

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 9th June 2022

Present: Cllr Colin Woodley (Chair), Cllr Debbie Smart (Vice Chair), Cllr Non Thomas, Cllr Ceri Woodley, Cllr Margaret Amos, Cllr Lynwen Law

Attending: CBC Karen Morgan, CBC Adam Rogers, Lynley Gregory – Chair Penderyn Community Centre

Apologies: Cllr Jenny Edwards

2022/118 - Disclosures of Personal Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

2022/119 - PCSO report

There was no written report provided by the PCSO. **Action 1** – Executive Officer to send reminder email.

2022/120 – County Borough Cllr reports

CBC's Karen Morgan and Adam Rogers provided the following written report:

Heads of Valleys:

- 26th May meeting of A465 RCT Community Liaison group. Updated those present on issues received from residents. Some of the issues that we shared were not issues they were aware of, despite being obvious. Issues we raised included:
 - The lighting on Rhigos roundabout being blinding- The tall lights were adjusted to not directly face vehicles.
 - Poor signage on Rhigos roundabout. Signage for the Glynneath junction was not present- A sign has been put in place, but is small. FVC stated signs were on order and would chase them up.
 - Vehicles were still driving on Brecon Road to head to roundabout. Residents' front wall was demolished by a HGV attempting a 3 point turn. FVC have put an additional advisory sign at the junction of Rhigos Road/Brecon Road, however this is still not ideal because you may have already turned before you see it.
 - At the beginning of June there were 2 crashes at Croesbychan roundabout within 24 hours. There were complaints of poor signage - spoke to a FVC traffic safety officer seeking reassurance about signage and whether it could be improved. Informed that all is Chapter 8 compliant e.g. advance signs, speed limit, road markings. FVC state it was driver error.
 - In response to what was said at a drop-in session, that a councillor had been sharing wrong information and that information shouldn't be shared outside of those sessions- asked at meeting if we can share information, they said we are allowed to do so and the claim that they said otherwise was "not accurate... We wouldn't have been that blunt." Want us to avoid giving out absolute dates. However, this may not allow for advance notice and consultation with residents so will continue to share relevant information but stress that dates are subject to change.

- With the question of free bus travel for Rhydywaun students living in Hirwaun- Future Valleys were not sure where that came from and it is not something that is definitely happening. RCT informed us that there is ongoing monitoring and consideration being given to providing smaller buses to cut the travel time for routes.
- At Redhill Close, the estate close to Rhigos roundabout, with trees being cut down and homes there being more visible to those in vehicles, it was requested that a fence be put in the trees place- Future Valleys have said they have cut down all the trees intended along Redhill Close and has no intention to put fencing.
- Complaints about delays with only one lane being open at Cefn roundabout, Future Valleys were contacted and both lanes were soon able to be used.

School Transport:

- School bus reversing off Brecon Rd into Penderyn Rd to turn - Keepings to speak to driver.
- Home to School Transport monitoring also observed school bus reversing at Lamb Inn, Penderyn. Bus operator then told Home To School Transport that the turning triangle bushes/trees needed cutting back, this has been requested. Bus operators are to be told to use the triangle when issue of trees has been resolved.

Trees/bushes:

- Residents in Bryn Onnen and Llwyn Onn have trees and branches hanging over their gardens. Those trees are on a public footpath which leads to Woodland Park. They have complained but have had no response. Particularly concerned that in the winter months storms could cause damage. A Council tree officer has asked an external surveyor to make a formal assessment of these trees, this will probably take place within the next 4 weeks.
- A resident at Redhill Close has reached out to the Council for assistance in helping to cut back trees and branches that are growing larger. Has maintained the trees himself over the years. Phoned Future Valleys and they believe that it is now their land and seem happy to assist with the resident's request. Will make an assessment of trees in estate.
- Coming out of Denbeigh Court it's getting difficult to see traffic coming from the left due to overgrowth- some clearance done, needs more cutting back as does opposite side of the road now to improve vision splay for pedestrians/
- In the back lane of Glannant Street there was overgrowth- That has since been cleared

Environment:

- Grass along Pontpren has been affected after council workers have cut grass- Penderyn was recently sprayed with weed killer, but the areas that have been cut in Pontpren were not sprayed. Only spot spraying was carried out, on kerb lines and footpaths. Not understood why the grass has turned yellow. The areas in Pontpren will be monitored and grass seed will be put down if needed by one of the teams.
- Fly tipping in back lane of Glannant Street and 20 black bags have been dumped at the last cattle grid along Cwm Cadlan- Glannant Street lane has been cleared but waiting on update with Cwm Cadlan.
- Requested dual litter bins for both entrances of Cefndon, and one for Cross Street.
- Requested a dog fouling bin between Greenwood Drive and Springfield Gardens, and at Bryn Onnen

Parks:

- Improving the park on Lamb Road to cater for younger children- agree that the park needs improving, there are big differences with this park compared to Llwyn Onn's. Have been put in touch with someone who is the Parks and Play Strategy Manager. Meeting planned with Parks Officer, has told us that they are a small team and that it is not a simple process to improve parks.
- At the park in Springfield Gardens, teenagers have been playing with a ball and has become a nuisance for a resident living near- Was told to contact 101 to report it as anti-social behaviour. PCSO was spoken to and said it would be monitored.

