

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 8th July 2021

Present: Cllr Richard Jones (Chair), Cllr Colin Woodley (Vice Chair), Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach, Cllr Margaret Amos, Cllr Ceri Woodley, Cllr Non Thomas, Cllr Carol Hindley, Cllr Jenny Myring, Cllr Adrian Harford,

Attending: CBC Graham Thomas, Cllr Karen Morgan

Apologies: Cllr Lynwen Law, Cllr Morien Morgan, Cllr Jenny Edwards,

2021/133- 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.

2021/134 - PCSO report

The PCSO provided the following report:

Patrols of the ASB hotspots have been carried out. Patrols have also been carried out by both PCSO's at Penderyn Primary School at school times, and emergency services advice has been given to the children in the school.

Cllrs reported the following issues to the PCSO:

Cllr Margaret Amos reported a party in Llwyn Onn which had loud music until late and teenage drinking. Residents tried to report the matter to 101 but there was no answer.

Cllr Non Thomas raised concerns in having to chase a report from the PCSO every month.

2021/135 - County Borough Cllr reports

CBC Karen Morgan gave her apologies for last month and updated Cllrs. No written report was provided.

The following matters were reported to CBC Morgan:

Cllr Adrian Harford asked for an update on the rat issue at Tower Road.

CBC Graham Thomas provided the following written report:

- Broadband for the village and outlying farms/premises - If you are part of a rural community, support may be available from the UK Government to connect to gigabit capable broadband. The UK Government is providing funding as immediate help for people experiencing slow broadband speeds in rural areas. Vouchers worth up to £1,500 for homes and £3,500 for to help businesses cover the costs of installing gigabit broadband to people's doorsteps.
- Dog Bin request for Red Lion and Woodland Park - Streetcare/Enforcement have been on site to identify a suitable location to install a post opposite the junction with Church Road at the Red Lion.

They will also visit the entrance to Woodland Park for the same. Posts will then need to be installed for Streetcare to fit the dog bins.

- Reply from PCSO re-glass lager bottles smashed on the MUGA in Penderyn. - I have added it to our patrol strategy list of ASB for our Neighbourhood Team.
- Penderyn Quarry Notice Board update from Penderyn Quarry - I have received a further reply from BBNP that planning permission would not be required for notices relating to minutes; site operations and meetings but would be required for any commercial advertising.
- Flooding adjacent to 19 Bryn Onnen - A site visit was held and the flooding earlier this year was discussed.
- We also walked on Yr Eithin to look at the drainage. The outcome was that the areas will come under private land ownership for the adjacent field and under the lease to Penderyn Hall Committee for Yr Eithin. It was thought that the work undertaken by RCT to clear the drainage system adjacent to 19 Bryn Onnen will assist and there was also a need to ensure that nothing entered the length of the drainage ditch to the rear of Bryn Onnen to restrict flow of water run off from Yr Eithin. Also, excessive rainfall in a short period of time may have resulted in hydraulic overload in February. Corporate Estates are to liaise with Penderyn Hall Committee to identify and provide any advice on external funding available to them. Letters are to be sent to private land owners regarding the responsibility for keeping drainage systems on their land in good working order. Letters to be sent to those backing onto Yr Eithin regarding the importance keeping the drainage ditch clear of any materials/blockages.
- Kissing Gate off the A4059 south of Llwyn Onn - A telephone reply from Welsh Water/Dwr Cymru who are to visit the site to assess the situation.
- Tower ERC - A meeting of the sub group took to discuss the matter. Discussion around comparisons between the original scheme compared with the more recent approval. Need for expediency to ensure delivery of the ERC. Need to establish how much investment/finance is available. Reply from TRL that around £250,000 + would be made available. Question was this enough giving the need to run the centre after construction. A comment was made that finance had been set aside from the Community Fund toward the ERC but this was denied by TRL who would look into the matter. Restoration is to be complete by the end of the year with construction of the ERC in Spring of 2022. Time in between to establish any improvements to the project and obtain planning consent. Communications/Consultation to be sent out to obtain opinion/ideas but did not include door to door leafleting. Other discussions took place around site restoration and community fund.
- Right of Way issue - Reply to email sent to BBNP - A footpath does exist and it is a public right of way; The National Park Authority is responsible for the upkeep of the footpath through a delegation agreement with RCT County Borough Council; The Warden has a programme of work as I mentioned above but I will let him contact you with regard to that. Regarding legal action by a landowner, it depends on the circumstances from which the action would arise. A private landowner could take action for trespass if members of the public deviated from the route of the footpath. However, that would not apply if members of the public were on the footpath.
- Recycling facility Penderyn - Waste Services are trying to avoid the placement of community skips as they are magnets for flytipping/contamination plus everything that we used to use skips for, can now be recycled at the kerbside. Should extra waste bins be required because of increased foot fall then extra waste bins would be provided. Also, if a local business could accommodate a recycling facility with limited public access, then a risk assessment would be undertaken.

