



## COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM ON  
THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AT 7.00 PM

Present: Councillors A Wathan (Chair)

A Davies (joined the meeting at 7.23 pm)  
C Evans (joined the meeting at 7.20 pm)  
A Hughes  
C Jones  
L Richards  
B Tiltman  
M Williams  
R Young (left the meeting at 8.26 pm)

Also Present:

Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO

Minute 50 Apologies:

Councillors D Barrington & C Walburn

51 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor	Item	Minute	Interest	Speak/Vote
B Tiltman	Allotment Gardens	59 & 62	Allotment Garden Tenant	No/No
R Young	All BCBC including Development Control & Planning	All relevant	BCBC - Member	No/No

52 **TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 2021 ORDINARY MEETING**

The Minutes of the July 2021 Ordinary Meeting was presented for approval. They were accepted and approved as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

**Resolved:** This was noted.

53 **TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JULY 2021 MEETINGS**

**Minute 38 Matters Arising from the June Meetings**

**Trees Coity Field and Footpath Map/Leaflet:** The Clerk informed Members that she'd registered with the Paths to Wellbeing scheme to obtain some funding.

**New Play Area Management Signs:** The smaller signs have been installed.

**Minute 39 Safer Routes Update**

Feedback has been received and will be collated into a document and discussed for feedback to the October Ordinary Meeting.

**Minute 43 Finance & Accounts incl. Finance Committee Recommendations**

**Christmas Lights/Decorations:** All had been ordered. The Clerk is waiting on permission from Persimmon for the additional motifs on the bottom spine road of Parc Derwen and is meeting with a representative of Centre Great to look at this and the site for the new pit at Gerddi/Trem y Castell.

**Minute 44 Member Report**

**LDP Consultation:** A response had been sent to BCBC and confirmation of its receipt had been received.

**Minute 46 Clerk's Report**

**Bench Heol y Groes Roundabout:** this has been replaced with a remembrance bench.

**School Community Awards:** A group of 5 children won the Litchard Primary Award. Zak Daniel was the Coety Primary winner.

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

54 **SAFER ROUTES UPDATE**

Councillor Williams gave an update on the meeting held by BCBC on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 which Councillors Williams and Davies and the Clerk attended.

It was noted that some of the work had been put out to tender.

**Resolved:** The information was accepted. The Clerk was asked to write to BCBC to ask where CHCC sits in the priority of their plans and when is the earliest an application for the next round of funding can take place. It was agreed that the Leader should be held to the promise that CHCC's application would be a priority and to ask for an update on Heol Spencer following the 14<sup>th</sup> July meeting.

55 **COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER UPDATE**

Councillor Williams gave an update. Further updates will be given in item 10 on the agenda Finance Committee Recommendations.

Correspondence had been received on the lease for Great Western Avenue and Litchard Fields/Community Centre. It was noted that a portion of the land at GWA is not in BCBC's ownership. The offer was for a 5 year lease.

A 35 year lease was being offered. It was noted that the offer felt extremely rushed and no survey had been undertaken by BCBC.

It was also noted that the refurbishment of Heol Mair does not feature in the first trench of play area refurbishments.

**Resolved:** The information was accepted. It was unanimously agreed not to accept the offer of a 35 year lease for Litchard Fields and not to accept the offer of a 5 year lease for GWA; there were too many unknown facts at this moment and to set up an informal working group to look at the offer and report back to full council with a business plan to see if it's viable. It was agreed to withdraw the £15,000 offer for

the refurbishment of Heol Mair.

**56 ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE**

There was no update available.

**Resolved:** This item would be included on the October agenda.

**57 CONSULTATION ON QUALIFICATIONS OF CLERKS IN WALES REGULATIONS**

This consultation closes on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The details had been circulated to Members and the matter was discussed.

The consultation questions were considered and a joint response agreed.

**Resolved:** The information was noted. It was agreed that the Clerk would complete the survey as discussed.

**58 OPERATION LONDON BRIDGE**

Guidance for T&CCs had been received and considered on action to be taken on the passing of Queen Elizabeth.

**Resolved:** The information was noted and the website recommendations had already been put in place. It was agreed that the Clerk would look into the cost and how to set up an on-line condolence book.

**59 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS incl FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.Payment of Cheques

Authority was requested for the payments of all the cheques listed on the expenditure sheet for August and September 2021.

2.Budget Monitoring, Accounts & Budgets

The budget monitoring report for July and August 2021 were included in the meeting papers.

