

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 Wednesday 15th January, 2020 at 6.30pm

Meeting started at 6.37pm

451. Members' Present

Dafydd Humphreys, Presiding

Councillors – Leander Prescott, Dave Jones, Len Preece, Dai Davies, Mike Harrison, Adrian Herdman, Sue Jordan, Geoff Moore

Also In Attendance

County Councillor Sonia Reynolds

Lyn Llewellyn, Clerk to the Council

Clare Hope, Temporary Assistant Clerk

Apologies – (Agenda item No 1)

Nia Treharne – Commitments with children

Helen Baker

Cathryn Harrison

Temporary Assistant Clerk, Clare Hope

The Chairperson, Cllr Dafydd Humphreys, welcomed Clare to her first meeting of the Council and she was introduced to the members

452. Declarations of personal interest – (Agenda item No 2) There were no Declarations of personal interest.

453. County Councillor Report

Cllr Reynolds was invited to address the Council and proceeded to provide an update relating to the Pwllfawatkin situation in particular dealing with the planning application. Noted that there was no smell evident in recent weeks. *Cllr Reynolds left the meeting at 18.58*

454. Minutes – (Agenda Item No 3.)

Proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present that, subject to amendments, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th December 2019, be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

455. Matters arising from those minutes not otherwise on the Agenda.

(Agenda Item No 4)

Minute No: 441 – Councillors’ Allowances

Cllr Dave Jones requested a copy of the Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales relating to Councillors’ Allowances.

Minute No: 442 – Canolfan Maerdy

The Chairperson stated that information was awaited regarding Canolfan Maerdy’s request for financial assistance.

456. Approval of Estimates of Income and Expenditure – 2019/20 Revised and 2020/21 Original together with Precept (Agenda items No 5a-c)

The Clerk presented the draft revised estimates of Income and Expenditure for 2019/20 together with the original estimates of Income and Expenditure for 2020/21 and following a detailed discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present to approve the following – □ 2019/20 Revised Total Estimated Expenditure = £98,542

□ 2020/21 Original Total Estimated Expenditure = £152,121

Funded by -

Celtic Energy Benefit Fund = £35,224

Transfer from EMR – Brynaman Fund = £22,414

Transfer from General Fund = £8,500

£66,138

To be funded from Precept £85,983

In addition, it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all member present that the Precept for 2020/21 be approved at £85,983. Noted that this represented an increase in the Precept of £2,393.00 or 2.86% and an increase in Council Tax Band D of 67 pence from £63.52 to £64.19.

It was noted that the balances as at 31st March 2021 were estimated to be as follows –

Earmarked Reserve – Brynaman Fund = £16,806

General Fund = £59,129

Total £75,935

NB the Clerk will make enquiries about the Feed in Tariff relating to GCG Community Centre and report back to the next Council meeting.

The Clerk was thanked for his hard work.

457. To consider funding for the proposed Community Café in the GCG Community Centre (Agenda item 6)

Cllr Mike Harrison reported that a preliminary report had been completed and Sue’s husband was thanked by Dafydd and Leander for his input in this respect. The Chairperson asked if the report could be forwarded to the Clerk for distribution to members. Mike went on to say that

it had not been possible to get the necessary plans drawn up free of charge and it was estimated that the plans would cost £1,500. Following a detailed discussion, it was proposed, seconded and agreed by a majority of the members present that this matter be deferred pending the establishment of a Management Committee for the Community Centre. There were 8 members in favour of the motion and 3 abstentions. Noted that a meeting of users of the Centre has been called for the purpose of establishing a Management Committee on the 23rd of January 2020.

458. To consider a request for financial assistance from Bryn Rovers AFC
item 7)

Agenda

Reported that the Chairperson and the Clerk met with the Secretary of the Bryn Rovers AFC and that he had subsequently forwarded a copy of the club's constitution and accounts.

Following a full discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present that the Bryn Rovers AFC be advised to make an application for grant from the Celtic Energy Community Benefit Fund.

459. Update on the following matters: (Agenda item 8)

□ GCG Community Centre

Reported that a quotation of £5,420 has been received for painting the Centre. It was agreed that the Clerk apply to Neath Port Talbot CBC for a grant to cover this cost and also the cost of tiling (over £5,000) the Centre and installing baby changing facilities (£250). Noted that the Probation Service does a good service. Leander will pass contact details to the Clerk. To comply with the Financial Regulations, the Clerk will seek two further quotes.

