

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 14th February 2019

Present: Cllr Colin Woodley (Chairman), Cllr Margaret Amos, Cllr Jenny Myring, Cllr Ceri Woodley, Cllr Jennifer Hartwell, Cllr Deborah Smart, Cllr Richard Jones

Attending: CBC Graham Thomas,

Apologies: Cllr Morien Morgan, Cllr Christine Chandler, CBC Karen Morgan,

2019/025 - Disclosures of Personal Interest

There were no disclosures of interest.

2019/026 - PCSO report

No report was provided by the PCSO in his absence. Cllrs had nothing to report to the PCSO.

2019/027 - CBC reports

-CBC Karen Morgan provided the following report in her absence:

- Planning Applications update
 - Rear of Brecon Road - The site visit went ahead as planned but the application was deferred because of highway concerns and a complaint from a resident. Latest update is that the applicant (RCT Council) is considering their options.
 - Rose Row - The application will be going to the planning committee for determination on March 7th, the recommendation is for refusal.
 - Glancynon Inn - I have held a meeting with concerned residents. In summary, it was agreed that demolition of the Glan and losing the facility it offers would be a big loss to the village and would have a detrimental impact on jobs, the local economy and any future tourism attractions such as the recent announcement of the Zip World application. It was felt that if the present owner is finding it difficult to make the business viable then it should be put up for sale and kept as a public house rather than demolish it. There were also concerns about highway safety because of the dangerous bend and speeding vehicles and the risk of flooding with more houses on a flood zone. Unfortunately, the owner has announced that the Glan will close on March 1st.
- I recently had a site visit with a PROW officer looking at obstruction of the public footpath at Hobbs Lane. We also picked up the issue of the poor condition of the tunnel on the ironworks at the rear of Fairview. Flood risk at RCT will liaise with NRW and the landowner to address safety concerns.
- The planning application for the Environmental Resource Centre has been submitted but has yet to be consulted on. Based on the original pledge for the ERC which accompanied the opencast application figures supplied by Tower there should be around £857,740 in the fund which was deducted from the Community Benefit Fund. Following the meeting at Rhigos Community Centre where Tower stated that this amount was not available, I have written to the finance director of Tower and asked: How much money is in the ERC Fund? If the amount differs to the expected amount please would you explain why that is the case?

I received a reply stating it would be discussed at the end of last week with the Board before providing a response; I am still waiting for a response.

- Trees have been removed at Station Rd Bridge in preparation for the remedial works.
- Following a complaint, I have contacted the Trunk Road Agency about the advertising posters on Hirwaun Roundabout.
- Problems with recycling litter on Cynon Terrace after the high winds last week were reported to Streetcare.
- Requested clearance of drain on Swansea Rd near Maescynon entrance which floods onto the highway during any heavy rain.
- I would like to express my thanks to Highway team for ensuring snow clearance including the unadopted Springfield Gardens to ensure a funeral went ahead without disruption.

Cllrs had nothing to report to CBC Karen Morgan.

-CBC Graham Thomas provided the following report:

- Meeting with Rhigos CC re Tower. 17th 18th.or 21st at Rhigos - Meeting took place on 17th January. Discussion took place on Environmental Resource Centre; Retention of rock face and restoration/future use of site. There was mixed opinion of retention of the rock face. Concern was raised regarding the position of the ERC centre and Tower agreed to change that position to facilitate a car park adjacent to the ERC.
- Litter and bottles along Cwm Cadlan road and after Forestry cattle grid - StreetCare principle road team attended on 13th January
- Rose Row Retention of single caravan application - This is due to be determined at Planning Committee on March 7th.
- School re-organisation period of objections - Cabinet on January 24th agreed to proceed as follows. That the modified proposals are to:
 1. Create a new school for Hirwaun Primary School by September 2021;
 2. Change the category of Penderyn Community Primary School from a dual language school to a Welsh medium school from September 2021;
 3. Continue to allow new English medium admissions to Penderyn Community Primary School until such time that the change in category of Penderyn Community Primary School, from a dual language school to a Welsh medium school, comes into effect.Period of objection started on February 13th and will conclude on March 15th any person may object to the proposals. Objections should be sent to the Director of Education and Inclusion Services, 21st Century Schools, Ty Trevithick, Abercynon, Mountain Ash. CF45 4UQ. E-mail schoolplanning@rctcbc.gov.uk
- Update Flooding Rhigos Road 8th February - Report of Drainage Engineer:
 - The flooding was NOT from the same culvert as before. (the highway ditch one).
 - The flooding came from the main culvert fed directly by a watercourse coming from the Tower Site. Observations on site suggest no overtopping of the Tower system just sheer volume of water surcharging the inlet.
 - The SEWTRA culvert the other side of Rhigos Road was also surcharged. SEWTRA have also notified us that a section of their culvert needs urgent work. This culvert is technically larger than RCT culvert.
 - The water level went up and down quickly. (within a couple of hours) and the road cleared due to the fact there was no reported significant blockages. Water therefore drained away quickly.

