

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 13th May 2021

Present: Cllr Richard Jones (Chair), Cllr Colin Woodley (Vice Chair), Cllr Lynwen Law, 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 Debbie Smart,

Attending: N/a

Apologies: Cllr Jenny Myring, Cllr Claire Matsell, CBC Graham Thomas, CBC Karen Morgan

2021/085 – Election of Chair

Cllr Colin Woodley advised Cllrs that he wished to stand down from the role of Chair. He thanked Cllrs and the Executive Officer for the support given to him during his 8 years of being elected as Chair of this Community Council. He concluded by proposing that Cllr Richard Jones be elected as Chair.

Cllr Richard Jones accepted this nomination and Cllr Non Thomas seconded the proposal. There were no other nominations put forward and Cllrs agreed nem con that Cllr Richard Jones be elected as Chair.

Cllr Jones thanked Cllr Colin Woodley on behalf of all Cllrs for the work that he has done as Chair over the last 8 years.

2021/086 – Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Richard Jones proposed that Cllr Colin Woodley be elected as Vice Chair of this Community Council. Cllr Woodley accepted this nomination which was seconded by Cllr Carol Hindley. There were no other nominations put forward and Cllrs agreed nem con that Cllr Colin Woodley be elected as Vice Chair.

2021/087- Disclosures of Personal Interest

Cllr Richard Jones disclosed a prejudicial interest in the proposed Cynon Gateway North project as a landowner and his involvement in the campaign to oppose it.

Cllrs Non Thomas and Morien Morgan disclosed a personal interest in the proposed Cynon Gateway project due to their involvement in the campaign to oppose it.

2021/088 - PCSO report

The PCSO provided the following written report:

Please could I kindly ask that residents of the regular anti-social behaviour hotspots report all matters to 999 or 101 so that there is a log of what is happening within the village. When the matter is logged the appropriate resources can be allocated at the

time of the incident and officers can be released to the call if possible. Regular patrols are conducted by myself in these areas too. Also, CCTV would benefit in the village as a deterrent for the increasing levels of antisocial behaviour and would help us to identify the subjects. On a more positive note, I have submitted 6 anti-social behaviour referrals in the last 2 weeks and have spoken to a few parents regarding behaviour which will hopefully help! I have also been liaising with County Borough Cllr Karen Morgan regarding these matters.

Cllrs reported the following issues to the PCSO:

Cllr Non Thomas reported an issue with young boys on bikes gathering on High Street by the library and new Premier shop and asked for police patrols of the village in the evenings. Cllr Morien Morgan added that the schools should also be contacted due to the safety issue of these children doing wheelies along the road on High St with no concern for approaching traffic. **Action 1** – Executive Officer to report the matter to the schools in addition to the PCSO.

Cllr Debbie Smart reported an issue of cars parking on pavements at The Lamb end of Penderyn which are causing an obstruction for a resident with a mobility scooter who can't get past.

2021/089 – County Borough Cllr reports

In her absence CBC Karen Morgan provided the following written report:

- Requested clearance of fallen trees from PROW leading from Tramway playground to Merthyr Road
- A465 Dualling. Received complaints about the 40 mph speed limit put in place before the May bank holiday weekend when there was no sign of any work activity taking place on the stretch between Hirwaun and Cefn. Some journeys are taking up to 45 minutes. Response received from the construction liaison officer was that:
- The 40mph limit was put in place to get drivers used to the new speed limit and also to undertake some remedial repairs to the existing carriageway while the road is still 3 lanes. When construction is fully underway there will be a single lane each way to allow for rescue and recovery.
- Traffic monitoring is in place and they will look at why the delays occurred, I also discussed the bottlenecks on the approach to Baverstocks, the Llwydcoed junction and Cefn roundabout
- It is envisaged that the 40mph will remain in place for the duration of the works.
- Damaged highway Station Rd. Reported cracking and deterioration near the bridge, inspection revealed no risk of collapse but remedial work to surface has been undertaken.
- Proposal for new car park for new school will be going to planning committee next Thursday. There are still some concerns about the ownership of the land and whether a car park goes against green transport policies. It is a difficult balancing act when in reality there are problems for residents caused by parents parking for the school run.
- Works to install the new pedestrian crossing on Brecon Rd between Manchester Place and Cross Street junctions will commence on Monday May 17th until 21st June. The work will include excavation, new kerbs, footpath works and new lighting columns. Traffic management will be in place for the duration and residents will have received letters informing them of the works.

