



Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council

Held at the Tairgwaith Community Centre

On

Wednesday 11th March, 2020 at 6.00pm

Meeting started at 6.00pm

493. Members' Present

Dafydd Humphreys, Presiding

Councillors – David Jones, Leonard Preece, Helen Baker, Stephen Roach, Geoff Moore, Sue Jordan, Cathryn Harrison, John Holmes, David Davies, Mike Harrison, Leander Prescott.

Also In Attendance

Lyn Llewellyn, Clerk to the Council

Ffion Lewis, Assistant Clerk

Apologies for absence (*Agenda item No 1*) Sonia Raynolds.

494. Declarations of personal interest (*Agenda item No 2*) There were no Declarations of personal interest.

495. Workways Presentation (*Agenda item No 3*)

The Workways presentation was conducted by Margery Bartlett. Margery gave a vast description of the work that they do within the community. Workways work with ages twenty five plus and aim to help the individuals to return to employment. They provide funding for training, travel and clothing by looking at the individual needs. Each person that receives a referral to Workways will be appointed a mentor who will provide one to one support.

496. To receive Stephen Roach's declaration of acceptance of office (*Agenda item No 4*)

The Chairperson, Cllr Dafydd Humphreys, welcomed Stephen Roach to his first meeting of the Council and he was introduced to the members. Cllr Stephen Roach read and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

497. Minutes (Agenda item No 5)

Proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th February 2020, be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

498. Matters arising from those minutes not otherwise on the Agenda (Agenda item No 6)

Minute No 484: Park Howard Pony Club sent their gratitude regarding the donation made.

Minute No 489: Canolfan Maerdey has made an application for a grant which has been successful. The grant application has been made in conjunction with the foodbank.

499. Proposed makeover of GCG Community Centre (Agenda item No 7)

All members of the council have received copies of the plans made by Cllr Mike Harrison. A request for a business plan was made and all councillors were in agreement to this proposal. A meeting will be arranged for a different date, after the business plan has been made. It was agreed that a donation of £1500 was to be made to the community centre committee to help pay for the cost of the plans.

500. To consider a request for financial assistance (Agenda item No 8) Llangollen

International Musical Eisteddfod – Copy of accounts not yet received, deferred until given.

Wales Air Ambulance – The Clerk read out the correspondence received. Following a full discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all members that a donation of £500 to be made.

It was also agreed that all future requests for funding that is outside of the Gwaun Cae Gurwen Community Council area, to be deferred.

501. Update on the following matters: (Agenda item 9)

GCG Community Centre

Reported that a grant application has been submitted. Total estimated cost for renovations are £12,000 the 50% grant claim is currently being pursued with Neath Port Talbot CBC.

Lower Brynamman Community Centre

Reported that an engineer is due to call on Thursday 12th of March 2020 to install the gas meter.

Tairgwaith Community Centre

Reported that the completion of the roof was made this week. The solar panels are due to be refitted on Thursday 12th of March 2020.

Proposed meeting with Jeremy Miles AM

A meeting with Jeremy Miles AM has been arranged for Friday 13th of March 2020 at 2.00 pm. Cllr Dafydd Humphreys and Cllr David Davies will be attending the meeting. It was agreed that any questions that the fellow councillors would like to address at the meeting to be sent via email to Cllr Dafydd Humphreys or Cllr David Davies.

Pwllfawatkin Landfill Site

Cllr Geoff Moore presented everyone with a copy of the Meeting that he attended on February 13th 2020. Cllr Geoff Moore gave everyone a briefing of what was mentioned at the meeting. It was suggested that a letter be written asking for a report for the other gases produced at the site (such as Hydrogen Sulphide and Sulphur dioxide).

A copy of the letter received by Cllr Sue Jordan from Public Health Wales was given to each councillor. It was proposed that a letter to be sent to the health committee requesting further data.

502. Presentation of Council Plate (*Agenda item 10*) No plates issued.

503. Naming the Lower Brynamman Community Centre (*Agenda item 11*) Discussion was made regarding different names for the community centre. It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that the community centre be named “Canolfan Gymunedol Brynaman Isaf”.

504. Review Risk Assessment Schedule (*Agenda item 12*)

The Risk assessment schedule was given to all councillors. Reported that the schedule needs to be reviewed at least once a year.

Training of Councillors: very high due to the reluctance to attend recommended courses. Suggested that we try and get the trainers come to us, this would result in more Councillors being able to attend.

Caretakers: Intend to take performance reviews, this will reduce the severity code. Need to identify the heavy work and safety of staff.

Staff: The severity code will now be reduced due to the employment of an assistant clerk.

Document Security: Lockable cupboards needed to keep important documents safe.

Disability Discrimination Issues: Cllr Leander Prescott has offered to do these reports as she is available on Wednesdays.

It was agreed that there is a need to add "Inspection of Playgrounds" onto the report. It was recommended that the inspections are made on a weekly basis. Need to compile risk assessments and policies for this. Cllr Stephen Roach will send a copy of a general risk assessment for us to work from.

505. Purchase of new printer and office equipment (Agenda Item 13) Cllr Stephen Roach agreed to price printers and let us know of the cost. Cllr Leander Prescott suggested that we use the cupboards that are in the Lower Brynamman site.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that the lock on the office door to be changed.

506. Accounts for Payment (Agenda Item 14)

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all members present that the Accounts totalling £8,139.88 (Cheque No 104085 to 104099) be approved for payment.

See Schedule of Payments attached to these minutes

507. Correspondence (Agenda Item 15)

Reported that a letter was received from the GCG management committee. The treasurer and chair need to write a letter or visit the bank, they need to take the constitution with them in order for them to be able to be mandatory signatures.

Letter from the PWB regarding the loan repayments for the Glyn site reported that there are no changes to be made and that there is no effect on the existing loan.

Letter received from the first minister regarding the safety at the coal tip.

508. Planning Applications (Agenda Item 16) No new planning Applications.

509. Reports and representations of committees, sub-committees and external bodies
(Agenda Item 17)

Report for the meeting held with Celtic Energy Ltd on 10th March 2020 Cllr David Jones presented a copy of the agenda for the meeting held. Reported that there is roughly 6000 tonnes of coal left at east pit and that they are removing around 3000 tonnes a week. There is roughly two weeks worth left at the site.

510. To consider any motions received (Agenda Item 18) None received.

511. Questions for the Chair (Agenda Item 19)

It was discussed, proposed, seconded and agreed by all that all future meetings will be held in Cwmgors Community Centre on the second Tuesday of every month until further notice. It was also agreed that due to the current concerns regarding the Covid-19 outbreak that urgent matters arising to be discussed and agreed via email, until further notice.

The meeting was closed at 9.00pm


Signed.....

Dated 12/05/2020