Crack in Outside Wall – awaiting a report from the contractor

460. Lower Brynaman Community Centre

Installation of central heating – The Clerk advised that work is to start shortly

461. Tairgwaith Community Centre

Roof repairs including the removal and refit of solar panels – if we do not get a date then the Clerk will seek other contractors to complete the work.

462. Community Health Issues – Meeting on 22/01/2020

Sue stated that there was a need to get a new practice proposal form – this was requested as long ago as October 2019. In addition we want to get the results of estate service and result for Aman/Tawe area. Ambitious plans for a health hub? How are we going to get it? Funding? Welsh Government? Health Board Members? Hopefully they will all turn up. Asked Dai Lloyd & Jeremy Miles to chase.

When we go in on 22nd, need to be really forthright.

Disappointed that AM's can't attend.

Noted that two new pharmacists can now prescribe and that home visits are improving.

463. Proposed meeting with Jeremy Miles AM concerning the opencast site The Clerk reported that he would contact the Constituency office to arrange a meeting as a matter of urgency.

464. Christmas Lights

Noted that there was a saving of £2,000.00 on Christmas Lights for the current year and that the savings will be used for more lights going forward Dafydd & Leanda went round all four villages to judge Christmas Lights - It was agreed that the 1st prize from each Ward will be £50.00

465. Presentation of Council Plate (Agenda Item 9)

Chair Dafydd Humphreys presented a Council Plate to Councillor Dave Jones in recognition of his completion of 12 years of service as a Community Councillor.

466. Staffing Matters (Agenda Item 10)

Reported that a letter of resignation dated the 3rd of January 2020 has been received from the Assistant Clerk, Mrs Debra Ware. The letter was read to members and was accepted. Noted that Mrs Clare Hope has offered to take up the vacant post, subject to a three month temporary contract, on the same terms and conditions as the former Assistant Clerk and her offer was duly accepted.

467. Security of Staff (Agenda Item 11)

Reported that a contractor had visited the council office at Cwmgors and provided a quotation for the installation of security cameras etc. Agreed that the matter be deferred to await further consideration following the receipt of two more quotations.

468. Accounts for payment (Agenda Item 12)

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present that the Accounts totalling £8,400.97 (Cheque No 104047 to 104068) be approved for payment.

See Schedule of Payments attached to these minutes

469. Correspondence (Agenda Item 13)

Reported that no correspondence received apart from Christmas cards from the local County Councillor, the Mayor and Mayoress of the County Borough Council and the Assembly Member.

470. Planning Applications (Agenda Item 14)

Application No: P2019/5707

Applicant's Name/Address: Mr Karl Launchbury, The Launchpad, Bronantfer, Leyshon Road, Ammanford, SA18 1EN.

Site Location: Plot at rear of 18 Leyshon Road, Gwaun Cae Gurwen, SA18 1EL Proposal: Non-material amendment to planning application no P2014/0876 approved on 10/08/2015 in relation to the installation of 3 ground floor side facing windows.

The Clerk advised this was for information only as the application was approved on 7th January 2020

471. Reports and representations of committees, sub-committees and external bodies (Agenda Item 15)

Reported that –

- The Clerk will call a meeting of the Standing Orders Committee as soon as possible.
- Noted that a Youth Committee meeting will take place on the 3rd February 2020.
- The Clerk will call a meeting of the 5 Year Plan Committee as soon as possible.
- Noted that a meeting has been called for 23rd January 2020 at 6.30pm in the Centre to consider setting up a Management Committee for the Gwaun Cae Gurwen Community Centre. □ Reported that there was food issued from the Community Food Bank over Christmas.

472. To consider any motions received (Agenda Item 16)

None received

473 Standing Orders

Resolved that the meeting continue for half an hour after 9,00pm

474 Hire of Tairgwaith Community Centre

Proposed, seconded and agreed by members that TJ be advised in writing that the Council has allowed him to carry on holding his classes in Tairgwaith Community Centre on the strict understand that no further altercations will be tolerated and that an immediate ban will be imposed from hiring any of the Councils Centres.

475. Questions for the Chair (Agenda Item 17)

The following matters were reported –

- Swansea Law Clinic - Sue will write back and chase.
- Update re Andrew Jarrett provided by Sue
- Mike – FOI request update? Chair responded by advising need to go to ICO

The meeting was closed at **21.20pm**

Signed.....

Dated

12/02/2020