CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Ystalyfera Community Hall on 19th September 2019

Present

Cllr. Ann Lewis (Chair) Cllrs. Terry Flynn, Rosalyn Davies, Alun Llewelyn, Rhian Llewelyn, Ann Jenkins, Geraint Williams, Cathy James, Brian Hastie, Simon Prothero, Julie Jones

Apologies

Name	**Reason**
Cllr. Emyr Wyn Williams	Working
Cllr. Tristian Lewis	Working
Other Absence:	
Cllr. Arwel Hughes	Leave of Absence
Cllr. Bryan Lewis	Leave of Absence

		ACTION
4296.	**Welcome and late Apologies** Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies. Request received from Cllr A. Hughes to extend his leave of absence for another 6 months due to work commitments. All agreed – Resolved.	Clerk to inform Cllr A. Hughes of decision.
4297.	**Public Questions** There were two members of the public in attendance, owners of the Gegin Fach Café in Ystalyfera. They reported that they have been working and living in the village for a year and they have heard lots of comments from local residents as to a 'loss of heart' and decline of a 'community feel' in Ystalyfera. They are in the process of setting up a group for local businesses and residents and hope to run community events such as a Farmer's Market that could bring local businesses and residents together. Councillors were very supportive of this idea and it was suggested that the project group work with the new group to help and support them as much as possible, all agreed – Resolved. It was stated that there are events currently happening in Ystalyfera but support for them is quite poor. It is hoped that this new group could help tackle this issue. A meeting of the new group will be held on 2nd October 2019 at Ystalyfera Development Trust with attendance from Andrew Collins (NPTCBC) and the liaison officer of Jeremy Miles AM. It was suggested that the two representatives of the new group be given access to the Ystalyfera Business Forum Facebook page so that they can post updates etc. All agreed – Resolved.	Clerk to arrange access to YBF Facebook page.
4298.	**Minutes of previous meeting: All Agreed - Resolved.** • Clerk reported that the Cenotaph had now been transferred to Community Council ownership. Resolved. Clerk reported that she had received a quote for works on re-doing the plaques on the Cenotaph from D.J. Greenwood Memorial Masons. All agreed that this work should wait until the next financial year due to this year's budget and expenditure. Resolved. It was suggested that the plaque of thanks be moved to the outer pillar of the Cenotaph and	Clerk to liaise with Thompsons re: photo for media

	a photo arranged with the Thompsons to be publicised in the Community Mag, Llais, Facebook and website. <u>All agreed – Resolved.</u> • Dog bins: it was reported that dog waste bins have now been put on Clyngwyn Road, Ystalyfera (next to Alltygrug Park) and in Carreg yr Afon Park, Godre'r Graig. <u>Resolved</u>. • Ystalyfera RFC: Clerk reported that the club are very pleased with the one-off grant donation given. It was suggested that a photo with a mock-cheque be taken. <u>All agreed – Resolved.</u>	Clerk to liaise with Ystalyfera RFC.
4299.	**Godre'r Graig School Closure & Impact on Residents - Update** Cllr G. Williams declared an interest in this agenda item due to his involvement with Tegwch. • Cllr R. Davies reported that the children are settling in very well in the temporary classrooms at Cwmtawe School site. She reported that the school governors have been invited to a site visit. She stated that buses have been late bringing children home due to traffic issues but this is unfortunately unavoidable. It was reported that new porta-kabin units are much better quality than they used to be but Cllr J. Jones mentioned that it is during the Winter months that these will be tested to their full strength due to heating and condensation. <u>Resolved noted</u>. • Cllr G. Williams reported that Tegwch had met with the Leader of NPTCBC, Rob Jones and that they are being kept in the loop with regards to any developments regarding the school and investigations taking place. He stated that another meeting is to be arranged during October. <u>Resolved noted</u>. • Cllr G. Williams reported that residents feel concerned regarding the valuations of their homes and potential issues gaining home insurance due to the situation with the school and surrounding area. It was suggested that a letter be written from the Community Council to NPTCBC asking for assurances that the houses surrounding the school would not be affected by the investigations currently being carried out and that all is OK at the moment. <u>All agreed – Resolved</u>. • Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that he had emailed NPTCBC for an update. They replied stating that the access to the quarry-tip site is difficult due to the steepness of the mountain and a route up to the tip is currently being cleared. This has unfortunately caused a delay in investigation works. <u>Resolved noted.</u> • Cllr R. Davies reported that the bramble at the school has been cleared and the school will be maintained and heated as usual. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when information becomes available. Clerk to send letter to NPTCBC. Clerk to put update on website.
4300.	**Planters** • Cllr G. Williams reported the very sad news that Bryan, Quids In has sadly passed away. Cllr. G. Williams said that he had sent a text to Lee offering condolences from himself and the council. <u>Resolved noted.</u> • Cllr G. Williams reported that the trough planters have now been installed and planted with seasonal plants. He stated that Lee had suggested trailing plants for the planters in the Spring as these will	Cllr G. Williams to liaise with Quids In.