- Contacted public health about an increase in rats at Tower Rd following clearance and excavation works on the HOV road and the site adjacent to Ferraris. Awaiting progress report
- Submitted a request for a dog litter bin in the vicinity of the Catholic Church, dog mess bags are being thrown into the bushes there.
- I have been contacted about reviewing and maintenance of defibrillators in Hirwaun and am meeting them next week, I made them aware of Cllr Hartford's involvement and will update him because he is unable to make the meeting.
- Litter/Fly tipping. Problems continue on the Gower estate, I have requested a joint exercise involving Streetcare, Enforcement and Trivallis.
I have also noticed an increase of litter on the streets over the weekend, although bins are emptied on Fridays they are often overflowing before Monday. There is supposed to be a streetcare presence over weekends, I have written to relevant officers to ask them to confirm whether that presence includes Hirwaun. On a positive note I would like to express thanks to the residents and the Community Councillors who have been involved in litter picking over recent weeks, a huge amount of litter has been cleared from streets and especially from undergrowth and off the beaten track. Well done to all involved.
- Continuing on a positive note, Hirwaun RFC have created a new beer garden space in the car park and a basement level bar, together with other improvement works. Much of the work has been undertaken by volunteers who use/support the club and also supported by Hansons. They have applied to vary their licence to include the new facilities. Opening times will remain the same except for an extra hour on Saturday, opening at 11am.
- Also pleased to have supported Cynon Valley Cavaliers Junior Rugby League teams in securing the Cefndon pitch for training and matches. The Cavaliers will be based from Hirwaun RFC.

The following matters were reported to CBC Morgan:

Cllr Carol Hindley asked for an update on the crossing being installed by Greenwood Drive bus stop.

Cllr Jenny Edwards stated that the new crossing on Brecon Road is very close to the existing crossing at The Prince of Wales and asked what is the logic behind it. The Executive Officer updated Cllrs on our flower basket and Christmas light which are being moved from its current location to a lamppost nearby to accommodate the new crossing.

Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach raised concerns in relation to the works on the A465 which are causing bottlenecks in traffic and delays in journey time. Cllr Colin Woodley added to these concerns in relation to access issues at the Cefn roundabout.

CBC Graham Thomas provided the following written report:

- Entrance to Yr Eithin - Email has been sent to Streetcare requesting repair to access footpath to gated entrance of Yr Eithin (off Bryn Onnen). Reply that Streetcare has attended to improve the path edging and put in some strips of tarmac repair but the footpath is part of Yr Eithin for any upgrading or replacement.
- Footpaths A4059 Chapel Rd junction to entrance to bus terminus - Email sent to Streetcare for repair/resurfacing. Also site visit made with Projects Engineer to view the footpath and recommend for inclusion in future capital programme.

