

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 13th January 2022

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

Attending: CBC Graham Thomas, CBC Karen Morgan,

Apologies: Cllr Jenny Myring, Cllr Carol Hindley,

2022/001 - Disclosures of Personal Interest

Cllr Richard Jones declared an interest in the proposed Cynon Gateway North.

2022/002 - PCSO report

The PCSO provided the following written report:

Throughout December, there were several community events in Hirwaun and Penderyn – which were attended by the NPT team. PC Jordan Kelly has left Hirwaun NPT for a new role in Merthyr. We currently don't have a replacement, but will keep the Community Council updated when this post is filled. We have had 2 new PCSO's join the NPT team, they will be deployed to cover Aberdare. In relation to crimes and significant occurrences, these have been minimal that affect the community in general. Most occurrences are of domestic in nature to which this cannot be reported or elaborated on in a Community Council forum. We are hoping to resurrect the Mini Police project in schools and where covid regulations change more community events will be placed on the calendar.

Cllrs discussed the format of the report and asked if the format could be amended to include statistics so that we can get a better picture of what is happening in the village.

Action 1 – Executive Officer to request that the format of the report be amended.

Executive Officer also to check where we are with our contact with the Police Inspector.

2022/003 – County Borough Cllr reports

CBC Karen Morgan provided the following written report:

- Update School car park litter. Reported, Streetcare arranging access to clear it
- Flood Action Group meeting. Met with residents, discussed updates on actions taken to date, e.g., 200t of debris cleared from Cae Felin culvert (much of which is in private ownership); the benefits of a formal Flood Action Group. Those present will now be invited to be part of the group, although open to any other residents who wish to join. Also discussed need for regular drainage monitoring and clearance schedule. I have met with NRW and a resident at Cae Felin regarding

bank erosion management options. NRW have almost completed the River Cynon modelling study, results should be available April 22. Whilst this may identify possible schemes and make recommendations these will then be subject to cost benefit analysis e.g. will the scheme cost more than the financial cost of damage caused by a flood. Any approved schemes would then be subject to securing funding – this process could take as long as 7 years. The advice to residents was to do all they could to manage flood risk at their properties.

- Planning application land adjacent to Bryngelli Industrial Estate. Concerns relating to highways and the proposed access off the single lane carriageway, the loss of land which is designated for employment use in the Local Development Plan and the cumulative effect on highways due to the recent consent given for housing on the adjacent field.
- Received complaints about the closure (6 months) of Footpath from Hirwaun to Llwydcoed with no alternative than to walk on the highway. Awaiting response from Public Rights of Way and will discuss with Future Valleys Construction.
- Large amount of leaves and gullies cleared at Tramway Close after complaints from resident
- Requests for bus shelters at Cynon Terrace and Rhigos Road. Added to RCT list, would be grateful if HPCC would consider part funding in future budget allocation please to expediate the provision.
- Replacement Bench(es) at Hirwaun School Car Park. In response to the query from the Executive Officer, all drainage work on site has been completed. The project team has forwarded the enquiry to the client (Education) but it is not really relevant to them. Also spoke to Highways and they confirmed they have no objection, the officer will make contact to undertake an inspection and re-affirm there is no objection. The suggestion of 2 metres apart was related to today' climate of social distancing. May I request that if HPCC are considering a second bench that they give some consideration to previous requests from residents for a bench to be sited near the midpoint of the hill for residents to "have a breather" when walking to and from the village centre?

The following matters were reported to CBC Morgan:

Cllr Non Thomas raised a query in relation to the Bryngelli Industrial Estate planning application.

CBC Graham Thomas provided the following written report:

- Nappy Bin not emptied. Check on collection day? Email sent to Waste Services; I have been informed that the nappy collection had not taken place. Was there a reason for this or was it simply an oversight? Reply from Waste Services; I have checked the crews tablet information for Penderyn and xxxxx isn't registered for Nappy collections according to our system but number xx is. On 03.12.21 there were no issues marked against number xx and there is nothing against number xxxx as they are not registered for the scheme. On the 17.12.21 number xx Bryn Onnen was marked down as bin not out by the crew at 9:41am, there are no entries at all for number xxxx on our system.
- Tree overhanging at entrance to Yr Eithin off Bryn Onnen. I visited the area but the overhanging branch had been removed.
- Green bags when emptied are often not put back to original property. Also, a resident reported that green waste bags had been thrown over into the garden but were not readily accessible. Email sent to Recycling raising the issue points as follows. Green bags when emptied are not put back to original property after the advice to mark addresses and that those collecting would return the bags to gates or gardens. Further comment was made that bags are often thrown over into gardens in areas that are difficult to access for some residents and a request made that they are returned to gates or stored under bins rather than thrown into gardens. What is the best point of contact for elderly or infirm residents to request assistance from Waste Services regarding collection. Reply received from Waste Service. Crews will be further instructed regarding the matter with reiteration of the importance of returning bags to the properties in a correct and suitable manner. Please could you inform me if this continues after I have spoken to them as they have all been

instructed of the importance of returning the sacks. Regarding assistance, residents can call the contact centre or report the issues online so they will be given a Customer Reference number so everything is logged. If they ask for an assisted collection then the property will be assessed to agree the best location for the green sacks to be placed. The Contact Centre telephone number is 01443 425001 and is on our recycling bags. Residents can contact us via the Contact Centre or email via recycling@rctcbc.gov.uk

