



COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM ON
THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00 PM

Present: Councillors A Wathan (Chair)

A Davies
Ceri Evans
C Jones
L Richards
B Tiltman
C Walburn
M Williams
R Young

Also Present:

Mrs A C Harris, Clerk & RFO
Mr P Ley, Asst. Clerk & FO
1 member of the public

Minute 95 Apologies: Councillors Barrington & Hughes

The Chair welcomed the member of the public to the meeting.

In light of recent community council news items, the Chair reminded Members of the following Standing Order: 3l - photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of a meeting by any means is not permitted without the Council's prior written consent.

96 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Minute	Interest	Speak/Vote
B Tiltman	Allotment Gardens		Allotment Garden Tenant	No/No
R Young	All relevant BCBC items		BCBC Member	No/No

97 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2021 ORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes of the January 2021 Ordinary Meeting were 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.

98 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JANUARY 2021 ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

Minute 84 - Love It, Don't Trash It Scheme:

BCBC Officer, John Rees, had thanked the council for their support. The team are due to launch the valleys project sometime in February and have had to rejig the project outline to incorporate a video presentation due to safe distancing, so at the moment it is unknown when the scheme for Coity Higher will start.

Minute 87 - Consultation on Bridgend Town Master Plan:

The Clerk reminded Members to feedback their views to be incorporated into one community council submission.

Minute 89 - Member Reports:

It was noted that overwhelming support for a Fitness Trail for Acer Eglwys had been received following a social media survey.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted and accepted. The Clerk was asked to collate any comments and send them out to all councillors to agree their inclusion in the feedback to the survey. The Clerk was asked to progress the funding application for the Fitness Trail.

Note: Councillor Young lost internet contact during the next item at 7.26 pm and was unable to return to the meeting.

99 SAFER ROUTES UPDATE

Councillor Williams, Councillor Davies and the Clerk, had attended a virtual meeting with BCBC on Monday 18th January 2021 to discuss the next Safer Routes financial bid - phase 3. Councillor A Davies gave an update on the meeting. A lengthy discussion took place on the need for a footway along Heol Spencer. BCBC said there were issues with land ownership.

Resolved: The information was noted. It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the land ownership along Heol Spencer.

100 PROJECT UPDATES

New Footpath Leaflet and Map:

The Clerk was progressing this project and had arranged a meeting with Ramblers Cymru in the coming week.

Picnic Tables:

These have now been installed at Cae'r Eglwys and the Clerk has reclaimed the cost of purchase from Wales & West.

Community Noticeboard Gerddi'r Castell:

The donation of £500 has been received from Taylor Wimpey. The Clerk requested authorization for a cheque for £190 in payment for the planning application to BCBC.

Footpath 52/52a:

The start of the work on this footpath had been delayed due to the recent heavy rain. To create as little damage as possible to the land the contractor was waiting a few days for the ground to dry out.

Defibrillator and Noticeboard Oakwood View:

The Clerk had requested a site meeting with REMUS to identify suitable locations and obtain permissions.

Resolved: All actions of the Clerk were noted. Authorisation was given for the £190 cheque in payment for the planning application for a noticeboard at Gerddi'r Castell.

101 ASSET TRANSFER UPDATES

The Clerk gave an update on the asset transfers of the Coity Higher play areas and explained the issues regarding land ownership with the Heol Mair play area. The community council's request to BCBC's legal department to pursue an adverse possession claim had not received a response.

In the month since the last council meeting the CAT Officer at BCBC had alerted the Clerk to possible funding for the refurbishment, but despite making the application funding had not been secured due to the land ownership issues as BCBC could not give permission to a third party to carry out work on the land.

This affects Coity Higher's T&CC Fund application to refurbish the play area, however the Clerk has been advised to submit the application, but that if it were successful then it is likely that BCBC would commission the works.

Members discussed this matter.

In addition, Councillor Williams as Chair of the Finance & Resources Committee updated Members on the recent discussions the committee had with two local football teams who use the facilities at Pendre and Litchard Fields.

Resolved: It was agreed to go ahead with the T&CC Fund application, but Coity Higher would not be able to increase their contribution and add a contingency of 10 - 20% as suggested by BCBC. The Finance & Resources Committee would meet with the two football teams again before the end of February for a further discussion.

102 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS incl. CONCLUSION OF AUDIT 2019/20

1.Payment of Cheques

Authority was requested for the payments of all the cheques listed on the expenditure sheet for February 2021.

2.Budget Monitoring, Accounts & Budgets

The budget monitoring report for January 2021 was included in the meeting papers.

