

CLYDACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 13th September 2016.

The meeting convened at the Community Hall at 7-00 p.m. present:

Cllrs. Matthew Bailey (Chair), J Davies, L Jenkins, G Walker, B Gardiner, I Whitehurst, B Humphries, P Morgan, T. Holloway, L Steel, M Bowmer, R Jenkins and G Richards

41/2016: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: No apologies for absence were received

42/2016 RESIGNATION OF VICE CHAIR – The Clerk had received an email from Councillor N Honeyman resigning for the post of Vice Chair because of other commitments. He confirmed that he would wish to continue to serve as a Community Councillor. Councillors M Bowmer and J Davies were both proposed and seconded for the post of Vice Chair and left the meeting. A vote was taken and Councillor Davies received 6 votes and Councillor Bowmer received 3 votes. Councillor Davies was duly elected to serve as Vice Chair.

43/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr. Morgan declared an interest in respect of any discussions relating to Graigfele Community Hall and Cllr Davies declared an interest in respect of any discussions relating to the Caretaker.

44/2016: TEN MINUTE PERIOD FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COUNCIL No-one had asked to make use of this facility

45/2016: GRAIGFELEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that the Hall continues to run smoothly and is pretty well breaking even now as new groups are coming to the Hall. The Chair has been approached about the possibility of Welsh Ambulance renting the office and in principle the meeting approved further negotiations with the proposed hirer. We have been managing the Hall for almost a year now and it has proved to be a very worthwhile investment for the Community Council

46/2016: PARKING IN THE VILLAGE

Signs have been updated to allow for up to 3 hours parking in the designated areas and the Clerk was asked to contact City and County of Swansea to ask if a warden could visit on a regular basis to help enforce the new restrictions which are being abused by some including business owners at the moment. The Clerk will prepare a letter for local businesses. There may be a way extra spaces could be made available at Forge Fach and the Council will continue to explore all available options to help alleviate the problem. Clerk will prepare a letter for the businesses encouraging and reminding them of the restrictions which if they continue to be abused will only be tightened further or even worse be charged for. It is in everyone's interests that the restrictions are respected. The spaces are meant for customers visiting the shops or using the cash machine, toilets or post box and the restrictions are very generous.

47/2016: PLAY PARK AT FORGE FACH

Council has been made aware of some broken equipment at the park which is being attended to. The sign is ready and a date will shortly be arranged to formally open the play park. The Council will investigate the availability of funding to provide a BMX or skateboarding facility for the Community.

48/2016: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING 12th July 2016

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12th July 2016 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were unanimously approved.

49/2016 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Cllr Richards will produce banners to encourage drivers to respect the 30mph speed limit. Council approved 10 at a cost of £72. We are looking for a catchy phrase and it was agreed to invite suggestions on our Facebook page. An early date should be arranged for the official opening of the play park. Also there is now a taskforce in place to deal with potholes etc. A call to Swansea and it can be dealt with inside 48 hours.

50/2016 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

1. Councillor Bowmer expressed concern at the opening hours of the toilets at the Mond shops. Clerk will write to see if they might be extended or at least regularised. Clerk will contact Ammanford to try and find out how they funded their modern toilets.
2. Councillors recognised the additional work carried out by the Caretaker in putting up the marquees and repairing the floor. The Clerk reported that he had declined to put in for overtime and the meeting approved a voucher of £100 to say thank you for all his hard work.
3. Also it was agreed that the Council should pay £250 towards the cost of cutting the grass at Waverley Park by the Cricket Club. Councillor Walker is going to try creating some sort of expansion to the floor in the Hall to hopefully extend the life.
4. Councillor Bowmer raised concerns about access to the Hall for Councillors and it was agreed that the lock on the gate be replaced with a combination lock. It was agreed that a record should be kept of all users/visitors to the Hall which is something we used to do. Clerk will initiate.
5. Clerk will contact Owen Griffiths to remind him that there is still some work required to complete the roof.

CLYDACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 13th September 2016.

6. Council will investigate the purchase of 2 bins, one for the Community Hall and one for the park. Bags are available for purchase from Swansea.

51/2016: COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Hall and Events Committee

1. The annual fete and Clydach Rocks had been very successful only blighted by the arson attack on the toilets hired for the Clydach Rocks event which are likely to result in a bill of around £2,500 for their replacement. There are alternative suppliers who include insurance cover as part of the package for very little more. Also we should ensure that any hired equipment is collected at the earliest possible opportunity. Whilst this hasn't yet been confirmed it is hoped that the Rugby club will make a contribution to the cost of replacing the toilets and in addition a collection will be taken at the Fireworks event (sealed buckets). It was agreed that the security firm be booked for next year's event.
2. The fireworks display is scheduled for 4th November, gates will open at 5 and the display will be at 7-00pm. Scouts will be providing burgers etc. Gwantawe Lions had offered to assist but the Council has decided not to take up their offer on this occasion. Cricket Club will contribute £500 towards the cost of the display. Chair has prepared a poster at a cost of around £7 plus printing by Valley Signs. 20 A3 posters approved.
3. The Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday 19th November. Clerk will advertise and contact previous stallholders. Chair will confirm price with private company to erect and take down trees. Committee favoured artificial trees with battery packs to minimise disposal.
4. Christmas parade is scheduled for Wednesday 14th December. Chair will complete road closure notice for rolling road block. Route from Forge Fach to the Mond shops and up Vardre Road to the Community Hall. Road closure signs required and Councillors will act as marshals. Parade to leave at 5-30 promptly. Council will purchase lanterns. Chair will design a suitable poster using the same site as we used for the fireworks poster which is nice and bright.
5. Clerk will invite Geraint and Bethan to do another pantomime in February 2017. Allow more time for rehearsals Clerk to invite local police take part and ask permission from script writers to incorporate this.