- Penderyn Quarry Notice Board - This was raised at the last meeting of Penderyn Quarry Liaison Group and it was agreed that the matter be referred back to Hirwaun & Penderyn Community Council for further consideration of a planning application and it is on the agenda for the meeting on May 13th 21. Penderyn Quarry will cover all costs including any planning application fees.
- Penderyn Quarry Liaison Group 29th May - The following matters were included for attention:
 - 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.
 - RCT Streetcare has subsequently been contacted with a view to restoring the previous road cleansing schedule shared between RCT; Penderyn Quarry and W.D.Lewis and included cleansing from the Quarry to Trebanog Terrace.
- Superfast Broadband FTTP - I attended a site visit with Openreach and Beth Winter MP to view progress. Residents in Llwyn Onn and Bryn Onnen are now able to access high speed broadband via their respective internet providers. Further south to Woodland Park to be available in the next stage. Project to be fully completed by September.
- Tower Liaison Committee - Next meeting has been arranged for May 24th at 3pm. There are issues to be raised in terms of final restoration/flooding and buried tyres.
- Follow up on flooding adjacent to 19 Bryn Onnen - Following actions taken after the recent flooding that included jetting the drainage sections and ensuring that they were clear it was further identified that attention was needed for the drainage ditch to the rear at Yr Eithin may be required. Although hydraulic overload due to the excessive rainfall in a short period may have caused the field to flood. I have contacted Corporate Estates to establish the terms of lease to Penderyn Community Centre and that includes the identified drainage ditch. I have further contacted RCT Drainage Engineer to establish what advice/hands on assistance could be provided to help with the drainage ditch clearance.
- Kissing Gate off the A4059 south of Llwyn Onn. - The Kissing Gate leads to the reservoir area and is in a state of disrepair and the footpath also blocked by overgrowth. After contacting National Parks and RCT Council I have been informed that this is a private road and may be the responsibility of Welsh Water to repair and maintain. I have also asked for attention to the overgrowth blocking the footpath at the Kissing Gate.

The following matters were reported to CBC Thomas:

Cllr Colin Woodley asked why the farms at Penderyn had not been invited take part in the broadband scheme.

Cllr Debbie Smart asked for an update on the dog waste bin due to be installed at The Red Lion.

Cllr Margaret Amos reported an issue with broken beer bottles at the MUGA in Penderyn and asked for the appropriate signage to be installed.

2021/090 – Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting of 8th April 2021 were, subject to a minor amendment, proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Colin Woodley and seconded by Cllr Margaret Amos and agreed nem con.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2021/091 – Speeding Issues – Springfield Gardens

The Executive Officer advised that this issue has been reported to the PCSO and their contact details have been circulated to Cllrs.

2021/092 – Hirwaun Primary School Carpark Planning Application Response

Cllr Richard Jones confirmed that he had drafted the response and submitted it to RCT planning.

2021/093 – Tree Down – Penderyn Road

The Executive Officer advised Cllrs of RCT's response that there are no plans to remove the tree stump as it will regenerate as it is a willow. Cllr Jenny Edwards raised concerns that it will attract litter and asked again that the tree be removed. **Action 2** – Executive Officer to contact RCT again.

2021/094 – Cyclists using Cefndon Playing Fields

The Executive Officer advised that the RCT Parks department had advised that they will continue to monitor this issue and remove any ramps installed but it is difficult to enforce as the fields are not manned. Cllr Morien Morgan added that a hole has now been dug there to make an earth ramp which could cause an accident if you didn't know it is there as it is on the main route walking through the fields. **Action 3** – Cllr Non Thomas to take a photo of the issue. Executive Officer to report back to RCT.

2021/095 – One Way System - Hirwaun

The Executive Officer advised that although the request for the one way system had been submitted to RCT, no response has been received. **Action 4** – Executive Officer to chase again.

2021/096 – Welsh Government Climate Change Newsletter

Cllrs agreed that no response was required to this newsletter.

2021/097 – Arcway Sculpture Trail

Cllr Colin Woodley provided Cllrs with an update on this following a site visit with Brecon Beacons National Park. Issues discussed included the need for resurfacing certain sections, the misuse of the arcway by motorised vehicles and the need for the keys to be registered.

Cllr Ceri Woodley left the meeting at 7.04pm

Cllr Colin Woodley continued that whilst the arcway was an ideal area for wheelchair users there is no access point suitable to allow wheelchairs through. The addition of a sculpture trail was discussed along with the installation of benches and dog waste/litter bins.

Discussions took place following this update and it was agreed that the Executive Officer would write to BBNP to outline what was agreed at the site visit. It was also agreed that Cllrs would walk the arcway in a small group to identify suitable locations for the benches, bins and sculptures. **Action 5** – Actions to be carried out as above.