- Site visit with Cynon Valley Cavaliers, RCT, Community Cllrs. to agree siting of storage container- Location agreed, pending lorry access.

Streetcare/Highways:

- Potholes reported on Rhigos Road and Redhill Close
- Glass has been reported outside fire station, on two occasions on the lane between Merthyr Road and Tramway, and another report of glass at Tramway bus stop.
- Poor Road markings reported for junction at Hirwaun Stores and No Entry/One way road at Station Rd and Library car park.
- Site visit held with Traffic Management to support a response to be submitted to WG requesting funding of measures to minimise the impact of the dualling works.
- Safe Routes in Communities schemes. Bidding for funds set aside by WG. Applications to be sent out this month, with a deadline of July 8th. Propose we apply again although last years submission will still be in place.
- Met with Natalie and Community Cllr. Deborah Smart at Red Lion to discuss St Cynog's church wall- We will wait for response to Community Council, for us to then add out support to the wall improvements. We feel it has been dragged out long enough.

- Both met with members of the Monumental Welsh Women group who are keen to get residents involved in helping to get a statue of Elizabeth Andrews sculpted and placed within the Ward. This will need fund raising. A resident whose roots are in this Ward, being born into a mining family, and then going on to be a leading figure in the campaign for pit head baths and turning her attention to improving maternity and childcare.
- Hirwaun Library. Cllrs will be aware of the very sad passing of our librarian Paul. The library will be closed next Wednesday 15th June for the funeral. A memorial fund is being set up for a lasting tribute to Paul. We would like to place on record our thanks to Aled and the rest of the team for the support they have given to the community over the last 2 weeks whilst also dealing with their own grief. I am sure you will all agree that we are all the better for having known Paul.

The following matters were reported to the CBC's:

Cllr Margaret Amos reported an issue with the early morning buses being late in Penderyn causing residents difficulty in getting to work.

Cllr Debbie Smart asked for information on the process for a resident to request a mirror for a blind spot coming off their drive. CBC Karen Morgan advised that the resident would need Highways permission to install it.

Cllr Non Thomas stated that extra pedestrian crossings were needed in Hirwaun , on High St and at The Glancynon. CBC Karen Morgan confirmed that a site visit had been held and that a Community Conversation would be set up to discuss what people want.

Cllr Colin Woodley raised the following issues on behalf of Cllr Jenny Edwards: i) Increasing amount of litter of High St and Brecon Rd, ii) Used nappies left on / near Station Rd, iii) Bag of rubbish at the end of Crawshay St, at the top of the lane leading to the ironworks.

2022/121 – Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting of 12th May 2022 were proposed to be true and accurate, subject to a minor amendment, by Cllr Margaret Amos and seconded by Cllr Debbie Smart and agreed nem con.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2022/122 – Old Fire Station Lease

The Executive Officer provided an update on the new lease. Cllr Colin Woodley updated Cllrs on the issues with the water supply to the building. **Action 2** – Executive Officer and Cllr Colin Woodley to continue with this.

2022/123 – Gigabit Project

Cllr Colin Woodley provided Cllrs with an update on this project. It was advised that some residents were still not aware of the benefits of this scheme which offers fibre broadband to the premises rather than to the box on the street, and that this is in addition to the previous BT scheme. Cllr Woodley advised that he had asked Vikki Howells AM for her assistance in this matter. CBC Adam Rogers offered his assistance via his Facebook page. **Action 3**– Cllr Colin Woodley to continue with this.

2022/124 – St Cynog’s Church

Cllr Debbie Smart provided an update following the site visit with CBC Adam Rogers. The Executive Officer updated Cllrs on the response from the contractors stating that there has been a delay due to the licences required, along with knotweed in the grounds, but works are due to commence this month, which will include repair work to the church itself in addition to the church wall.

2022/125 – Garden Show

The Executive Officer and the Garden Show committee provided Cllrs with an update on the organising of this. **Action 4** – Garden Show committee to continue with the organising of this.

2022/126 – One Voice Wales Code of Conduct Training

The Executive Officer advised that Cllrs Ceri Woodley and Non Thomas transferred to the Code of Conduct training offered by RCT so that any new Cllrs co-opting on could have the opportunity to attend the One Voice Wales sessions.

2022/127 – Hirwaun & Penderyn in Bloom Competition

The Executive Officer advised that this is currently being advertised.

2022/128 – Nettles at Cefndon/Adjacent Property

The Executive Officer advised that this had been reported to RCT but that no response had been received. **Action 5** – Executive Officer to chase.

2022/129 – Request for a Second Key for the Community Council Noticeboard by Penderyn Community Centre

A request for a second key for use by Penderyn Community Centre was made by its Chair Lynley Gregory. Cllr Colin Woodley advised that the Community Council allow the Community Centre to use the smaller part of the noticeboard for their use. The large side of the noticeboard is for Community Council use only for the legal and statutory notices that have to be displayed. Cllrs discussed the request for an additional key. It was agreed that the existing key should be transferred to the Chair of the Community Centre from the Secretary, and that no second key would be allocated.