- If we are to have horse signs through the village can we have signs informing of cattle along the A4059 north of Penderyn. Email sent to Traffic Management Engineer requesting the same. Reply from Traffic Management Jan 5th. There are a number of existing warning signs along this route to alert drivers to the presence of grazing animals, however, I will take a look to see if any further signing improvements are possible or necessary.
- Tower Liaison Committee 15th Dec. 2021. Matters Arising: Discussion around Tower Fund and the need to hold a separate meeting with a representative that could answer the many questions that are to be raised regarding. 1. The circulated information. 2. Existing status of the fund with outstanding sums and future requirements. Any specific questions on community fund to be submitted before any meeting. Discussion around removal of tyres and need for a site visit including the attendance of a NRW representative to answer any points raised. Restoration; Recent storms have made the original proposed site visit impractical to drive around the site and also unsafe for that purpose. Access routes should have settled by the Spring of 2022. Lagoons have been constructed and lined, with further work to continue in the spring when weather conditions allow. By Summer 2022 most things should be in place for final restoration. Work has been carried out by RCT to gain access to culverts and work to be carried out late January. Question when is the application for restoration to be submitted, answer during the first half of next year. Environmental Resource Centre. Hargreaves targeting being on site by middle of 2022 to progress as per last submitted plans. There has not been a response to request for views on any improvements to the submitted plans this offer remains open. Question raised: when is the ERC committee to meet? Should meet by end of January to consider any views. Need to consider Council Elections and they may push any planning application requirements into July/August 2022.

Verbal confirmation was also given advising that the 30mph section of red tarmac at Woodland Park has now been repaired. Finally, the following residents' comments to relayed to Cllrs – i) lack of Community Council noticeboard in The Lamb area, ii) lack of bus service at night with a request that the Community Council purchase a mini bus for community use to drive residents when the buses stop in the evening.

Cllrs reported the following matters to CBC Thomas:

Cllr Lynwen Law thanked CBC Thomas for the repair to the chevron and the installation of a dog waste bin at Woodland Park.

Cllr Margaret Amos also thanked CBC Thomas for the installation of the dog waste bin, and reported lights out at Bryn Onnen, along with the need for the pavements and roads to be gritted at Bryn Onnen and outside the school.

2022/004 – Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting of 9th December 2021 were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Colin Woodley and seconded by Cllr Non Thomas and agreed nem con.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2022/005 – PCSO report

The Executive Officer confirmed that this came in just after the meeting had started and had been circulated to Cllrs.

2022/006 – Amended Model Protocol

The Executive Officer advised that this has been added to our website.

2022/007 – Wooden Boards, Penmark Row

The Executive Office confirmed that this had been reported.

2022/008 – Leave Only Pawprints Campaign

The Executive Officer confirmed that this has been added to our Facebook page.

Agenda item 11 was brought forward under the Chair's approval.

2022/009 – Climate Emergency

Cllr Morien Morgan lead the discussion on the proposed declaration of a climate emergency. The declaration of a climate emergency by the Community Council was proposed by Cllr Non Thomas, seconded by Cllr Margaret Amos and agreed nem con. **Action 2** – Sub committee to take this forward and to report back to full council at the February meeting for approval.

2022/010 - Planning Applications

- i) Residential development of 35 units- Land adjacent to Bryngelli Industrial Estate, Meadow Lane, Hirwaun, - Cllrs discussed this application and agreed to raise our objections to planning. **Action 3** – Cllr Non Thomas to draft and submit the objections based on our objections to the pre planning consultation.
- ii) Two storey extension to rear – 26 Station Road, Hirwaun

2022/011 - Community Councillors reports:

Cllr Colin Woodley updated Cllrs on the Gigabit project and confirmed that he will update further next month.

Cllrs Ceri Woodley, Margaret Amos, Non Thomas, Debbie Smart and Marguerite Courtney-Solbach all provided positive feedback from the residents who received our Wellbeing Hampers before Christmas.

Cllr Non Thomas advised that there is still an issue with mud on the pathway at the Hirwaun entrance to the arcway. BBNP have not dealt with this issue as promised, or dealt with the keyholder issue for the access gates. **Action 4** – Executive Officer to contact BBNP.