Current Actions:-

1. We are currently obtaining info on the works required to the SEWTRA culvert. We are now going to bring this assessment forward on our work programme if the SEWTRA information is forthcoming.
2. We are currently looking into whether the Tower system is currently conveying water to this culvert. There is the potential that the site has been mechanically compacted, infiltration is minimal and therefore run off is higher until the site vegetates, berms created etc. This assessment will require a lot of survey work on such a large site. It is our intention to run (2) in parallel with the detailed culvert assessment (1) above so they both converge to fully understand what is occurring and whether it is temporary or permanent and options for improvement of risk.

Community Cllrs reported the following to CBC Thomas:

- Cllr Margaret Amos – Requested dog waste bins at Woodland Park and in the middle of the Arcway. It was advised that bins cannot be placed in the middle of the Arcway as they cannot be emptied. It was also requested that the path from Llwyn Onn to Pontpren be cleared of leaves and moss.

2019/028 - Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of 10th January 2019 were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Margaret Amos and seconded by Cllr Ceri Woodley and agreed nem con.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2019/029 – Welsh Language Plaques on Centenary Fields Benches

The Executive Officer advised Cllrs that One Voice Wales had advised that there are no statutory guidelines for Community Councils in relation to the Welsh Language. An update was also provided in relation to the costs of purchasing the additional plaques, installing them on the benches and the Welsh translation costs. As the existing plaques were installed by the manufacturer Cllrs were concerned about the potential of damage to the benches should an additional plaque be added by us. It was agreed not to install an additional plaque on these benches but adding additional Welsh language plaques would be considered for any future projects we undertake.

2019/30 – Parking Enforcement

The Executive Officer advised that RCT had confirmed that the parking enforcement vehicle can only enforce contraventions of bus stops, school keep clears and pedestrian crossings. They are a mobile vehicle so cannot enforce parking issues such as parking on double yellow lines as there is a waiting time of 10 mins where you are able to load. Traffic wardens can issue tickets to cars parked on them for more than 10 mins. Limited amount of traffic wardens to cover whole of RCT but they do come to Hirwaun on a regular basis. Parking obstructions are a police matter.

2019/031 – Community Council Email Account

The Executive Officer advised that our new email account is up and running.

2019/032 – Land Registry

The Executive Officer provided an update in relation to this. This matter will continue to be ongoing for some time subject to official documentation in relation to the Community Council name changes. Authority was given by Cllrs in relation to the cost of Glamorgan Archives searching for the necessary documentation. **Action 1** – Executive Officer to continue with this in conjunction with the Chair.

2019/033 – Penderyn Vacancy

The Executive Officer confirmed that this is being advertised.

2019/034 – Sign for Hirwaun Toilets

The Executive Officer confirmed that this had been raised again with RCT and a response is yet to be received. **Action 2** – Executive Officer to chase response if none received within the stated timescales.

2019/035 – Walking Festival

Cllrs agreed on a date and route for the Walking Festival – 1st June – Penderyn to Gunpowder Works at Pontneddfechan. South Wales Community Mountain Rangers to be asked to lead the walk again. **Action 3** – Executive Officer to take this forward.

