

GWAUN CAE GURWEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council

Held at the Tairgwaith Community Centre

On Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 6.30pm

309. Members' Present

Councillors – Geoff Moore (Presiding), Dai Davies, Dave Jones, Sue Jordan, Michele Emerson, Len Preece, Adrian Herdman, Cathryn Harrison, Dafydd Humphries, Gareth Edmondson

Also In Attendance

Lyn Llewellyn, Clerk to the Council

Apologies – (Agenda item No 1)

Nia Treharne – hospital, Leander Bell and Mike Harrison

310. Declarations of personal interest – (Agenda item No 2) There were no declarations of personal interest made.

311 Presentation by Steve Hayes of Pantry Food bank, Pontardawe **(Agenda item 3)**

Steve Hayes the “Pantry” Treasurer presented a report to Council on the Development of a local Foodbank . A copy of his presentation is available on request to the Clerk.

Members were somewhat surprised that Steve was not aware that as well as the Foodbank run from the GCG Community Centre, there was a second Foodbank within the Community Council area which was run from the Maerdy premises in Tairgwaith.

312. Minutes (Agenda item 4)

Proposed and seconded and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 12th February 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

313. Matters arising from those minutes – (Agenda item 5)

Celtic Energy Opencast Site – Minute No 298

Reported that Natural Resources Wales has been requested to arrange for a senior representative to meet with Council to discuss potentially serious issues, which may arise in the future, in relation to the opencast site.

Declaration of Vacancy in the GCG Ward – Minute No 299 (Agenda item No 6)

Reported that Neath Port Talbot CBC has been informed of the vacancy and the advertisement will appear during the next few days.

Old Glyn School – Minute No 302

Reported that a valuation report, dated 27th February 2019, has been received from Rowland Jones, Chartered Surveyors. Agreed that the report be noted and be considered further at the opportune time. The Chairperson outlined some possible proposals for the use of the former primary school site.

314. Annual Review of the Council's Risk Assessment (Agenda item 6).

After some discussion it was proposed and seconded and approved by all members present that the Risk Assessment is approved. Suggested that the Council adopt a volunteer policy and consider the possibility of Police CRV checks. In addition, it was recommended that the Council should be registered as a Living Wage employer.

315. Application for grant under the Celtic Energy Community Benefit Fund – Awel Aman Tawe – (Agenda item 7)

Reported that a detailed response, dated 20th February 2019, to questions raised by members had been received and circulated with the meeting papers. After careful consideration it was concluded that the Council was not happy with the responses. Therefore, it was proposed and seconded and agreed by all members present that the grant application be rejected.

316. Presentation Plates – (Agenda item 8)

Reported that the Chairperson had presented a presentation plate to Denzil Evans on the occasion of his 90th birthday on the 29th January 2019. Also noted that a presentation plate would be presented to Meidrim Thomas on the occasion of his 90th birthday on the 7th April 2019.

317. Accounts for Payment for March 2019 – (Agenda item 9)

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present that the accounts totalling £7,750.71 (Cheque No 103870 to 1038884) be approved for payment.

See Schedule of Payments attached to these minutes

318. Correspondence – (Agenda item No 10) The following were reported -

- A letter dated 6th March 2019, received from the Secretary to the Management Committee of the Cwmgors Community Centre, seeking permission for the following –
 - (i) the installation of an oven in the kitchen – the Committee will foot the bill,
 - (ii) the painting of the Centre – a donation is requested from the Council.

It was proposed and seconded and approved by all the members present that permission be granted and that the Council make a donation towards the cost of re-decorating.

- Reported that One Voice Wales is holding a training session from 6.30pm to 9.00pm on the Code of Conduct on the 23rd April 2019 in Ammanford.

It was agreed that Michele Emerson and Dave Jones be authorised to attend

- Reported that the Caretaker/Cleaner has tendered her notice and will leave the employment of the Council on the 19th March, 2019. The job together with the Minute Clerk job will be advertised in tomorrow's South Wales Guardian and next week as well.
- Reported that six members of the Council have requested payment of the £150.00 members' allowance. However only one has returned the HMRC Starter checklist form. **Noted.**

319. Planning Applications (Agenda item 11)

None received

320. Reports and representations of committees, sub committees and external bodies – (Agenda item No: 12)

- Michelle Emerson provided a full verbal report of the One Voice Wales meeting she attended recently.
- Dai Davies provided a copy of the agenda of the Celtic Energy East Pit Liaison Committee held on the 7th March 2019 together with minutes of the previous meeting and reported at length about the business transacted in the meeting.

321. To consider motions received (Agenda item No: 13)

received.

None

322. Any Other Urgent Business – (Agenda item No 14)

- Noted that the South Wales Nuclear Waste march in Swansea had been cancelled.
- Gareth Edmondson provided an update on the new website.

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm

Signed.......... Dated 09/04/2019