



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, HEOL WEST PLAS, LITCHARD CROSS, BRIDGEND ON THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 2019 AT 6.30 PM

Present:

Councillors M Williams (Chair)

A Davies
C Evans
C Jones
B Tiltman
C Walburn
A Wathan

Apologies: Councillors D Barrington, A Hughes,
L Richards and R Young

Also Present:

Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO
Mr P Ley, Asst Clerk & FO

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146 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Minute	Interest	Speak/Vote
Bernard Tiltman	Allotment Gardens Donations	159 153	Tenant Member Coity Festivals	No/No
M Williams	Donations	153	Member Coity Festivals	No/No

147 TO RECEIVE THE COMMUNITY AWARD 2018 WINNERS FOR A PRESENTATION

The winners of the Community Awards for 2018 had been invited to the meeting along with their guests. The Chair, Councillor Martin Williams, presented Mr Bill Daniel of Parc Derwen with a shield and a gift for his on-going work in the community, Mrs Daniel was also presented with a bouquet of flowers. The winner of the junior Community Award, Megan Casson, was also presented with a shield and a gift in recognition of her fund raising work and her volunteering work in helping out at events held in the community.

148 TO WELCOME RESPRESENTATIVES OF COITY WALLIA COMMONERS RE. GRAZING RIGHTS/SARN PARK

Two representatives of the Commoners group Mr Huw Griffiths, Secretary and Mr Jonathan Jones, Chair introduced themselves. Mr Griffiths explained the reason for their request to attend the meeting and the history behind the grazing rights on the section of common included in the revised LDP as a candidate site for retail and employment. They asked if they could return to a future meeting before the consultation period to give Members an update on the Commoners' response to the paper in order to seek support from the Community Council.

Resolved: It was agreed to include this item for further discussion nearer the consultation date.

149 MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY ORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes of the February 2019 Ordinary Meeting held on 14th February 2019 were presented for approval. They were accepted and approved as a true record of the meeting, with one amendment - that Councillor Tiltman's declarations of interest for the Forces Fitness and the Community Award should be added. The amendment was agreed and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

Resolved: This was noted.

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150 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FEBRUARY 2019 MINUTES

Minute 128 Forces Fitness

A risk assessment, a copy of their insurance and a poster for the event had been received. In addition the organiser had informed the Clerk that if more than 50 entries are received the event organisers will purchase additional special event insurance.

Minute 130 Matters Arising from the January 2019 Minutes

An invoice has been raised and sent to Pear Communications.

Minute 130 Allotment Garden Container

Since the last meeting Coity Village Association had removed the container.

Minute 135 Town and Community Council Fund

The Clerk confirmed that she had submitted two separate applications for Pendre Fields play area and Coity Castle play area with two quotations for both. She had been notified that both applications have been reviewed by a BCBC panel and passed to Cabinet for their consideration.

Minute 141 Clerk's Report

CAT Update - the Clerk had submitted an Expression of Interest form for all play areas and gave an update. In addition she gave updates on progress to transfer the car park at Pendre Fields and how the play area at Joslin Terrace sits within the transfer.

New bench The Dell - an update was given on Councillor Young's referral.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted. The Clerk

151 ELECTORAL BOUNDARY CHANGES - BRIDGEND COUNTY

The Clerk had circulated copies of a draft response and this was discussed in detail and some minor amendments made.

Resolved: The changes would be made and a final draft presented at the April meeting for submission by the deadline of 15th April 2019. The suggested ward boundary changes were agreed.

152 REVIEW OF THE REVISED LDP

The candidates sites were discussed.

Resolved: It was agreed to discuss this matter further once the consultation period was known.

153 TO CONSIDER THE DEFERRED FINANCIAL REQUESTS FOR 2018/19

The Clerk had sent out a list of deferred requests for consideration and these were discussed.

