



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, HEOL WEST PLAS, LITCHARD CROSS, BRIDGEND ON THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2019 AT 7.00 PM

Present: Councillors M Williams

A Davies
C Evans
L Richards
B Tiltman
C Walburn
A Wathan

Apologies: Councillors D Barrington, A Hughes, C Jones, R Young

Also Present: Councillor Amanda Williams from 7.00 to 7.50 pm
Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO
Mr P Ley, Asst. Clerk & FO

64 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE REQUEST FOR EXTENSION**

Councillor Dean Barrington had written requesting that the apologies he's given for the last 5 months are accepted and he requested that the full council considers his request to attend the November 2019 meeting and continue in his role as councillor as that meeting date would take his absence over the six month period.

Resolved: Councillor Barrington's request was discussed. The Clerk was asked to write to Councillor Barrington to let him know that having considered his request the Members accepted his apologies for absence for the months in question. In addition, they agreed that he could continue serving the community on the condition that he attends the next meeting on 14th November unless there are extenuating circumstances as to why he cannot attend.

65 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor	Item	Minute	Interest	Speak/Vote
C Evans	Correspondence re Bus Station	72	Member Bridgend Town Council	No/No
B Tiltman	Allotment Gardens	67 & 68	Tenant	No/No
A Wathan	Correspondence	72	Member Bridgend Town Council	No/No

66 **TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER ORDINARY MEETING**

The Minutes of the September 2019 Ordinary Meeting were presented for approval. They were accepted and approved as a true record of the meeting and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

Resolved: This was noted.

67 **TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2019 ORDINARY MINUTES**

Minute 50 Matters Arising from the July Meeting

Christmas:

A fault had been found on one of the Pendre column motifs, the Clerk asked for authorisation for the repair at a cost of £108.50.

Play Area Refurbishment:

The Clerk gave an update on the Coity Castle refurbishment. All play equipment is in place but the replacement bin and installation of two new benches are imminent. BCBC has now informed us that before any refurbished play area can reopen it needs an inspection report. Each report costs £450. We were not told about the reports as we haven't received the promised handover from BCBC. The CAT Officer has agreed to reimburse the cost of the two reports.

Lease Signing Pendre Fields:

The Clerk informed Members that contractors are now in place to empty the bin and cut the grass in the play area.

Minute 51 Coity Wallia Conservators

No update has been received to date.

Minute 52 CAT Update

BCBC are now ready to CAT the Lit chard Park Play Area to the Community Council. The Clerk would add this as an agenda item for November.

Minute 55 Adoption of Tree Policy

The document has been amended following the tree surveyor's observations. The Clerk asked for authority to adopt the amended policy.

Minute 56 Finance

Finance Committee Recommendations:

Play Scheme:

The Clerk informed Members that she'd invited the BCBC officer to attend the November meeting to discuss the 2020 Summer Activity Schemes.

Allotment Garden Roadway:

The Clerk had visited the site with the contractor and he suggests laying tarmac from the entrance to join up with the part that was renewed last year and adding a portion on the bend which again is joining up with the part that was renewed last year. This will cost £7,000 plus vat.

Daffodils Pride in Coity:

These have been delivered and they have expressed their thanks.

Wildmill Table Tennis Club:

Thank you received for the recent donation.

Minute 59 Clerk's Report

Daffodils: 3,000 daffodil bulbs have been planted in the areas requested last month, with the exception of the substation on Litchard Hill as the ground is full of rubbish. The sack for Litchard Primary school has been delivered.

Allotment Gardens: All plots have been let except for plot 14 which is tiny as it is so overgrown.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted. The Clerk was given authority to arrange for the repair of the Christmas motif, to add 2020 Summer Activity Scheme to the November agenda and to add the Litchard Park lease to the November agenda. The amended Tree Policy was accepted and adopted and the suggested area to be laid to tarmac in the allotment gardens was agreed and the Clerk was authorised to go ahead with this work.

68 **CLERK'S REPORT**

IRPW

The Clerk informed Members that details of the councillor allowances paid in 2018/19 have now been published on the council's website and sent to the Independent Remuneration Panel as requested.

Training Course

The Chair suggested the Clerk attends a Community Plans training course.

Allotment Gardens

Regarding the recent cutting down of an ash tree within the allotment gardens by a tenant the Clerk reminded Members that the tenancy agreement states:

2.6 not without the prior consent in writing of the Council to cut or prune any timber or other trees or take sell or carry away any mineral gravel sand earth or clay; Trees, bushes and hedges forming the boundary of the allotment site cannot be cut without the prior consent of the Council, who in turn will take advice from the County Borough Council to ensure that there is no contravention of the Tree Preservation Order. Cutting, lopping and felling of trees can result in prosecution.