b. Planning Committee

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| 1. 123 Gellionen Road, Clydach – Two storey extension | 16/1209 |
| 2. Carlton Road, Clydach – 16 New houses | 16/1217 |
| 3. Quarr House, Clydach – Outline for 2 new dwellings | 16/1269 |
| 4. 155 Kingrosia Park, Clydach – Two storey extension | 16/1408 |
| 5. 20 Waungron Road, Clydach – Ground floor rear and side ext | 16/1567 |
| 6. Craigfelen Primary School, Clydach – Erection of classroom | 16/1548 |

c. Audit Committee - *(all invoices for payment are scrutinised by the Audit committee prior to presentation to full council)*

The council approved the recommendations of the Audit and Accounts Committee for payment of the following invoices

Item	Amount	VAT	Cheque Number
1. Wages	£2,153.41		BACS
2. Tax & NIC	£330.83		BACS
3. Brandon Hire	£486.85		BACS
4. CC Swansea Pest Control	£186.01		BACS
5. Corona	£106.66		BACS
6. Caretaker's Outlays Hall sundries	£57.33		BACS
7. Clerk's Outlays Poster design	£6.18		BACS
8. Clydach Rates	£260.00		BACS

CLYDACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 13th September 2016.

9. Graigfelen Rates	£254.00	BACS
10. JM Entertainments	£100.00	BACS
11. Scott Jones DJ	£250.00	Cash

£4,278.64

ACTIONS:

- Cllrs to make the BACS payments
Clerk to distribute as required.

Standing Orders were suspended at 9-00pm

52/2016 CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Clerk had previously reported that BDO had highlighted a small error in the Annual Return. A cheque for £130.31 to SWALEC was presented on 31st March and as a result the balance in the current account is overstated and the other payments understated by that amount. This amended was approved at the last meeting. The Annual Return form has been returned to enable the amendment to be made and the Clerk formally sought approval which was granted. The Clerk also highlighted a number of observations made by the external auditor which will necessitate our tightening up even further on our recording of decisions particularly in relation to the fixing of the annual precept. Although we used a budget they have recommended that it be included and minuted alongside the decision. In addition they note that we do not appear to have a current letter of engagement with Lyn. We also require to carry out an annual risk assessment which we have always done but have not minuted and finally they recommend fidelity guarantee insurance cover which will be included with the new insurance policy.
2. Winter baskets. The summer baskets look fantastic but having checked with Swansea they do not provide a similar service for the winter.
3. The Buddhists have asked about using the Hall on Sunday 13th November which is Remembrance Sunday. As Council will not need the Hall on this occasion the Clerk will contact to confirm availability.
4. Swansea Planning has been in touch regarding the container on Waverley Park. All the correspondence has been forwarded to Councillor Robert Francis Davies who is dealing with the matter on our behalf. There seem to be a considerable number of containers on City and County land which have not been subject to the same vigorous enforcement as we have experienced. It was agreed that plants be planted to help mask the container.
5. We have had a request from the Cricket Club on behalf of their new soccer section to use Waverley Park. Council was delighted to support this request as long as the use did not clash with any Community Events and that use did not give rise to any objections from local residents.

53/2016 TO CONSIDER A CHANGE OF BANK - The local branch of HSBC bank has closed as has the Murrison Branch which makes it much more inconvenient to lodge funds. The meeting decided to change bank and approach Barclays who still have a branch in Clydach.

54/2016 TO CONSIDER THE FORMATION OF A YOUTH COUNCIL The chair raised the possibility of forming a Youth Council which the meeting was enthusiastic about and it was agreed to pursue this suggestion further.

55/2016 THE POD – The chair had emailed Councillors about three possible options for the POD and invited Councillors to respond before the next meeting so this matter can be progressed.

56a/2016 COUNCIL VACANCY – There is a vacancy on the Council and we are now in a position to co-opt and new Councillor. Unfortunately when this was discussed at a committee meeting Councillors were unaware that there were two parties interested in the vacancy. Having taken guidance from One Voice Wales it was recommended that both individuals be invited to contact the Clerk indicating what they felt they could bring to Council. One response was received and Councillor Bowmer spoke in response on behalf of the other candidate. The meeting resolved that the fairest way of dealing with the matter was to take a vote by secret ballot and Aimee Jenkins received 9 votes. Kathryn Bevan received 2 votes. Accordingly Aimee Jenkins will be invited to join the Council at the next meeting.

56b/2016 STAFF AND MEMBERS TRAINING – The Clerk continues to circulate Councillors with details of suitable training events. Councillors have expressed interest in a wide range of subjects but so far the venues have not been convenient.

57/2016 NEXT MEETING The next meeting of the full Council will be held at 7.00 pm. on Tuesday 11th October 2016 preceded as usual by the Planning Committee at 6.30 pm.

CLYDACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 13th September 2016.

The meeting closed at 9-20 pm.

The above minutes are approved as a true record

Signed Chair Community Council:

Date: