# CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

# Minutes of the Meeting held at the Ystalyfera Community Hall on 18th July 2019

**Present**

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| Cllr. Ann Lewis (Chair)<br>Cllrs. Terry Flynn, Rosalyn Davies, Alun Llewelyn, Ann Jenkins, Geraint Williams, Cathy James, Brian Hastie, Emyr Wyn Williams, Julie Jones |

**Apologies**

| **Name** | **Reason** |
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| Cllr. Rhian Llewelyn | Wedding |
| Cllr. Simon Prothero | Holiday |
| Cllr. Tristian Lewis | Working |
| **Other Absence:** | |
| Cllr. Arwel Hughes | Leave of Absence |
| Cllr. Bryan Lewis | Leave of Absence |

| | | **ACTION** |
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| 4285. | **Welcome and late Apologies**<br>Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies.<br>Request received from Cllr B. Lewis to extend his leave of absence for another 3 months due to personal circumstances. <u>All agreed – Resolved</u>. | Clerk to inform Cllr B. Lewis of decision. |
| 4286. | **Public Questions**<br>There were no members of the public in attendance. | |
| 4287. | **Minutes of previous meeting: <u>All Agreed - Resolved</u>.**<br>• Clerk reported that she and Cllrs A. Llewelyn and G. Williams met with Anthony Gough, Centregreat on Wednesday 26th June regarding Christmas lights on Ystalyfera RFC trees. There was a positive outcome to the meeting. Lighting is possible and A. Gough will bring samples of lighting on his next visit so that it can be decided whether multi-coloured or white lights will be most suitable on the tree. <u>Resolved.</u><br>• It was arranged that the Chair and Cllr T. Flynn visit the solicitor as soon as possible to complete signing for the Cenotaph. <u>Resolved</u>.<br>• The Clerk reported that the donation to Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera year 6 leavers party had been made. She reported that as Godre'r Graig School had closed early, the donation was not able to be given. Members suggested that the money be given to Godre'r Graig School for their next event. <u>All agreed - Resolved.</u><br>• The Chair and Clerk reported that the mural in the underpass was now completed. The Clerk showed photos of the mural to councillors. <u>All agreed</u> that the mural looked fantastic. Members noted that members of the public have already been very positive about the artwork. It was suggested that certificates be given to the pupils involved in the project. <u>All agreed – Resolved</u>.<br>The Clerk reported that the £500 donation had been agreed but the Teacher suggested that the professional artist that had worked with the children be offered a donation also. <u>All agreed</u> that the total | Clerk to liaise with A. Gough.<br><br>Clerk to arrange with Cllrs & Solicitor.<br><br>Clerk to make payment to school/A. Micah & produce certificates. |

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| | donation should be £600 in order for the artist to be recompensed for his work. Resolved.<br>It was suggested that this project be publicised on Facebook and the Council website as well as the Community Mag and Llais. All agreed – Resolved. | |
| 4288. | **Godre'r Graig School Closure & Impact on Residents**<br>Cllrs G. Williams and E.W. Williams declared an interest in this agenda item due to their involvement with Tegwch.<br>• All councillors now aware of the school closure and expressed concern.<br>• Cllr R. Davies reported that she had contacted NPTCBC Leader's Office earlier in the day hoping to find where the school will be sited in September. No definitive answer as yet but many sites being considered.<br>• It was reported that Cllr E.W. Williams had arranged a meeting last Tuesday evening via Tegwch for parents and residents. The meeting was well attended and very productive.<br>• Cllr R. Davies reported that the Leader of NPTCBC is willing to meet with 4 members of Tegwch next week. Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that the Leader is prepared to hold talks with Tegwch about this matter. Resolved noted.<br>• Cllr B. Hastie asked whether the issue of the safety of the quarry tip would affect residents' properties as well as the school. No definitive answer as yet.<br>• It was mentioned that the media had sensationalised the story and Councillors commented that this was very unfair as it could have a knock-on effect on property values, property insurances and the residents themselves. All agreed that this was very disappointing.<br>• Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that NPTCBC had set up a web page for parents and residents to obtain further information. Resolved noted. | Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when information becomes available. |
| 4289. | **Planters**<br>• Cllr G. Williams reported that Lee, Quids In had been very busy but agreed to move the planter to the outside of the Butchers in Ystalyfera asap and to install the replacement planter at Graig Road, Godre'r Graig. Resolved.<br>• It was reported that there has been good feedback from the community with regards to the planters.<br>• It was reported that the grass verges on the bypass A4067 were cut but the council did not strim around the planters or signposts. It was stated that from Ynysmeudwy down towards Pontardawe, this had been done but the strimming had not been done from Ynysmeudwy up to Ystalyfera. Cllr R. Davies will mention this to NPTCBC. Resolved noted.<br>• Clerk reported that she had ordered the trough planters from Amberol and that they will arrive shortly. Resolved.<br>• Members mentioned that the Scarecrows in Ystradgynlais were a very good idea. They suggested that a similar project be looked at for Ystalyfera and Godre'r Graig. Resolved noted. | Cllr G. Williams to liaise with Quids In.<br>Cllr R. Davies to follow up.<br>Clerk to advertise for volunteers on FB & Website. Clerk to order trough planters. |