Cllr asked that CBC Thomas reduce his reports in future to the allocated one page of A4 as there is limited space in our noticeboards where it is a legal requirement that our minutes be displayed. It was also requested that the report be provided in concise bullet points, in the same font and font colour as it is taking the Executive Officer a considerable amount of time to reformat the report each month.

The following matters were reported to CBC Thomas:

Cllr Non Thomas referred to the Welsh Government freeze on new road building and asked what RCT's position is.

Cllr Richard Jones left the meeting at 7.41pm due to his declared interest. Cllr Richard Jones returned to the meeting at 7.42pm.

Cllr Margaret Amos reported that the lid on the dog waste bin by the Community Centre is not closing.

2021/136 – Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting of 10th June 2021 were, subject to a minor amendment, proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Colin Woodley and seconded by Cllr Ceri Woodley and agreed nem con. The minutes of the Special Meeting of 17th June 2021 were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Margaret Amos and seconded by Cllr Marguerite Courtney-Solbach and agreed nem con.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2021/137– PCSO Report

The Executive Officer advised that an email had been sent reminding the PCSO to submit a report for this meeting, and a report had been provided for this month. Cllrs were still concerned about the frequent lack of response and asked that the Police and Crime Commissioner be contacted raising concerns. **Action 1** – Executive Officer to contact the Police and Crime Commissioner.

2021/138 – Children on Bikes - Hirwaun

The Executive Officer advised that she had tried to contact the Police Inspector in this matter but had been unsuccessful following an out of office reply saying that he had left. Attempts to contact the Sergeant were also unsuccessful. **Action 2** – Executive Officer to refer this to the Police and Crime Commissioner also.

2021/139 – One Way System - Hirwaun

The Executive Officer advised that there was still no response from RCT on this matter despite our original email being sent on 12th April. Concerns were raised that a site visit had been held but the Community Council had not been invited. **Action 3** – Executive Officer to chase a response.

2021/140 – Cynon Gateway North

The Executive Officer confirmed that an email had been sent to RCT planning to ask that we speak at the planning meeting. They advised that they don't have a date for the meeting at present but have made a note of our request. The Executive Officer also confirmed that the letter to Welsh Government which was drafted by Cllr Morien Morgan had been submitted.

2021/141 – Old Fire Station Repairs

A quote for additional works to the guttering was reviewed by Cllrs and approved. Cllr Colin Woodley who is overseeing the repairs confirmed that the ivy and old guttering had been removed in preparation and provided an update on the removal of the knotweed within our boundary lines. **Action 4** – Executive Officer and Cllr Colin Woodley to continue to oversee the repairs.

2021/142 – Arcway Benches

The Executive Officer advised that an email had been sent to BBNP to query the installation costs of the benches but no response had been received. **Action 5** – Executive Officer to chase.

2021/143 – Adoption of Springfield Gardens

The Executive Officer advised that an email had been sent to Vikki Howells MS asking for an update but no response had been received. **Action 6** – Executive Officer to chase.

2021/144 – Broken Vent at The Glancynon

Cllr Jenny Myring confirmed that it had been reported and repaired.

2021/145 – NHS Day

The Executive Officer advised that this had not been well received by residents.

2021/146 – Refill Hirwaun & Penderyn

Cllr Margaret Amos provided an update on which businesses had declined to take part and which she was waiting to hear from.

2021/147 – Seed Bombs

An update on the organising of this event was provided by the Executive Officer.

2021/148 – Summer Acts of Kindness

The Executive Officer confirmed that this grant application had been submitted.

2021/149 – Litter/Dog Mess Signage Competition

The Executive Officer confirmed that this was ongoing. **Action 7** – Executive Officer to continue with this.

2021/150 - Planning Applications

1. Change of use from a single dwelling to a ground floor dog salon and first floor residential flat and development of single storey rear extension - 53a High St, Hirwaun.
2. Discharge of Condition 25 re landscape and ecological restoration management plan pursuant to planning permission 19/17586/FUL – Hanson Aggregates Penderyn Quarry.