Resolved: The information was noted. The Clerk was given authority to attend a Community Plans training course. The Clerk was asked to write to the tenant stating that he had broken a condition of his tenancy agreement as point 2.6 above, to reiterate that no hedges should be cut or trees cut down without prior permission

from the Community Council and to ask what action he is going to take to replace the tree.

69 **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 highlighted the consultations and surveys received and residents' items of correspondence were discussed. The Clerk informed Members that they would need the polling district codes in order to complete the polling districts survey and she would email these to Members.

Resolved: The correspondence was noted, most items had been emailed to Members in advance of the meeting. The Clerk would send a finance request form to the Team GB Tap dance team to complete so that a request could be discussed.

Resolved:

70 **FEEDBACK FROM LDP CONSULTATIONS**

Councillors Tiltman and Williams had attended the consultation held in Brackla and the Clerk had attended the one in Ynysawdre. The purpose of the events were to enable a discussion rather than to inform. It was noted that the candidate sites were not included in this consultation.

Resolved: The feedback given was noted. It was noted that the candidate site at Great Western Avenue has been removed.

71 **FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS - REVIEW OF COUNTY ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The review had been distributed to everyone and it was noted that the recommendation was to combine the three wards of Coity, Litchard and Pendre to form one large electoral ward to be represented by three councillors.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to write to the Local Government Democracy Team to express their disappointment, ask for an explanation and to reiterate their proposal and inconsistency within the process i.e Brackla being divided up and include the original documents sent to the review team.

72 **BTC - CORRESPONDENCE RE BUS STATION**

Members were advised that the bus station is no longer under threat.

Resolved: This information was noted.

73 PROVISIONAL PROJECT IDEAS FOR 2020/21 - FURTHER DISCUSSION

Two ideas for discussion:

- Accessible equipment in play areas
- Tarmac Footpath 52

Resolved: These would be considered when drafting the precept budget.

74 TREE INSPECTION REPORT

A tree inspection report had been produced by an arborist and had been distributed to Members.

Resolved: The report was accepted and the Clerk was asked to obtain a quote for the works highlighted in the report. It was noted that there were no urgent matters.

75 VE DAY 75TH ANNIVERSARY

It was noted that the May Day bank holiday will be moved back four days next year to coincide with the 75th Anniversary of VE Day and will be held on Friday 8th May.

Resolved: Members were asked to consider how the Community Council could mark the occasion and the Clerk was asked to write to the Royal British Legion to find out more information.

Note: Standing Orders were suspended at 9.00 pm for 10 minutes.

76 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS INCLUDING EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

1.Payment of Cheques

Authority was requested for the payments of the cheques listed in this month's papers including the one payment on the additional paper which had been received after the papers were distributed, and these were agreed.

2.Budget Monitoring, Accounts & Budgets

The budget monitoring report for September 2019 including the balances were accepted.

3. External Audit Report

An unqualified report had been received again this year with no points raised.

Resolved: All information was noted and authority was given to the Clerk to make the agreed payments. The Chair thanked the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk for their excellent work.

77 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Councillor M Williams had attended the OVW AGM and Conference in Pontrhydfendigaid. The Community Council's motion regarding the OVW budget had been proposed and seconded by a member of Carmarthen Town Council and approved. Councillor Williams had also attended the Mayor of Bridgend Town Council's Civic Service and the local PACT meeting.

Councillor Tiltman had also attended the local PACT meeting and a meeting of the Coity Wallia Conservators.

Resolved: All feedback was noted. The council's motion called for the National Executive Committee of One Voice Wales to develop a five year strategic plan which will ensure that the organisation is appropriately structured to provide high quality support to the Town & Community Council sector going forward. The plan, which will be presented for approval at the 2020 Conference should run until 2025 and include indicative annual budgets for each of the intervening years. These budgets should be used to provide forward guidance to member councils and underpin membership levy motions for the period under consideration.

78 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE

Note: With the agreement of Members this had been discussed earlier in the meeting whilst Councillor A Williams was present.

Councillor A Williams gave an update on play areas/planning, candidate sites, Safer Routes, school bus issues etc.

Resolved: The update was noted.

79 PLANNING MATTERS

All planning information was noted. One additional planning request and one additional decision had been received since the papers had been sent out and with the agreement of the Chair these were tabled at the meeting.

Resolved: The planning applications and decisions were noted. The Chair was given authority to make an objection to one of the planning requests the following day as the Clerk was on annual leave and would therefore miss the deadline for observations.

80 **ITEMS FOR THE NOVEMBER 2019 ORDINARY MEETING**

- Invite Andrew Thomas of BCBC to the November Meeting to give feedback on the summer activity scheme
- Environment Wales Act
- T&CC Fund Grand 2020/21
- Community Facility Pendre

Resolved: It was agreed to include anything that may arise during the month.

81 **DATE & VENUE FOR THE NOVEMBER 2019 ORDINARY MEETING**

Thursday, 14th November 2019 at Coity Higher Community Centre at the earlier time of 6.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.09 pm