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| | • Cllr C. James reported that a Twrch (Wild Boar) had been carved for the entrance to Cwmtwrch. All agreed that this was excellent and a welcoming entry to the village.<br>• It was suggested that the bottom and verges of the entrance road to the Ystalyfera Community Hall be cleared. It was suggested that a Gardening Group could work on this. All agreed that Clerk advertise for volunteers on Facebook and website. Resolved noted. | Clerk to set up Gardening Group and advertise. |
| 4290. | **Zip Wire & Project Group**<br>**Zip Wire**<br>• Clerk reported that Sutcliffe are starting works on the zip-wire this week.<br>• Clerk reported that Tai Tarian had contacted her offering to sell the land at Farteg Park for between £500-£1,000. All agreed that this was a good idea as it would negate the need for a lease and it would provide the opportunity to further develop the land in the future, Resolved. Members realised that purchasing the land would mean slightly increased maintenance costs but all were keen to go ahead with the purchase as this cost would be minimal. Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested that a request be made to Tai Tarian to demolish the old OAP hut building before the council purchase the land as it is not used and is in a poor state of repair. Cllr A. Llewelyn will check with Mrs Williams (OAP's) to make sure they are happy to go ahead with demolition. Resolved noted.<br>• Clerk reported that Steve Tucker (Tai Tarian) can issue a licence for the zip-wire work to be carried out on the land in the meantime if council intends to purchase land. All agreed that this be actioned. Resolved noted.<br>**Outdoor Gym**<br>• Clerk reported that the 'Awards for all' funding application had been approved and that the money will be transferred into the council bank account shortly. Members were very happy with this news. Resolved that the project will now go ahead.<br>• Clerk reported that she had liaised further with Chris Davies, NPTCBC Planning, and he had stated that the land at the Cilbrwyn will require a change of use. The lease will need to be agreed and signed before a planning application is entered. Resolved noted.<br>**Penyrallt Park Repairs**<br>• Clerk reported that she had met with Dragon Play at the park and discussed repair options. They suggested putting rubber mulch over the old rubber tiles as this would be easier and cheaper than setting a completely new base under each item of play equipment. They suggested repair or replacement of the multi-play piece of equipment. A quote has been received for the surface repair works of £10,999.00 + VAT, swing painting £750.00 + VAT, refurbishment of multi-play unit £3,650.00 + VAT and a new spinning bowl £1,899.00 + VAT. Replacement of the multi-play unit with a similar item £5,299.00 + VAT. All agreed that this work needs doing but the quote is very expensive. Clerk will get further quotes over the summer. A decision will be made over the coming months. Resolved noted. | Clerk to liaise further with Steve Tucker re: purchase of land and licence.<br><br>Cllr A. Llewelyn to liaise with Mrs Willams.<br><br>Clerk to follow up lease for land with David Phillips.<br><br>Clerk to get further quotes. |

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| | • It was noted that all of the parks will need updating in turn, Carreg yr Afon has already been painted and is now in a good state of repair, Farteg is also now repaired but other parks (Penyrallt, Alltugrug and Gnoll) need refurbishment. All agreed that from now on one park to be updated each year but that Penyrallt be a priority for this year. Resolved.<br>**Alltygrug Park**<br>• Clerk reported that Cooke and Arkwright (Bridgend) had responded to her request for a longer lease. This can be done but will cost in the region of £1,500.00 in solicitors costs. All agreed to proceed with a new 99 year lease. Resolved noted.<br>• Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that D. Hughes is no longer emptying the bins at the park. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he had emptied the bins himself in the interim and found that there was a lot of dog mess placed in the bin. All agreed that a replacement needs to be found for D. Hughes. Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested that Mr & Mrs Hanford may be interested in the role. Clerk will contact.<br>• It was suggested that a red dog mess bin be put at the park so that this would not be placed in the usual general waste bin. All agreed. Cllr A. Llewelyn will contact the Neighbourhood team at NPTCBC with regards to this. Resolved noted.<br>**Godre'r Graig Project – NPTCBC Members Community Fund**<br>• Paul Hinder suggested that one set of swings be removed from Carreg yr Afon playground and be replaced with an accessible see-saw. He suggested that the excess swing could either be scrapped or be placed in another park area or be stored for later use. All agreed in principle that the project should go ahead but a suitable place for the swing needs to be discussed before proceeding. Resolved noted.<br>**Nation.Cymru**<br>• Cllr E.W. Williams suggested becoming a member of nation.cymru. He explained that the organisation aim to preserve historical place-names / street-names in areas of Wales. The Council could also become a member of Llwybrau. All agreed that the council should become a member of both organisations. Resolved.<br>**Ffynnon Cwmtwrch**<br>• Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that D. Philips had noticed that a large oak tree above the Ffynnon is hollow and rotten. All agreed that as tree is on Community Council land it should be cut down. Cllr C. James suggested that the remainder of the tree could be carved into an interesting piece of artwork. She stated that a local wood carver (Wild Boar Carvings) has created the lovely new Cwmtwrch carving at the entrance of the village. All agreed that he be contacted to see whether or not he would be interested in working on this project. Resolved noted.<br>• It was suggested that the Ffynnon be tidied up. All agreed that Clerk contact Jack the handyman to complete work. Resolved. | Clerk to contact Cooke & Arkwright.<br><br>Clerk to contact Mr & Mrs Hanford.<br><br>Cllr A. Llewelyn to contact NPTCBC.<br><br>Clerk to liaise with Paul Hinder.<br><br>Cllr E.W. Williams to liaise with Clerk re: membership.<br><br>Clerk to contact Glantawe Landscapes re: cutting of tree and wood-carver.<br><br>Clerk to contact handyman. |
| 4291. | **Ystalyfera RFC**<br>• Cllrs A. Llewelyn, A. Lewis, E.W. Williams and Clerk reported that they had been to a further meeting with Ystalyfera RFC. The club | |

