



GWAUN CAE GURWEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

18:30 on Tuesday, 13th December 2022 via Zoom

MEETING OPENED: 18:30

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllr. S. Thomas (Chair), Cllr. C. Petrie (Vice-Chair), Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas, Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. B. Davitt & Cllr. S. Reynolds

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Paul Hinder

104. APOLOGIES (ITEM 1):

Cllr. D. Humphrey & Cllr. L. O'Hara

105. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 2):

Cllr. C. Petrie – Awel Aman Tawe Planning Application (Item 10 C) – Prejudicial Interest

Cllr. G. Thomas – Canolfan Maerdy (Item 8 A) – Personal Interest

Cllr. L. Preece – Canolfan Maerdy (Item 8 A) – Personal Interest

Cllr. S. Reynolds – Canolfan Maerdy (Item 8 A) – Personal Interest (Dispensation)

106. GRANTS & TAIRGWAITH PARK (ITEM 3):

Paul Hinder attended the meeting to present to Council a possible avenue of funding a new installation to replace faulty equipment at Tairgwaith park and to answer questions raised in previous meeting (8th November 2022, Item 97 b) regarding accessing funding from grants, in particular Celtic Energy funds.

Mr. Hinder stated that GCG Community Council could apply to both NPTCBC Celtic Energy funding pot as well as the GCG Community Council funding pot as the money is intended for projects that benefit the community, such as play and recreation. The money from the grant would have to be used to purchase new play equipment rather than repairing old equipment. There is currently no Welsh Government or alternative funding available for projects of this nature.

19:00 – MR. PAUL HINDER LEFT THE MEETING.

MOTION: COUNCIL TO WORK WITH PAUL HINDER TO PUT TOGETHER A PROJECT TO REPLACE THE FAULTY EQUIPMENT AT TAIRGWAITH PARK WITH A NEW INSTALLTION FROM WICKSTEED USING GRANT FUNDING FROM BOTH NPT & GCG CELTIC ENERGY FUNDS AND THE REMAINDER TOPPED UP FROM COUNCIL RESERVES.

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Prescott

Seconded by: Cllr. S. Reynolds

APPROVED:

For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas, Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:



None

107. MEMBER CO-OPTION (ITEM 4):

a) HELEN BAKER:

Application withdrawn at this time.

108. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (ITEM 5):

Direct Debits currently being set up for all utility bills.

Signatories for the Bank Accounts are being updated, adding Chair & Vice Chair.

The Chair wishes to express congratulations to Cllr. D. Humphries for completing his HND in Business Studies.

109. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (ITEM 6):

None.

110. COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR UPDATES (ITEM 7):

a) CLLR. S. REYNOLDS:

There have been delays on the budget due to the Mini Budget. The Welsh Government sent out the Settlement today (13th December 2022) and Local Authorities will receive their Settlement tomorrow. There is an £18m shortfall this year and there is a further £54m shortfall over the next four years. There will be a <5% Council Tax increase. NPT Local Authority are working on a package of savings. There will be no redundancies of service cuts.

East Pit – A developer is looking at taking over the site. The Commoners have met with the new developer and have stipulated that the new developer must stick to the original plans and agreements. The new developer has been informed of the possible explosions in the void. The new developer in pre-planning has shown due diligence with Health and Safety of the site, including using submersibles to investigate the void. They have grave concerns about Health and Safety as people are cutting through/jumping over the stock fence that surrounds the void. It is not safe for the public to use. Security is at the site 24 hours a day. Safety Buoys have been placed around the void but have been stolen along with other equipment.

Pwllfawatkin – the Planning Application is progressing.

Pay As You Go Meters – Those who are having issues with OVO and Boost; there are new contact telephone numbers. The Local Authority Councillors will circulate these details via Chair. Can anyone having an issue please contact the office of Christina Rees (M.P.).

111. PREVIOUS MINUTES (ITEM 8):

a) ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES – 8TH NOVEMBER 2022

APPROVED:

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Preece

Seconded by: Cllr. G. Moore

For:



Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas,
Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

None

112. MATTERS ARISING (ITEM 9):

ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES – 8TH NOVEMBER 2022 – 93 A):

FareShare are struggling with current demand and are unable to provide further resources for the foreseeable future.

MOTION: A DIRECT PAYMENT OF £312.50 BE MADE TO BOTH CANOLFAN MAERDY AND GCG FOODBANK EVERY QUARTER FOR THE NEXT YEAR (TOTALLING £2,500). THIS PAYMENT WILL STIPULATE:

- **THE MONEY MUST BE SPENT ON FOOD THAT IS TO BE GIVEN OUT TO THE COMMUNITY FOR FREE.**
- **THE FOOD MUST BE PURCHASED FROM THE CHEAPEST AVAILABLE SOURCE.**
- **RECEIPTS WILL NEED TO BE PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL EACH QUARTER BEFORE THE NEXT PAYMENT IS SENT.**

APPROVED:

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Prescott

Seconded by: Cllr. D. Jones

For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. L. Prescott & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

Cllr. G. Thomas, Cllr. L. Preece & Cllr. S. Reynolds

113. PLANNING APPLICATIONS (ITEM 10):

No issues raised.

19:44 – CLLR. G. THOMAS LEFT THE MEETING.