2019/036 – Hirwaun & Penderyn in Bloom

The Executive Officer confirmed that this was ongoing and she would report back to Cllrs in due course.

2019/037 – Community Benefit

There were no suggestions to add to our community benefit list for 2019.

2019/038 – Operation London Bridge

Cllrs agreed for our website provider to make the necessary changes when the time comes.

2019/039 – CCTV for Hirwaun

The Executive Officer provided an update in relation to the request for CCTV to be installed in Hirwaun. This included:

-Breakdown of updated costs received from RCT for installation and maintenance of 7 CCTV cameras which the Community Council would be responsible for:

- CDS Integrated Security Systems - £800 inc VAT. This Covers annual service, cleaning and call outs, but does not cover parts and labour. These will be at an additional cost.
- RCT Monitoring and Maintenance - £4,550 inc VAT

- Total per year £5,350 – It was advised that the Community Council has only budgeted for the £3,000 originally quoted.
 - As previously advised, the installation cost is £30,218.75 inc VAT. This is approx. £5,000 more than originally quoted.
 - RCT have confirmed that there is no need for a band width upgrade for Hirwaun Library to accommodate the cameras.
 - RCT have now advised that there will be an additional cost, not yet quoted or budgeted for, for the installation of the columns required for the cameras, and the cost of the electricity supply to these cameras. Written quotes have not yet been provided by RCT.
- The crime stats which were requested in November have still not been provided by the PCSO.
- Grant applications to the Big Lottery Fund and Pen Y Cymoedd have not yet been submitted as we are still waiting for information in relation to further costs from RCT. Due to the outstanding costs from RCT we have now missed the deadline for applications to Pen y Cymoedd.
- Action 4** – Executive Officer to chase RCT for running costs and the PCSO to provide crime stats. Cllr Richard Jones to contact the police to ask a higher ranking officer to attend our March meeting to provide Cllrs with a presentation on the benefits of CCTV in relation to crime reduction.

2019/040 - Planning Applications

1. Demolition of Former Glancynon Inn and redevelopment of site for affordable housing scheme, comprising of 17 affordable housing units, access, car parking, landscaping and associated ancillary works – This application was circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting due to deadline for comments. Cllrs comments have been sent to RCT Planning.
2. Retention to change of use of land from storage yard to a one family traveller site including stationing of one mobile home, one touring caravan, toilet block/dayroom, foul drainage and parking/lighting – Rose Row Caravan, Penderyn Road, Hirwaun – This application was circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting due to deadline for comments. Cllrs comments have been sent to RCT Planning. Email received from RCT advising that this application will be discussed at the Planning and Development Committee and will be recommended for refusal.
3. Proposed elevational changes and internal alterations – Fairways, Penderyn Road, Hirwaun
4. Single storey extension – 21 Dolgynog, Penderyn
5. Erection of 1.2 metre high concrete block wall above existing boundary wall to front of property – Avalon, Baptist Place, Hirwaun – **Action 5** – Cllrs have no

objection to this but ask for a more aesthetic material to be used instead of concrete blocks.

Community Councillors reports:

2019/041 – Cllr Richard Jones advised the meeting that:

- He was unable to attend the Pen Y Cymoedd event recently as their disabled lift was out of order on the night. He will be meeting with them separately.
Action 6 – Executive Officer to express Cllrs concerns that our representative was unable to attend this meeting due to lack of access.

2019/042 - Reports from Subcommittees

Standing Orders Committee – Cllrs reviewed the updated Standing Orders for the Community Council and adopted them as per the Standing Orders Committee recommendation. The acceptance of these was proposed by Cllr Colin Woodley, seconded by Cllr Jenny Myring and agreed nem con.

2019/043 – Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Richard Jones put himself forward for consideration for the role of Vice Chair. This was proposed by Cllr Margaret Amos, seconded by Cllr Deborah Smart and agreed nem con.

2019/044 – Bank Signatory

It was agreed that Cllr Richard Jones would act as bank signatory. **Action 7** – Executive Officer and existing bank signatories to complete the necessary paperwork.