2021/151 - Community Councillors reports:

Cllr Colin Woodley advised that he was due to meet with the broadband officer for Powys in relation to a scheme where farms would be eligible and he would be discussing raising a scheme for this area.

Cllr Non Thomas advised that she had attended the meeting with Beth Winter MP in relation to climate change and had also attended the Community Council/Groundwork Wellbeing Walk.

Cllrs then went on to discuss the Groundwork projects.

Cllr Jenny Myring advised that she had attended the One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting where a presentation was given by the Local Places for Nature Partnership Officer.

Cllr Margaret Amos reported that the lane between Woodland Park and Llwyn Onn was overgrown. **Action 8** – Executive Officer to send the contact details of who to report it to to Cllr Amos.

Cllr Carol Hindley reported that she has taken on the co-ordinating of this summer's voluntary watering schedule for The Havens and advised that Hirwaun Primary School plus local residents are all helping out.

Cllr Adrian Harford provided an update as Save a Life Champion in relation to defibrillators. He advised that he is liaising with a charity with a view to installing them, and that a Hirwaun resident had agreed to fund the cost of one.

Cllr Carol Hindley left the meeting at 8.27pm.

2021/152 – Tower Environmental Resource Centre

Cllr Colin Woodley provided an update on this following his attendance at the recent liaison meeting. He advised that there was no set plan for what it should be used for but there is funding there to build and run it. A public consultation will be held to determine its use.

Cllr Non Thomas asked if there were any other ERC's which could be used as a model for what the Tower one could be used for. **Action 9** – Cllr Non Thomas to find out.

2021/153 – Tesco Bags of Help Grant

The Executive Officer advised that we have had £1,000 allocated to us to spend on an outdoor environmental project. Cllrs discussed suggestions which included planters at the Welcome to Hirwaun/Penderyn signs, benches in Penderyn – although it was acknowledged that additional funding would need to be sought to cover the cost of these, and flower baskets at the War Memorial in Penderyn. **Action 10** – Executive Officer to find out the costs of these and to add the matter to the September agenda for further discussion.

Cllr Marguerite Courtney- Solbach left the meeting at 8.38pm.

2021/154 – Executive Officer’s report

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

Daisy Communications - £78.02 Boverton Nurseries - £1,875.60
Roger Vaughan & Son - £250.00 Internal Auditor - £450.00

Consultations:

1. Consultation on Qualifications of Clerks in Wales – No comments.
2. Regulating Coal Tip Safety in Wales – It was agreed that Cllrs would register themselves for this.
3. South Wales Fire Service consultation survey – Cllrs have been sent the link to this.
4. Draft Funding Strategy and Administration Strategy – RCT LGPS - No comment.
5. Revised Local Development Plan – No comment

Cllr Ceri Woodley left the meeting at 8.45pm

The Council had received the following correspondence:

1. Request for help re land ownership from South East Wales Rivers Trust in relation to Himalayan Balsam in Penderyn. Cllr Colin Woodley provided a further update in this matter.
2. Email from Future Valleys Construction inviting a second nominated Cllr to sit on their Community Liaison meetings. Cllr Non Thomas was already on the committee representing Hirwaun and it was agreed that Cllr Lynwen Law would sit on this committee to represent Penderyn.
3. Update on Operation London Bridge.
4. Letter from Beth Winter MP. **Action 11** – Executive Officer to respond asking for the rail links to be re-instated.

Cllr Ceri Woodley returned to the meeting at 8.53pm.

Other:

1. Assistance requested from resident in relation to a complaint received against Penderyn Primary School. Due to the nature of the complaint the Executive Officer referred the matter to Cllr Colin Woodley as Minor Authority representative at the school who asked that the resident be advised that the complaint should be referred to the Chair of Governors at the school who will investigate. The contact details were provided to resident.
2. Resident request for the grass to be cut in the pathway behind Maescynon to Cefndon Tce. **Action 12** – Executive Officer to refer to RCT.

3. Request from the residents of The Havens for a dropped curb to be installed outside to accommodate their mobility scooters. **Action 13** – Executive Officer to refer to RCT.

2021/155 - Urgent items at the Chair's discretion

The Executive Officer advised that this year's audit had been reviewed by the finance committee who had recommended that Cllrs approve the audit before it is sent to the External Auditors. Cllrs accepted the finance committee's recommendation and accepted this year's audit. **Action 14** – Executive Officer to submit the audit to the External Auditors.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.23pm.

Agreed