Cllr Debbie Smart referred to the email from a Penderyn resident in relation to Penderyn Community Centre's management of Yr Eithin. The Executive Officer and Cllr

Colin Woodley advised that the Community Council has no responsibility for Penderyn Community Centre, and that the Community Centre chose to take over responsibility of the running of it a number of years ago. It is run by the trustees via a charity specifically set up to run it. The Community Council cannot police the running of the Community Centre, and we do not own the building. The responsibility for looking after the Community Centre rests with the community who should put themselves forward to be elected as Trustees in the Community Centre AGM.

Cllr Morien Morgan referred to the ongoing parking issues in Hirwaun, advising that residents are parking on the pavement at Brecon Road and Cefndon Tce, along with other areas in the village, with no action being taken by the police or RCT. It was agreed that we would write to the police and RCT expressing our dismay that no action has been taken in relation to pavement parking. **Action 5** – Cllr Richard Jones to provide the Executive Officer with the contact details of the officer at RCT. Executive Officer to write to RCT and the Police upon receipt of these details.

Cllr Adrian Harford updated Cllrs on defibrillators for the village and advised that he would report back again in due course. He also updated Cllrs on issues at Meadow Close where drivers are using it as a shortcut and driving too fast. He is liaising with the YMCA and creche to see if they have had any issues and is also liaising with the PCSO.

Cllr Jenny Edwards advised that quad bikes and horses are still being ridden illegally on the arcway, and that the gates are being left unlocked. She updated Cllrs on the recent Flood Action Group meeting that she attended on behalf of residents at Richmond and Devonshire Drives as they are concerned about the tunnel at the Pwllyn collapsing. She raised concerns on the litter increase in Hirwaun, some of which has been caused by residents putting their household waste out too early which is then blown around by the wind. Cllr Non Thomas advised that she is continuing to email RCT in relation to littering in specific areas in Hirwaun and asked that Cllrs email her for her to forward on to RCT. **Action 6** – Executive Officer to add a post to our Facebook page reminding residents not to put their rubbish out before 7pm the night before collection, and to add the same to our update in The Crucible. Executive Officer also to ask RCT to tour the village and issue any appropriate fines for household waste that has been put out too early.

Cllr Morien Morgan left the meeting at 8.20pm.

2022/012 – SLCC Membership

Cllrs agreed to renew the Community Council's membership of SLCC. This was proposed by Cllr Ceri Woodley, seconded by Cllr Non Thomas and agreed nem con. **Action 7** – Executive Officer to renew the Community Council's membership.

2022/013 – Sight Loss Update

Cllr Richard Jones updated Cllrs on his proposed pledges for us as a Sight Loss organisation. The Executive Officer advised that the Community Council could not pledge to take forward the installation of Braille signage at Hirwaun Village Hall as it is

run as a separate financial entity via a Deed of Trust. Advice was also given on the limitations of changing our website which is currently in compliance with the website accessibility regulations. Cllr Jones also put forward the option for large print policy documents to be provided upon request, along with a leaflet aimed at local businesses on sight loss. It was agreed to take forward the e leaflet for businesses and large print documents upon request for further discussion at the February meeting.

2022/014 – Executive Officer’s report

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

Print Partnership - £3.89

Daisy Communications - £71.83

Bella Rosa - £500

Penaluna’s Famous Fish & Chips- £170

Consultations:

- Consultation on the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: Community and Town Councils statutory guidance.
- RCT Consultation on the proposed amendment to the Regulation 123 list.

The Council had received the following correspondence:

1. Digital Democracy and Public Participation Funding. Cllrs accepted this funding to allow us to hold hybrid meetings.
2. Safe Routes in Communities application rejection letter.
3. Letter from Welsh Government in relation to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and clerk’s qualifications for Eligible Community Councils.
4. Letter from resident in relation to litter in Penderyn. Cllrs advised that this litter has now been cleared.

Other:

1. Village Improvement meetings have been set up to discuss the CIL spend and the litter signage competition. **Action 8** - Executive Officer to continue with this and to report back in due course.
2. Following the financial risk assessment agreed by the finance committee in the December finance meeting, the Executive Officer is arranging for quotes to be obtained to value the Community Council owned buildings for insurance purposes. **Action 9** - Executive Officer to report back with the quotes.
3. The Executive Officer advised that they are starting the process to update the lease for the Old Fire Station as it is no longer fit for purpose. **Action 10** - Executive Officer to report back in due course.
4. Hirwaun Cllr vacancy – The Executive Officer advised that there were no applications for this vacancy. Cllrs agreed that as there is only a short amount of

time until the May elections the vacancy would not be re-advertised in advance of that.

2022/015 - Urgent items at the Chair's discretion

There were no further items to discuss.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Agreed