2022/130 - Planning Applications

- i) Variation of condition 1, extend time limit 16/1129/10 – Land opposite Benson House, John's Lane, Hirwaun,
- ii) Change of use from first floor storage area to self contained flat – JB Williams and Son Newsagents, 72 High St, Hirwaun,
- iii) Double storey side extension, single storey rear extension, and detached double storey annex – Bryn Hir, Penderyn Road, Hirwaun,
- iv) Residential development of (35 no. units) (Amended Plans rec. 23/05/22) (Amended Ownership Certificate and Additional Marketing Information rec. 24/5/22) – Land adj to Bryngelli Industrial Estate, Meadow Lane, Hirwaun,
- v) Construction of Detached Dormer Bungalow – 1 Dolgynog, Penderyn. – **Action 6** - Executive Officer to respond raising Cllrs concerns regarding parking and additional access issues in an already congested area.

2022/131 - Community Councillors reports:

Cllr Lynwen Law advised that she has tidied up the Welcome planter for Penderyn and had been approached by a resident wishing to make a donation towards the cost of new plants for Penderyn. A question was asked of the ownership of the two small wooden planters at the War Memorial and it was advised that they do not belong to the Community Council.

Cllr Non Thomas advised that she had attended a site visit at the Cefndon playing fields and had raised an issue of the need for additional litter bins. It was also advised that she would be tidying up the planters in Hirwaun at the Welcome sign, and at the school. Cllrs agreed to donate the plant currently in the school planter to Hirwaun Village Hall as it was not suitable for this location.

Cllr Margaret Amos advised that she would be weeding/planting at the wooden planters in Penderyn in conjunction with Penderyn Primary School. Cllrs agreed to this partnership working. Cllr Amos also advised that the stile at Yr Eithin to the field is rotten and needs changing, and that the grass needs cutting in the lane from the sign at the bottom gate at Llwyn Onn to Woodland Park. **Action 7** – Executive Officer to report this.

Cllr Debbie Smart reported issues with the Heads of the Valleys road closure where vehicles parked on the right hand side of the road are blocking visibility for rerouted vehicles pulling out of Cwm Cadlan. **Action 8** – Executive Officer to report to the police.

Cllr Colin Woodley advised that he had collected daffodil bulbs with Cllr Lynwen Law from Aberdare Park to be distributed to residents. He also advised that he is chasing BBNP for a response in relation to the Arcway.

2022/132 – Hirwaun Cllr Vacancies

Cllrs discussed the five applications for the role of Community Cllr for Hirwaun Ward. Cllr Colin Woodley proposed that all applications be accepted, and this was seconded by Cllr Non Thomas and agreed nem con. **Action 9** – Executive Officer to re-advertise the remaining two vacancies.

2022/133 – Executive Officer's report

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

Print Partnership - £7.96 Daisy Communications - £71.58
Boverton Nurseries - £2,140.80

Consultations: None received.

The Council had received the following correspondence:

1. RCT Revised Local Development Plan
2. Keep Britain Tidy – Pain in the Glass campaign - **Action 10** – Executive Officer to contact Beth Winter MP to ask for support in the campaign.
3. Safe Routes in Communities – Cllrs agreed to support any application made by the County Borough Cllrs.
4. Cyber Resilience Centre for Wales – Cllrs agreed not to take up this membership as we are already secure.
5. Age Friendly Communities in Partnership webinar.
6. OVW Nature Hub – Cllrs did not wish to join this at present.
7. Heart Heroes Community Defibrillators – **Action 11** – Executive Officer to ask for an update from the Community Council's Save a Life Champion.
8. Housing complaint from resident – This matter was referred to CBC Adam Rogers.
9. Request for assistance with COVID payment from resident – This matter was referred to CBC Adam Rogers.
10. One Voice Wales – Call out for good practice/examples in response to global warming and climate change – **Action 12** – Executive Officer to respond on behalf of the Council.

Other:

1. Weatherman Walking – The Executive Officer provided Cllrs with an update following our contact from BBC Wales who are looking into filming the programme here in the summer walking from Hirwaun, up to Penderyn via the Arcway and then on to Rhigos. The Executive Officer advised that the BBC would be in touch further if filming was to go ahead.
2. Seed Bomb event – Cllrs agreed on the date for this event. **Action 13** – Executive Officer to take this forward in conjunction with Cllr Debbie Smart.
3. Woodland Trust Cymru – **Action 14** – Executive Officer to contact the Woodland Trust to ask for more information on the Council acting as a satellite hub to give away free trees to residents.
4. Spotlight On – The Executive Officer suggested a summer campaign to highlight the businesses in Hirwaun and Penderyn, to let people know that the village is still open for business with the roadworks. **Action 15** – Executive Officer to add this to the July agenda for discussion.
5. The Executive Officer provided an update on the 2021/22 audit.
6. Bank signatories – The new bank signatories confirmed that they have not yet heard anything from the bank.

2022/134 - Urgent items at the Chair's discretion

None.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.38pm.