2021/098 - Planning Applications

- First floor extension- 75 Maescynon, Hirwaun,
- Single storey side extension – 1 Meadow Close, Hirwaun

Due to his prejudicial interest, Cllr Richard Jones was put into the waiting room and Cllr Colin Woodley took on the role of Chair for this part of the meeting.

- Cynon Gateway North – Cllrs discussed the draft response to the planning application as drafted by Cllr Morien Morgan. Cllr Morien outlined the further points that he wished to add and it was agreed that it would then be circulated to Cllrs for final approval before being submitted to RCT. **Action 6** – Actions to be carried out as above.

Cllr Ceri Woodley returned to the meeting at 7.19pm.

Cllr Richard Jones returned to the meeting at this point and resumed his role as Chair.

2021/099 – Penderyn Quarry Noticeboard

Cllr Colin Woodley updated Cllrs following a meeting with Hanson in relation to the installation of a noticeboard for their community liaison meeting minutes. He advised that Hanson had now agreed that they would submit the planning application as they have more staffing resources than the Community Council and we are not legally able to apply for planning on behalf of a third party. It has been agreed that our Executive Officer would provide them with the details of the noticeboard company and any contact details that they require at BBNP so that they can submit their application.

2021/100 – Defibrillators – Hirwaun and Penderyn

Following the request from Calon Hearts who have full funding available to install a defibrillator in Penderyn, Cllr Debbie Smart advised Cllrs that she is in the process of trying to secure a suitable location for it to be installed. An update was also provided on the ongoing maintenance requirements of a defibrillator.

Cllr Adrian Harford then advised Cllrs that there is a resident in Hirwaun who wishes to fund the installation of a defibrillator there. It was advised that most of the defibrillators in Hirwaun currently have no access to them at night where their venues are closed.

The Executive Officer advised that any running costs for these had not been budgeted for in this year's budget but that grant funding could be sought to cover these costs.

Action 7 – Cllrs Adrian Harford and Debbie Smart to continue with sourcing a suitable location and to ascertain their running costs.

2021/101 - Community Councillors reports:

Cllr Colin Woodley asked for Cllrs views on holding face to face council meetings now that legislation allows for this. Cllr Richard Jones raised concerns on hybrid meetings which are unlikely to work logistics wise. Cllrs agreed to hold a trial run in July if social distancing could be accomplished in the main hall at Hirwaun Village Hall as the lounge

is too small to allow for social distancing. If the trial run is a success, meetings in person will then resume from September, COVID guidelines permitting.

Cllr Lynwen Law advised on the meeting that she has attended recently with BBNP.

Cllr Adrian Harford advised that there is an issue with rats at the old Ferraris site which he is liaising with CBC Karen Morgan about.

Cllr Non Thomas advised that she had planted the daffodil bulbs allocated to her with the help of residents Margot and Angela and thanked them for their help. Cllr Thomas also advised that she had attended the meeting with BBNP.

Cllr Debbie Smart advised of a dropped curb issue in Penderyn which needs assessment. This was referred to Accessible Wales. Cllr Smart also asked if more daffodil bulbs would be made available to the residents of Penderyn as the first batch had gone straight away. The Executive Officer confirmed that another batch will be sent up the The Lamb for residents to collect from there.

Cllr Morien Morgan advised that the dropped curbs in Hirwaun do not have the dimples on them so cars are parking across them causing access issues. This was also referred to Accessible Wales.

Cllr Margaret Amos advised that she had attended the meeting with BBNP. She also reported an issue with moss on the pavements at Llwyn Onn which needs clearing, and asked why the trees in the area had been sprayed red. **Action 8** – Executive Officer to report.

Cllr Jenny Edwards reported that she had been out litter picking in Hirwaun, planting the daffodil bulbs, helping with the planting at The Havens and had attended the arcway site visit. She advised that the recommendation from the One Voice Wales Community Liaison meetings is to continue to meet remotely. Finally, she asked if dog waste bins could be installed at either side of the bridge over the A465 at Tower Road. **Action 9** – Executive Officer to ask RCT about installing the bins.

Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach advised that she had attended the BBNP meeting.

Cllr Richard Jones provided an update following the recent Community Liaison meeting with RCT.

2021/102 – Executive Officer's report

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

Print Partnership - £19.75

Zoom - £143.88

SLCC - £27.00

Daisy Communications - £73.07

ICO - £40.00

Jeanette's - £185.00

Festive Lighting - £4,752.00

EON - £39.80

Tee2Sugars - £360.00

Consultations:

1. RCT Intoxicating Substances (including alcohol) PSPO consultation 2021 – **Action 10** - Executive Officer to respond to advise that Cllrs think that it should stay as it is.
2. Let's Talk Climate Change RCT – **Action 11** – Cllr Morien Morgan to draft a response on behalf of the Community Council, to include a request that Community Councils be offered a permanent seat to sit on the committee, along with other groups, so that there is an ongoing voice present.
3. Welsh Government Race Equality Action Plan consultation – **Action 12** – Executive Officer to add this to the June agenda for discussion.
4. Bevan Foundation – What do you love about the valleys?

The Council had received the following correspondence:

1. Community asset transfer: research with the third sector, local authorities and community and town councils.
2. Letter from Penderyn resident in relation to Penderyn Community Centre – it was agreed that the Community Council has no authority or control over the majority of issues raised in this letter. **Action 13** – Executive Officer to respond in conjunction with Cllr Colin Woodley.
3. BBNP Community Update Spring 2021.
4. Coal dram for sale – Cllrs agreed that we would ask Tower Colliery if they had a coal dram to donate in the first instance. **Action 14** – Executive Officer to contact Tower Colliery and to add this to the June agenda for discussion.
5. Excessive speeding, Penderyn – letter from resident – **Action 15** – Executive Officer to ask CBC Graham Thomas for an update.
6. Welsh Government Bee Friendly organisations email – **Action 16** – Executive Officer to add this information to our Facebook page.
7. Groundwork Wellbeing Project – the Executive Officer updated Cllrs on project from Groundwork. Cllrs wished to form a sub committee to discuss this further with Groundwork before going any further. **Action 17** – Executive Officer to set up meeting.

Other:

1. Contact from a resident in relation to the new yellow lines on the approach to the Hirwaun roundabout which are causing damage to cars. **Action 18** – Executive Officer to refer the matter to CBC Graham Thomas.
2. Contact from a resident in relation to wildflower verges, bee friendly plants and potential chemical spraying of weeds by RCT. She was saddened that RCT cut them the wildflowers down when cutting the grass in the village and asked as we are bee friendly could we reduce the mowing regime to encourage these flowers

- to grow. **Action 19** – Executive Officer to contact RCT to discuss and to suggest areas in the village that could be added to their Meadow Development Plan.
3. We have been successful in receiving a product donation of paper bags from the Vegware Community Fund. These will be used for our projects such as free daffodil bulbs for residents, seed bombs etc.
 4. We were unable to apply for the Tesco Bags of Help funding for the arcway project due to the extremely short timescales involved.
 5. We have been in contact with the Trivallis Community Fund to see if we are eligible to apply for a grant to install benches on the arcway and/or planters by the school.
 6. Old Fire Station repairs – the Executive Officer provided an update on the repairs and the timescales that have now been set by the contractor for completion of the works. These timescales will cause difficulty with the grant spending deadline and with the running of the Garden Shop. It was agreed that we may need to seek a new contractor who can meet the cost agreed for grant funding. **Action 20** – Cllr Carol Hindley and Morien Morgan to provide contact details of other contractors who may be able to help. Cllr Colin Woodley to offer the Garden Society the use of a weighing scales which does not require the use of electricity, and to liaise with the garden society about the removal of the ivy from the roof of the building. Executive Officer to arrange for the Western Power works to be carried out now.
 7. Beth Winter MP Economy Advisory Group – A representative from the Community Council has been asked to sit on this group. It was agreed that Cllr Jenny Edwards to take this place.

2021/103 - Urgent items at the Chair's discretion

There were no urgent items to discuss.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.43pm.