Resolved: It was agreed to donate £100 to each of the following charities - Noah's Ark, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Children's Wales Air Ambulance, Cancer Information & Support Services, Bridgend Carers Centre, Samaritans Bridgend and to pay the £500 donation to Coity Festivals for the skips authorised earlier in the year.

154 CENTENARY TRUST CELEBRATORY IDEA

The Clerk suggested that the Centenary celebrations were associated with 2018 and as the Community Council had published its Centenary Fields in Trust initiative in the press, on the website and in its newsletter the moment had passed to make a special event of the field being put in trust. However the Clerk made some suggestions as to how the Centenary Trust promotional items could be used by Forces Fitness at their event in May for children's activities.

Resolved: It was agreed that the Centenary celebrations were associated with 2018. That the Clerk would approach Forces Fitness to see if they could use the Centenary Trust promotional items in the way the Clerk suggested at their event being held on 11th May in Coity playing field and to ask Forces Fitness if one of the races could be named after the field - Cae'r Eglwys.

155 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (PRESS AND PUBLIC TO BE EXCLUDED)

Resolved: It was agreed that the Chair would meet with the Clerk to discuss changes to staff contracts and job descriptions. The drafts would be discussed at the May Finance Meeting to be finalised by full council at its May Ordinary Meeting.

156 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

1.Payment of Cheques

Authority was requested for the payments of the cheques listed in this month's papers, and this was agreed.

2.Budget Monitoring, Accounts & Budgets

The budget monitoring report for February 2019 including the balances were accepted and the budget reviewed.

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3.Finance Committee Recommendations

The following recommendations were made by the Finance Committee:

- That the Clerk employs a contractor to carry out works to some of the footpaths before the end of the financial year.
- That the annual One Voice Wales membership is renewed.
- That the grass cutting quotes from Maison et Jardin for 2019/20 are accepted for Litchard Play Area, Coity Playing Field, the Allotment Gardens and, once CAT transferred, Pendre Play Area. In addition the grass at Coity Playing Field is to be cut every two weeks not three weeks as in 2018 following complaints received.
- That the Clerk obtains quotations to plant 6 sacks of daffodil bulbs for all 3 wards in 2019 and to add this as an agenda item in April or May once quotes have been obtained.
- That the Chair and Clerk meet to discuss changes to staff contracts and job descriptions.
- That a budget line is added into the budget entitled Communications - to cover newsletter costs, website costs etc.

Resolved: All information was noted and authority was given to the Clerk to make the agreed payments. All recommendations by the Finance Committee were accepted and agreed.

157 MEMBERS REPORTS

There was nothing to report this month.

158 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE

Councillor A Williams was present at the meeting and gave a report on matters including updates on the following in Parc Derwen - cycle route, play area, bund, the provision of a shop, the development of the bottom of the site and the bottom play area and continuing problems with parking outside Coety Primary School. In other parts of Coity she gave updates on the following - additional bins needed for Trem y Castell, signage in Coity Village, while lines, through traffic in Coity and the bus service in Coity.

Resolved: The information was noted.

Note: Standing Orders were suspended at 9.00 pm

159 CLERK'S REPORT

Allotment Gardens

The Clerk updated Members on the number of plots which have been vacated recently and that they had now been let to those at the top of the waiting list.

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In addition she highlighted a problem with water holding at the top of the first piece of roadway which has been laid to tarmac. In heavy rain the water is running down the grass roadway and gathering at the top of this piece of tarmac causing a pool of water and mud.

Website

The Clerk updated members on new regulations called The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018. The Community Council's website would need to comply by 22nd September 2020 and publish a statement saying they standards have been met.

Christmas Lights Litchard

The Clerk informed Members that the ex-hire catalogue of lights was now available for 2019 and asked authority to purchase the lights for Litchard whilst the best selection are available.

Footpath 52

The Clerk informed Members that the Community Council's offer to contribute £3,270 to the cost of laying this footpath to tarmac had been turned down. The Clerk was given authority to look for additional funding at the Funding Event she was attending the following day.