114. COMMUNITY FUNDS (ITEM 11)

a) Y LOLFA

They have answered all questions raised at previous meeting (28th June 2022) regarding this grant application.

MOTION: TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR 90% OF THE TOTAL PROJECT COST - £2,301.16

APPROVED:



Proposed by: Cllr. G. Moore **Seconded by:** Cllr. D. Jones

For:

Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas, Cllr. L. Preece,
Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

Cllr. B. Davitt

b) GCG OAPA:

Asked for a further donation but did not give a reason for the grant. It was agreed by all that they could apply again but would need to give a reason for requiring the money.

115. COMMITTEES & APPOINTMENTS (ITEM 12):

a) HEALTH & SAFETY WORKING GROUP TO BE RENAMED HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

APPROVED:

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Prescott **Seconded by:** Cllr. L. Preece

For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas,
Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

None

b) EVENTS WORKING GROUP TO BE RENAMED EVENTS COMMITTEE:

APPROVED:

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Preece **Seconded by:** Cllr. G. Moore

For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas,
Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

None



c) CLLR. B. DAVITT APPOINTED TO:

- **YOUTH COMMITTEE**
- **HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

116. POLICIES (ITEM 13):

a) YOUTH COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE (DEC 2022)

APPROVED:

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Prescott **Seconded by:** Cllr. S. Reynolds

For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas,
Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

None

b) COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCE AND EXPENSES

Councillors who are on means tested benefits who are unable to claim the allowance should keep all receipts for costs relating to council for reimbursement as expenses, all Councillors are entitled to do this. Chair to circulate expenses forms. It has been raised to the IRPW that Councillors should not be taxed further on expenses relating to council and they have advised that it will be raised at their next meeting.

c) COMMUNITY CENTRE BOOKING FEES

MOTION: THREE TIERED FEES FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE BOOKINGS PER SESSION (MORNING, AFTERNOON, EVENING – 4 HOURS EACH):

- **COMMERCIAL BOOKINGS:**
 - **MAIN HALL – £25.00**
 - **MEETING ROOM – £15.00**
- **COMMUNITY BOOKINGS:**
 - **MAIN HALL – £15.00**
 - **MEETING ROOM – £10.00**
- **PRIVATE PARTY/FUNCTION:**
 - **MAIN HALL – £30.00**
 - **PLUS £30.00 DEPOSIT (REFUNDABLE IF LEFT IN GOOD ORDER)**

COMMUNITY BOOKINGS WHO STRUGGLE TO PAY THE FEES THEY ARE ABLE TO WRITE TO THE GCG COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE COSTS.

APPROVED:

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Prescott

Seconded by: Cllr. D. Jones



For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas,
Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

None

d) COMMUNITY CENTRE COVER AND HOLIDAY OPENING TIMES

It was agreed that all Community Centres would be closed from the 24th December 2022 reopening on 2nd January 2023, other than for critical bookings (such as Food Bank), Councillors will cover opening the centre for these bookings. They will also close on all other public holidays throughout the year.

Councillors will be put on a rota to open the halls on Sundays, however, this is for one off bookings like parties/functions, regular/block bookings cannot be made for Sundays.

The Community Council will place an advert for people interested in temporary work to cover annual leave for the caretakers.

e) STAFF CHRISTMAS VOUCHER

To be reconsidered once funding regulations are checked.

20:57 – MEETING EXTENDED BY THIRTY MINUTES.

117. REPORTS (ITEM 14):

a) PAYMENT SCHEDULE

All agreed.

b) ACCOUNTS

Informational purposes.

c) BUDGET

Cllr. C. Petrie (RFO) has Council Laptop and is sorting Rialtas.

Audit to be submitted to Audit Wales Office by 23rd December 2022.

d) COMMUNITY CENTRE PURCHASES

MOTION: TO PURCHASE A GRIT BIN, GRIT AND SHOVEL FOR ALL THREE COMMUNITY CENTRES AT A TOTAL COST OF £210.

APPROVED:

Proposed by: Cllr. L. Prescott

Seconded by: Cllr. S. Reynolds

For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas,
Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None



Abstained:

None

118. CORRESPONDENCE (ITEM 15):

- a) 19/11/2022 – LETTER – ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
- b) 24/11/2022 – LETTER – GCG OAPA
- c) 24/11/2022 – EMAIL – TRAMPOLINE ON Y BANWEN FIELD.

119. PLATES (ITEM 16):

None.

120. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (AT CHAIR'S DISCRETION) (ITEM 17):

- a) OIL – GCG COMMUNITY CENTRE

MOTION: TO PURCHASE A FURTHER 1500 LITRES OF OIL FOR UP TO £1,400 AFTER CHECKING THE TANK FOR LEAKS.

For:

Cllr. B. Davitt, Cllr. C. Petrie, Cllr. D. Jones, Cllr. G. Moore, Cllr. G. Thomas,
Cllr. L. Preece, Cllr. L. Prescott, Cllr. S. Reynolds & Cllr. S. Thomas

Against:

None

Abstained:

None

- b) TAIRGWAITH CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Still not working, Chair to chase tomorrow.

121. NEXT MEETING (ITEM 18):

18.30 ON TUESDAY, 10TH JANUARY 2023

MEETING ADJOURNED: 21.25

SIGNED:

DATE:

10 / 01 / 2023