3.External Audit

An unqualified Conclusion of Audit had been received with no issues raised.

Resolved: All information was noted and authority was given to the Clerk to make the agreed payments. The Conclusion of Audit was approved and accepted. The Clerk & Asst. Clerk were thanked for their work. Authority was also given for £527.99 for the purchase of a laptop and products for the Asst. Clerk as resolved at a previous meeting.

103 MEMBER REPORTS

Councillor Tiltman had attended a virtual One Voice Wales area committee meeting. One of the topics had been a presentation from the land registry which highlighted the importance of registering land.

Another topic had been the plans for a community council representative on the local NHS Trust board.

Councillor Williams had also attended the meeting.

Resolved: All information was noted.

104 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES

Councillor A Williams gave an update for Coity including the scheduled roll out of play area installations on Parc Derwen, which should be completed by April 2021. She also gave updates on the need for 3 grit bins to be installed at Gerddi'r Castell, continuing issues with lights in Litchard Fields and on the overbridge to Parc Derwen not working, flooding on Heol West Plas, Dwr Cymru work on Heol Spencer and the request from a resident of Heol Spencer for planters to be placed along the grass verges to prevent them being churned up by vehicles and as some protection for residents walking on the verges to keep cars on the road. Councillor Williams also said she had a map of areas BCBC cut grass in the area.

Resolved: All information was noted.

105 CLERK'S REPORT

Litchard Park:

A large section of trees have been removed from the side of the grassed area along the garden walls. One resident had contacted the Clerk about the work. The section along the dog leg area would be addressed separately.

Litchard Fields:

The Clerk has reminded BCBC about the rusty bins that are falling apart in the fields.

Lighting:

Two lighting columns are now working along the path in Pendre Fields next to the play area.

Dog Waste Bag Dispenser:

The Clerk has chased up the Tik Tak dispenser promised for installation near the bin off Heol y Groes roundabout and has been assured that it will be installed shortly.

Footpaths:

The Clerk had chased up the planned work to the footpath from the top of Heol Spencer to Pantypwllau and been told that the Rights of Way department are waiting for new quotes and the funding will be carried over into 21/22 so the work has been delayed.

Allotment Gardens:

All rents have been received. One full plot and one half plot became vacant but have now been re-let. There are currently 18 residents on the waiting list and 4 from outside the wards on the second list. The Clerk suggested that there is sufficient call for another allotment.

The use of poly tunnels is increasing on the site and some are quite large. To date the Clerk has used the same criteria for the sheds in regard to poly tunnels but asked that a policy be put in place.

Play Areas:

In the month, the COVID sign in Coity Castle play area has been reinstalled, there had been damage to the basket swing in Pendre Fields and damage to the toddler swing likely to have been caused by standing on the side bars of the swing. Both have been repaired.

It was noted that during wet weather there are muddy areas between the equipment at Coity Castle play area and that the roundabout is not turning freely.

Response from BCBC to Coity Higher's letter ref. Boundary Review:

The Clerk read out a response from Gary Ennis to the Council's letter. Coity Higher's concerns have been noted.

Resolved: All information was noted. The Clerk would ask the play area contractor to look at the roundabout at Coity Castle play area. The Allotment Garden would be included as and agenda item for an update and discussion at the March meeting.

106 **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:

- Resident's email regarding tree work in the Litchard Park play area
- HM Land Registry survey
- New draft Guidance Code of Conduct consultation
- Active Travel Consultation
- Response from BCBC to the Community Council's letter on the Review of County Electoral Arrangements
- Response from BDBC to the Community Council's letter on Heol Spencer/Heol Hopcyn John changes
- 2 temporary road closures
- Financial requests from Glamorgan YFC, Hope Rescue, Bridgend County Swim Squad and the Porthcawl COVID 19 Strategy Group
- Resident's email on a discrepancy to the Community Council's footpath map
- Email from Councillor A Williams re the grass verges along Heol Spencer
- Resident's email regards debris in a garden in Pendre

Resolved: The information was noted. It was agreed to defer the financial request to the March 2021 meeting. The correspondence from residents was noted and the Clerk had referred the footpath discrepancy to the Rights of Way Manager for a response.

107 **PLANNING**

All planning information had been emailed to Members including correspondence from Planning Aid Wales.

Resolved: The planning applications and decisions were noted. No objections were made.

108 **ITEMS FOR THE MARCH 2021 MEETING**

- Deferred Finance Request from 2020/21
- Allotment Gardens

Resolved: It was agreed to keep the agenda open to include items that may arise during the month. The next meeting will be on Thursday 11th March 2021 at 7.00 pm

The meeting closed at 8.42 pm