Diversion of Footpath 17

8 objections had been received by BCBC to the Order to divert this footpath. Unfortunately BCBC had not been able to secure the removal of 7 of those objections so the Order could not be confirmed. BCBC will now prepare a Statement of Reasons outlining why it believes the Order should be confirmed and once approved it will be referred to the Welsh Government for determination.

Independent Remuneration Panel Report

The report had been sent out to Members and the Clerk highlighted some changes. The Clerk also highlighted the need for a policy regarding payments, reimbursement etc.

One Voice Wales Innovation Awards

The Clerk confirmed that the Community Council's Active Travel Plan/Community Access Plan had been short listed in two categories at the awards - Best Community Engagement Initiative and Best Local Council of the Year. The awards will take place on 28th March 2019 in Builth Wells.

Clerks Meeting at BCBC

The Clerk updated Members on matters discussed at the meeting including the review of electoral arrangements, CAT, collaborative working, items for the T&CC Forum, budget proposals and the Council's Forward Work Programme.

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Wales & West

The Clerk had been contacted by Laura Allcott who is trying to set up a youth club to be held in Brackla Community Centre for the children in Coity and Brackla. Wales & West will provide transport to the venue. They are looking for interested youth leaders, volunteers and children to attend.

Dog Waste Bag Dispenser

The Clerk informed Members that BCBC had offered the Community Council one free dog waste bag dispenser.

Resolved: All information was noted. The Clerk was asked to look for funding to tarmac more of the allotment garden roadway, was given authority to purchase the Litchard Christmas lights in the new financial year, to look for funding to tarmac footpath 52 and to ask Laura Allcott to provide further information which could be shared on social media and the school governors could share with the schools. It was agreed that Councillors M Williams and A Wathan would attend the One Voice Wales Innovation Awards on 28th March and that if any other Councillors wished to attend they should contact the Clerk by 18th March latest. The Clerk was asked to request that the dog waste bag dispenser be installed next to the bin at Pendre Fields, but to request dispensers for each of the other wards too. A draft policy for allowances would be written and considered at the April meeting.

160 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was noted. Some additional correspondence had been received since the papers had been sent out and with the agreement of the Chair these were tabled at the meeting. The Clerk drew Members' attention to the consultations, surveys and invitations on the correspondence list.

Resolved: The correspondence was noted, most items had been emailed to Members in advance of the meeting.

161 PLANNING MATTERS

All planning information was noted. One additional planning request had been received since the papers were distributed and with the Chair's agreement this was tabled at the meeting.

Councillor C Evans asked to be excluded from the planning discussion and this was agreed.

The following objections were raised to planning request P/19/114/FUL:

1. The application site is in a remote rural area well outside of the BCBC Local Development Plan

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2. Despite the assertion that there is access to local amenities, we disagree. Coity Village has limited facilities, there only being one public house and a combined Post Office and village shop. The application site will be outside of the catchment area for Coity School which is already fully subscribed. There will no longer be a public bus service.

3. The application site can only be accessed from Hendre Lane much of which is single track with limited passing places, bends and high hedgerows. Minor accidents are frequent here. It is totally unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists who have no opportunity for refuge.

4. The application itself acknowledges that Bridgend Council has made a decision that there is no requirement for further gypsy accommodation before 2021 at least.

5. Whilst we understand the applicants' circumstances, homelessness either by fault or misfortune does not give you a right to development, especially on land not reserved for that purpose.

Resolved: The planning applications and decisions and other information were noted and the Clerk was asked to object to P/19/114/FUL on the grounds of points 1 to 5 above.

162 ITEMS FOR THE APRIL 2019 ORDINARY MEETING

- Path/Steps leading into Litchard Fields and to the Play Area

Resolved: Any items raised in the above minutes to be included and anything that may arise during the month.

163 DATE & VENUE FOR THE APRIL 2019 MEETING

Thursday, 11th April 2019 at Coity Higher Community Centre to start at 7.00 pm

The meeting closed at 9.17 pm