2019/045 – Garden Show

It was agreed that the Community Council Garden Show would be held again this year and that a sub-committee would be formed to take this forward. The sub-committee will consist of Cllrs Jennifer Hartwell, Jenny Myring, Claire Matsell, Margaret Amos and Richard Jones. The budget for the event was set. **Action 8** – Sub-committee to start organising the event.

2019/046 – Executive Officer's report

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

Daisy Communications - £69.92 Print Partnership - £33.00 Centregreat - £3,456.00

Consultations:

1. RCT's Residential care services consultation.

2. RCT'S Local toilets strategy.
3. RCT's proposals to reorganise the school provision in the Hirwaun and Penderyn areas – **Action 9** – Due to Cllrs personal and prejudicial interests the Community Council is unable to respond as a whole. Cllrs to provide individual objections if they have any.

The Council had received the following correspondence:

1. Copy of Vikki Howells response re Hirwaun/Penderyn Schools consultation – **Action 10** – Executive Officer to circulate to Cllrs.
2. Auditor General for Wales – Financial Management and Governance Report and Internal Audit Arrangements report. The Executive advised Cllrs of the importance of them reading this report.
3. One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting
4. BBNP Local Development Plan meeting – **Action 11** – Cllr Colin Woodley to attend.

Other:

1. Hirwaun Cllr vacancy – The Executive Officer advised that there is one applicant where the application was received after the deadline but that there is a precedent for accepting late applications for consideration. Cllrs agreed to consider the late application. Cllrs after reviewing the letter of application then agreed to accept the applicant as Cllr for Hirwaun Ward. This was proposed by Cllr Jennifer Hartwell, seconded by Cllr Ceri Woodley and agreed nem con. **Action 12** – Executive Officer to contact the successful applicant.
2. The Executive Officer advised that Cllr Andy Phillips has resigned as Cllr for Hirwaun Ward. Cllrs accepted this resignation with regret. **Action 13** - Executive Officer to advise RCT of the vacancy.

Cllr Jennifer Hartwell left the meeting at 8.25pm.

3. The Executive Officer provided Cllrs with an update from the RCT Community Liaison meeting. This included i) RCT/Community Council Charter, ii) Community Infrastructure Levy, iii) Twinning, iv) RCT's residential and day care consultation, v) RCT's local toilets strategy, vi) Update from the Independent Remuneration panel with regard to Cllrs allowances.

Cllr Richard Jones left the meeting at 8.30pm.

4. The Executive Officer advised that complaints regarding dog mess and litter in the village have been received, and a request made to bring back the Warden.

Cllrs agreed that there was no money in the budget at present to fund the reinstatement of the Warden. **Action 14** – Executive Officer to ask RCT to take steps to clear the dog mess and litter in the village.

5. The Executive Officer confirmed that the Centenary Fields poppy seeds had been distributed to Penderyn Community Centre to plant at Yr Eithin and Hirwaun Scouts to plant at Y Cefndon.
6. The Executive Officer advised that Hirwaun Scouts are keen to get involved in daffodil planting in the area with the free bulbs that are due to come to us from RCT so that they can work towards their Environmental Award. Cllrs agreed to the Scouts planting the bulbs. **Action 15** – Executive Officer to seek permission from RCT to plant bulbs on the grass roundabout by Hirwaun Primary and the strip of grass leading into Penderyn up to the Community Centre.
7. Centenary Fields events pack - It was agreed that the contents of this pack (Centenary Fields branded t-shirts, footballs, medals, hessian sacks, bunting etc) would be offered to Penderyn Community Centre should they wish to hold an event on Yr Eithin.

2019/047 – Caretaker’s Probationary Period/Hours

Cllrs Ceri Woodley and Jenny Myring declared an interest as Village Hall Trustees. The meeting at this point was no longer quorate and a decision could not be made.

Action 16 – Executive Officer to add this to the March agenda.

2019/047 – Staff Payment Method

Cllrs agreed to change the method of staff payment from cheque to bank transfer as allowed by our Financial Standing Orders. This was proposed by Cllr Margaret Amos, seconded by Cllr Ceri Woodley and agreed nem con. **Action 17** – Executive Officer to start this process.

2019/048 - Urgent items at the Chair’s discretion

None.

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