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| | members, councillors and Clerk worked out exactly how much would be spent on the youth teams and community inclusion. This amount would be £4,086.14. All agreed that this sum should be given as a one-off donation to the club to encourage more young players and the community to get involved in the rugby club. Resolved.<br>• It was reported that there would be some free tickets available to Community Council members to the Chunky 7's event. Anyone interested should get in touch with Noir James. Resolved noted. | Clerk to send cheque to rugby club. |
| 4292. | **Planning** Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the room. Chair and Cllr J. Jones also declared an interest but remained in the room and did not comment on the application. Resolved<br>• Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera: retention of porta kabin. All agreed - Planning approved. Resolved. | Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC planning dept. |
| 4293. | **Community Hall**<br>• Clerk reported that she had still not been given a definite start date for the works. She will follow up with Swift.<br>• Clerk reported that Swift agreed to provide blue seating and bars in the disabled toilet at no extra cost. Resolved.<br>• It was suggested that a microwave oven be bought for the kitchen. All agreed that this would be a useful addition to the kitchen Resolved noted. | Clerk to contact Swift.<br><br>Clerk to order microwave oven. |
| 4294. | **Finance & Grants:**<br>• Clerk reported that there is enough in council reserves to increase the grants given slightly. All agreed that this be reviewed when reviewing the next budget and precept. Resolved.<br>• Resolved that the Grant requests received be approved:<br>o Ystalyfera Branch Senior Citizens £100.00<br>o Godre'r Graig Community Association £100.00<br>o Bobath Cymru £25.00<br>**Accounts:**<br>BACS 046 BT Phone (Community Hall) £133.32<br>BACS 047 Wales Audit Office (External Audit Fees) £353.25<br>BACS 048 E. Brophy (YGY – end of year party donation) £100.00<br>DD 049 NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) £268.00<br>DD 050 Survey Monkey £29.17<br>DD 051 Vodafone (Clerk's mobile) £24.57<br>BACS 052&53 Staff Wages & Expenses £1921.89<br>BACS 054 HMRC (Tax & NI) £155.68<br>BACS 055 City & County Swansea Pensions £336.41<br>BACS 056 BT Broadband (Community Hall) £72.72<br>BACS 057 Npower (Gas Community Hall) £499.68<br>BACS 058 Sutcliffe Play Ltd (Zip-wire) £12,300.00<br>BACS 059 NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) £268.00<br>BACS 060 A. Micah (Reimbursement Mural Costs) £408.56<br>BACS 061 T.A. Hanford (Honorarium – Alltygrug) £100.00<br>C273 062 S. Mansell (Honorarium – Gnoll) £100.00<br>C274 063 N. Prothero (Honorarium – Penyrallt) £100.00<br>C275 064 J. Austin (Honorarium – Farteg) £100.00 | Clerk to send cheques. |

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| | C276 065 W. Jones (Honorarium – Carreg yr Afon) £100.00<br><br>INCOME HMRC (VAT refund) £1138.06<br>INCOME NPTCBC Members Community Fund £10,000.00<br><br>Transfer from Business Account 121 to Current Account: £16,000.00 | |
| 4295. | **Correspondence**<br>• A. Micah, Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera – request asking if the Community Council are prepared to donate to the artist used for the Ystalyfera Mural project. <u>All agreed</u> that a £200 donation be given to the artist for his good work. <u>Resolved. All agreed</u> that A. Micah should be reimbursed for the materials used in the mural of approx. £400.00. <u>Resolved.</u> | Clerk to liaise with A. Micah. |
| | **The next meeting of council will take place at 7:00pm on 19th September 2019 at the Community Hall, Ystalyfera.** | |