

CYNGOR CYMUNED GWAUN CAE GURWEN

GWAUN CAE GURWEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council

Held at the Tairgwaith Community Centre

On Tuesday 12th November, 2019 at 6.30pm

421. Members' Present

Councillors – Dafydd Humphries (Presiding), Len Preece, Dave Jones, Dai Davies, Cathryn Harrison, Geoff Moore, Adrian Herdman, Helen Baker and Sue Jordan.

Also In Attendance

Lyn Llewellyn, Clerk to the Council

Apologies – (Agenda item No 1)

Nia Treharne, Mike Harrison and Leander Prescott,

422. Declarations of personal interest – (Agenda item No 2)

There were no declarations of personal interest

423. Minutes (Agenda item No 3)

Proposed and seconded and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting, held on the 8th October 2019, be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

424. Declaration of Acceptance of Office (Agenda item No 5)

Declarations of Acceptance of Office were received from –
Cllr Dafydd Humphries, as Chairperson of the Council Cllr Helen Baker, as a co-opted member of the Council.

425. Election of Governor (Agenda item No 6)

Cllr Len Preece was duly elected to represent the Council on the Board of Governors of Ysgol Gynradd, Tairgwaith.

426. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Payment of members of Council (Agenda item No 7)

The Council considered the Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and accepted and approved the following -

- Determination 44 - noted that the Council was in Group B and as a result must make available a payment to each of their members of £150.00 per year for costs incurred in respect of telephone usage, information technology, consumables etc.
- Determination 47 – Community Councils in Group B are authorised to make an annual payment of £500.00 each for up to 5 members in recognition of specific responsibilities. This is in addition to the £150 payment for costs and expenses if that is claimed. **Proposed and seconded and agreed by members present that £500.00 be paid to the Chair of the Health Committee.**
- Determination 48 – Community Councils are authorised to make payments to each of their members in respect of travel costs for attending approved duties. Such payments must be the actual costs of travel by public transport or the HMRC mileage allowances as set out in the annual report.
- Determination 49 – If the Council resolves that a particular duty required an overnight stay, it may authorise reimbursement of subsistence expenses to its members at the maximum rates set out in the annual report on the basis of receipted claims.
- Determination 50 – Community Councils are authorised to pay financial loss compensation to each of their members where such loss has actually occurred, for attending approved duties as set out in the annual report.
- Determination 51 – All Community Councils must provide for the reimbursement of necessary cost for the care of dependent children and adults (provided by informal or formal carers) and for personal assistance needs up to a maximum of £403.00/month on production of receipts from the carer. Reimbursement must be for the additional cost incurred by members in order for them to carry out their approved duties. Reimbursement shall only be made on production of receipts from the carer.
- Determination 52
Community Councils are authorised to provide a Civic Head payment to the mayor/chair of the council up to a maximum of £1,500.00 to undertake the

functions of that office. This is in addition to the £150.00 payment for costs and expenses and the £500.00 senior salary if these are claimed.

427. Update on the following matters – (Agenda item No 8)

- GCG Food Bank – Noted that in a letter, dated 10th October, 2019 received from Steve Hayes, Treasurer of PANTRY Food Bank, the writer was pleased to say on behalf of Pantry how delighted they were to see the progress made with the GCG Food Bank. Pantry was happy to offer any advice and assistance at any time in the future. A grant cheque for £500.00 from Pantry had been handed to Karen Kirby.
- Rhydyfro Landfill Site - Reported that numerous complaints about unpleasant smells coming from the Rhydyfro landfill site had been received – these were being investigated by NRW and Neath Port Talbot CBC. The contents of Cllr Geoff Moore's report was noted.
- Lower Brynaman Community Centre – the process of obtaining quotations for installation of central heating is ongoing.
- Meeting with Health Board representatives - A verbal report was provided by Cllr Dafydd Humphries on the meeting held on the 14th October, 2019 with Health Board representatives to discuss community health issues. Noted that the Primary School building will be inspected on the 28th November 2019.
- Opencast Site - proposed meeting with Jeremy Miles AM – Still no response received. Noted that in the last Council meeting he was given until the end of December to respond otherwise the Council will involve the press and media.
- Christmas Lights – Reported that the lights would be installed on the 30th November 2019 and the “switch on” will take place on the 1st December 2019.
- Rating of GCG and Tairgwaith Community Centres - Reported that the Clerk had written to Neath Port Talbot CBC but that no response had been received to date.

428. Council Presentation Plates (Agenda item 9)

Reported that the Chairperson, Cllr Dafydd Humphries, has presented a Council presentation plate to young Ruby Spedding a Welsh international gymnast living in our community.

429. Applications for Financial Assistance (Agenda item No10)

1. Gwaun Cae Gurwen OAP Association – A meeting will be arranged between the Council Chairperson and representatives of the Association

2. Gwaun Cae Gurwen Community Bowls Club - Proposed and seconded and approved by a majority of the members present that the Club be awarded £500.00
3. Y Lolfa (Library/Resource Centre – Proposed and seconded and approved by all members present that the Centre be awarded £1,500.00
4. Ruby Spedding, Welsh International Gymnast – Proposed and seconded and approved by all members present that Ruby be awarded £100.00

430. Accounts for Payment for November (Agenda item No 11)

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present that the Accounts totalling £5048.76 (Cheque No 104001 to 104020) be approved for payment.

See Schedule of Payments attached to these minutes

431. Correspondence (Agenda item No 12)

1. Letter dated 7th November 2019 received from the Amman Valley Men's Shed saying they would like to use the porto cabin as the group is getting larger and would like more social space. Members agreed in principle, on the understanding that the facility would be available, if required, to other users.
2. Letter dated 9th November 2019 received from Canolfan Maerdy requesting £1,000.00 for membership of FareShare, Cymru. Agreed to defer this item for consideration in the next meeting of Council.

432. Planning Applications (Agenda item No 13)

Reported that there was one pre-planning application received involving the building 8 dwellings on the former Gwaun Cae Gurwen Primary School site. The Clerk to request a presentation by the developer.

433. Reports and representations of committees, sub committees and external bodies – (Agenda item No: 14) There were no reports received.

434. To consider motions received (Agenda item No: 15)

Reported that the following motions had been received for debate–

1. Proposed and seconded and agreed by all members present that the Youth Sub Committee be re-designated at the Youth Committee – a standing committee.
2. Proposed and seconded and agreed by all members present that the dates of the next four Ordinary monthly Council meetings be changed from Tuesday to Wednesday i.e., Wednesday 11th December, 2019, 15th January 2020, 12th February, 2020 and the 11th of March 2020.

435. Any Other Urgent Business – (Agenda item No 16)

The heading any other urgent business is apparently no longer legal – it is not specific enough.

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm

Signed..........

Dated

11/12/2019