3.Finance & Resources Committee Recommendations

-There were no threats or concerns regarding the 2021/22 budget. The August budget monitoring sheet had been amended to reflect the changes agreed at the July Ordinary meeting.

Recommendations to full council were made by Councillor Williams:

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- That the Finance Committee and any other councillor who wishes to be included set up a working group to look at the possible asset transfer of Coity Higher Community Centre and playing fields.
- That CHCC withdraw their offer of match funding the refurbishment of Heol Mair play area.
- To recommend that the allotment garden rent increases by £2 in 2022/23 for a full plot, taking the annual cost for a full plot to £42 pa
- That the next Finance Committee meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

**Resolved:** All information was noted and authority was given to the Clerk to make the agreed payments. All Finance & Resources Committee Recommendations were accepted and approved. Any Member who wishes to be part of the working group was asked to let the Clerk know. Consultation with the ward communities was agreed as an item on the October agenda.

### 60 MEMBER REPORTS

There were no Member reports this month.

**Resolved:** Noted.

### 61 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES

Councillor A Williams representing the Coity and Councillor R Young representing the Pendre ward gave updates.

Councillor Young's reported that he'd been working with veterans struggling with lockdown, gave an update on a request to purchase land from BCBC and details of an on-going de-carbonisation programme.

Councillor A Williams reported on various matters including a recent incident in Coity Village, the resurfacing of some roads in the village, work on the play areas and shops in Parc Derwen including a temporary pharmacy, school bus difficulties, work outside Coety Primary, cleared land at Trem y Castell, parking issues, Heol Spencer traffic issues and an update on a recent site meeting held, hedgerows to be cut, bramble cut back, pipe laying at Parc Derwen etc.

**Resolved:** All information was noted.

**62     CLERK'S REPORT**

**Play Areas:** The Clerk reported damage to a baby swing in Coity Castle play area, that inspections were due to take place in October, that a part of the fence at Heol y Groes play area was damaged and that the replacement part for Litchard Park has been received but not yet installed.

**Daffodil Bulbs:** These have been delivered. Permission has been granted by the health board to plant more daffodils at the entrance site.

**Ash Die Back Allotment Garden:** There is further ash die back at the allotment garden and a quote for £1,530 had been received to cut it down and remove.

**Newsletter:** The draft is almost complete; a quote had been received for design, printing and folding the same as for previous editions. They will be distributed in October, same cost as last year.

**Signs:** More signs have been ordered to place on benches as stock has run out.

**Love It, Don't Trash It:** This is now scheduled for the end of 2022/23 and may even go into the following year for CHCC.

**Meeting re Heol Spencer Livestock and Overbridge:** Jamie Wallis MP will draft a letter for all parties to sign.

**Remembrance Wreaths:** Have been ordered.

**Weeds on the Spine Roads:** Arrangements have been made for a second spray.

**Meetings in Person:** We can now meet in person subject to appropriate covid cleaning, ventilation, social distancing, masks, hand sanitising etc. and having the provision of audio equipment so councillors and residents can join remotely. We've lost the use of the centre.

**Resolved:** All information and action of the Clerk was noted and accepted. Members were asked to let the Clerk know where they wanted the daffodils planted in their wards. The Clerk was asked to accept the quote for the ash die back work. The Clerk was asked to find out the cost etc of using Litchard School and Litchard Mission for future council meetings.

**63     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 included.

The Clerk drew Members' attention to the following:

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- Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales - statement of payment returns 2020/2021
- Innovation Practice Conference - 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 - Vice-Chair, Councillor M Williams, would attend.
- A call for communities in Wales to submit their interest to improve local paths and nature
- Consultation on local taxes for second homes and self-catering accommodation
- Boundary Commission for Wales - initial proposals published
- Mudiad Meithrin - request to publish Clwb Cwtch Welsh learner sessions for Autumn 2021 on the website

**Resolved:** The information was noted. The request to publish a Welsh learner session poster was agreed.

Note: Councillor R Young left the meeting at 8.26 pm and did not take part in the discussion regarding planning.

### 64 PLANNING

All planning information had been emailed to Members including correspondence from Planning Aid Wales and with the consent of the Chair 2 additional decisions which had been received since the papers had been distributed.

**Resolved:** The planning applications and decisions were noted. The Clerk was asked to object to planning request P/20/106/RES.

### 65 ITEMS FOR THE OCTOBER 2021 MEETING

**Resolved:** It was agreed to keep the agenda open to include items that may arise during the month. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 7.00 pm

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm