liaising with Healthy Hearts.

Cllr Non Thomas advised of grants that may be available to us following the Great British Spring clean launch event she attended. She also advised that she had contacted RCT in relation to the street cleansing schedule in Hirwaun and issues regarding litter bins.

Cllr Ceri Woodley returned to the meeting at 7.38pm.

Cllr Ceri Woodley advised that a Hirwaun resident had reported an issue with cyclists using the Cefndon playing fields and putting up ramps there. **Action 7** – Executive Officer to report the issue to RCT.

2021/077 – Community Cllr Allowance

Cllrs discussed the allowances available to them as set out by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRP). The Executive Officer advised that any allowances paid, or nil return if no allowances were paid, must be made available to the IRP and published on our noticeboards each year.

The following decisions were made:

- The payment of £150 per year to each Cllr. - This is a mandated allowance but Cllrs are able to opt out. Opt out forms were made available to Cllrs.
- The payment of £500 per year to up to 5 Cllrs in a Senior Role. - Cllrs agreed to reject these allowances.
- The Reimbursement to Cllrs for travel costs for attending approved duties – Cllrs agreed to accept this allowance for approved duties only.
- Reimbursement to Cllrs for subsistence where a duty requires an overnight stay – Cllrs agreed to accept this allowance for approved duties only.
- Compensation for financial loss – Cllrs agreed to accept this allowance for approved duties only.
- Reimbursement of the cost of care – Cllrs agreed to accept this allowance for approved duties only.
- Chair/Vice Chair Honoraria – Cllrs agreed to reject this allowance.

2021/078 – One Voice Wales Membership

Cllrs agreed to renew the Community Council's membership of One Voice Wales.

2021/079 – Great British Spring Clean 2021

The Executive Officer advised that the advice from Keep Wales Tidy at present is for individuals or small family groups to take part in the Great British Spring Clean and for community events not to be held due to Covid guidelines. Cllrs agreed with this advice. Discussions also took place in relation to Cllrs carrying out individual litter picks themselves. **Action 8** – Executive Officer to promote on Facebook.

2021/080 – Garden Show

Cllr Jenny Myring raised the running of this year's garden show with Cllrs. Cllrs discussed the logistics of running the show in line with Covid restrictions. A sub committee of Cllrs Jenny Myring, Richard Jones, Marguerite Courtney-Solbach, Jenny Edwards, Margaret Amos, Lynwen Law, Non Thomas, Carol Hindley, Adrian Harford and Claire Matsell was set up to take this forward.

2021/081 – Shrubs at Hirwaun Public Toilets

The planting of the last of the butterfly friendly shrubs and general tidy up of the garden area was discussed by Cllrs. It was agreed that Cllrs Jenny Myring and Non Thomas would weed the flower beds and Cllrs Morien Morgan and Adrian Harford would plant the last of the shrubs.

2021/082 – BBNP Management Plan Review Consultation

Cllrs discussed this consultation and formulated a response. **Action 9** – Executive Officer to respond to BBNP.

2021/083 – Executive Officer's report

The Executive Officer recited the bills paid for the month which included:

Print Partnership - £6.86

Daisy Communications - £72.17

Vision ICT - £150

One Voice Wales training - £15.00

One Voice Wales membership renewal - £807.00

Consultations:

1. Local Authority Power to Trade – No comment.

The Council had received the following correspondence:

1. Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act update – Letter from Julie James MS.

2. Valleys Steps/Coed Lleol.

3. Enviroparks updates from CBC Graham Thomas and Vikki Howells MS.

4. Welsh Government Use Your Views Toolkit – Cllrs agreed to take this forward.

Action 10 – Executive Officer to publish on Facebook.

5. Bumble Bee Conservation Trust campaign – Cllrs agreed to take forward this campaign. **Action 11** – Executive Officer to add to our Facebook page.

6. Email from resident requesting one way system in Hirwaun – Cllrs discussed this request and it was advised that we had made this request ourselves in the past and it was refused by RCT. Cllrs agreed that this village is in need of a one way system and that they wish to support this resident's request by contacting RCT. **Action 12** – Executive Officer to contact RCT in relation to installing a one way system in Hirwaun.

7. Two emails from Penderyn Community Centre who are unhappy with our adoption of the vexatious comments policy. Cllrs noted the emails and agreed to no further response.

8. Refill Cymru training dates for Cllrs to book on to if they wish to attend.

9. BBNP Management Plan – Vision and Objectives session – Cllrs to book themselves on if they wish to attend.
10. The Executive Officer advised that end of year is due for the staff pension scheme.
11. The Executive Officer advised that this year’s audit letter has come in dates for compliance. Work will now need to start to prepare for this.
12. The Executive Officer advised that we were successful in the Lottery funding to purchase high vis vests for Cllrs to wear whilst on council activities, supplies for the seed bomb event this year, plus spring bulbs to plant in the villages.

Other:

1. Welsh Government Climate Change newsletter. Cllrs discussed this and raised concerns which are to be forwarded to Welsh Government. **Action 13** – Cllr Morien Morgan to draft a response which is to be approved by Cllrs before the Executive Officer sends it to Welsh Government.
2. Countryside Code refresh.
3. Joint OVW/SLCC clerks conference - Permission was granted for the Executive Officer to attend. Permission was also granted for payroll to be run a day early in order to facilitate the attendance at this training session.
4. The Executive Officer confirmed that the new Penderyn Christmas lights have been ordered. Cllrs in the Penderyn Christmas lighting sub committee agreed that any surplus funds from Hanson would be used to cover the cost of the Centregreat 2021 bill. There is an option for the Tower Fund to cover the cost of the four extra lights to be installed at the War Memorial.
5. The Executive Officer suggested a project to for 2022 in which the arcway would be turned into a sculpture trail. Grant funding would need to be sought to cover the cost. Cllrs agreed to look into taking this forward. **Action 14** – Executive Officer and Cllrs to take this forward.
6. Interlink Acts of Kindness grant for April 2021 – Cllrs agreed to purchase plants for the garden area at The Havens following the theft of the plants from there. **Action 15** – Executive Officer to purchase the plants. Cllrs to plant.
7. The Executive Officer provided an update following the Hirwaun village improvements committee meeting. It has been agreed that we would seek permission to install two benches and some planters on the grassy area by Hirwaun Primary, adjacent to the new car park. The CIL money from the building of the Co-op would be used to cover the cost of this.

2021/084 - Urgent items at the Chair’s discretion

There were no urgent items to discuss.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.