	create a fuller display. This could not be done at this time of year due to trailing plants being out of season. Resolved noted. • Cllr G. Williams reported that a planter has been put outside the Butcher's Shop in Ystalyfera. Feedback has been positive with regards to this. Councillors advise locals that this is an ongoing project and more planters will be put around the villages over the coming months. Resolved noted. • All members wanted to officially congratulate Ystradgynlais Town Council on their Wales in Bloom Gold Award. Resolved noted.	Clerk to send congratulations.
4301.	**Project Group** **Outdoor Gym** • Clerk reported that she had finally had a response from David Phillips' office at NPTCBC. The update was negative with NPTCBC refusing to lease the land to the Community Council due to its proximity with the old landslip area on Graig Road. Members were very upset at this decision as there have been no further landslides in this area since the 1960's. Cllr R. Llewelyn proposed that the Head of Engineering and Head of Highways be invited to a site meeting along with David Phillips to discuss and try to resolve this matter further as this decision is not acceptable to council. It was stated that the Community Council have already received lottery funding for this project therefore if this area will not be able to be leased, another area in Godre'r Graig will have to be looked at instead. Resolved noted. **Zip Wire** • Clerk reported that the zip-wire project is now complete. Cllrs A. Llewelyn & A. Jenkins reported that feedback regarding the project has been very positive. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that Tai Tarian had contacted her with a firm offer to sell the land at Farteg Park for £100. Members were very pleased with this. There are conditions to the sale including that the area will need to be fenced off. Clerk to clarify this with Tai Tarian. Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that he had spoken to Mrs Williams and she was happy for the old unused OAP hut to be demolished. Tai Tarian will remove the old unused OAP hut before the sale completes. All agreed that purchase should be made. Resolved. • It was reported that there is no bin in Farteg Park. It was suggested that recycle bins be purchased for the park. All agreed – Resolved. • It was suggested that a meeting be arranged with J & K Austin (park voluntary caretakers) to discuss possible future plans for the park. All agreed that a meeting be held on Friday 27th September at 4pm in Farteg Park. Resolved noted. **Penyrallt Park Repairs** • Clerk reported that she had received additional quotes for the repair works at the park: Dragon Play: Rubber Mulch: £10,999.00	Clerk to arrange site meeting. Clerk to liaise further with Steve Tucker re: purchase of land and fencing requirements. Clerk to cost recycle bins.

	Painting: £750.00 Refurbishment of play unit: £3,650.00 Replacement of play unit: £5,299.00 Additional Spinning Bowl: £1899.00 SST: Rubber Mulch: £11,899.00 Painting: £1,275.00 Refurbishment of play unit: £4,950.00 Replacement of play unit: £6,899.00 Additional Spinning Bowl: £2,350.00 Playforce: Rubber Mulch: £13,021.67 Removal of play unit: £1,269.23 Replacement of play unit: £6,712.59 WM Gardens: Rubber Mulch: £11,750.00 Painting: £1,150.00 Refurbishment of play unit: £4,735.00 Replacement of play unit: £6,799.00 Additional Spinning Bowl: £2,199.00 • Members agreed after much consideration, that due to budget and finance for this financial year, then Dragon Play be selected to complete partial refurbishment. It was decided that the Rubber Mulch works be completed as well as the replacement of the play unit in the first instance due to Health and Safety concerns. Members decided that it was more cost-effective in the long run to replace the multi-play unit rather than refurbish as the current unit may need more refurbishment work done in the near future. <u>All agreed – Resolved.</u> **Carreg yr Afon Park – See-saw project** • Cllr R. Davies reported that there will be a cabinet meeting next Wednesday to decide on the funding application for the see-saw project. <u>Resolved noted</u>. **Alltygrug Park** • Alltygrug Park: Clerk reported that she had contacted Cooke & Arkwright with conformation that the council would like a new lease. Awaiting response. <u>Resolved noted.</u> • Clerk reported that the new volunteer caretakers of the park are Mr & Mrs Handford. They will empty bins and report any issues at the park. Members were pleased with this update. <u>Resolved.</u> • Clerk reported that she had received quotes for Japanese Knotweed removal at the park: Glantawe Landscapes: £12,500.00 (3 year plan) NPTCBC: £2,050.00 (5 year plan) All agreed that NPTCBC be selected to complete the work. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Clerk to contact companies with decision. Clerk to contact NPTCBC.

	Ffynnon Cwmtwrch • Clerk reported that she had spoken to Andrew, Glantawe Landscapes about cutting the large oak tree. She is awaiting a quote. Resolved noted. • Cllr C. James stated that she will speak to the wood carver re: creating a carving out of what is left of the oak tree. Resolved noted. • Clerk received a quote from Jack the handyman to complete work at the Ffynnon of £265.00. This price would include: cutting bushes and shrubs, replacing wooden slats on benches, replacing wooden frame around the Ffynnon information sign, removal of moss, painting the handrail, benches and sign frame. All agreed that this quote was excellent - Resolved.	Clerk to liaise with Glantawe Landscapes. Cllr C. James to liaise with wood carver. Clerk to contact handyman with decision.
4302.	**Christmas 2019** • It was decided that the same route as last year would be used for the Santa Train tour on 13th December 2019. Resolved. • All agreed that the council will go ahead with Centregreat's quote for the cable installation and lighting of the Christmas tree in Ystalyfera RFC at a cost of £1,240.00. It was noted that it should be publicised that it is the Community Council paying for this and not the Rugby Club. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies stated that there will still be a Christmas tree placed outside Godre'r Graig School this year. Resolved noted. • All agreed that a Christmas party be held in the Ystalyfera Community Hall again this year with the brass players from Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera being invited to play at the party. Resolved noted. • Cllr A. Llewelyn will contact Santa to see if he is able to attend again this year. Resolved noted. • Cllr B. Hasite agreed to provide first aid cover again for this year's event. Clerk to provide high-vis waistcoats for event. Resolved noted. • It was suggested that a project group meeting be arranged to discuss the event plans further. All agreed – Resolved.	Clerk to contact Dave Osbourne & Centregreat. Cllr A. Llewelyn to contact Santa. Clerk to get high-vis gear. Clerk to arrange project group meeting.
4303.	**St David's Day Flags 2020** • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that the project had been successful in the past but many businesses have requested flagpoles for the banners. This could have planning and budget implications. All agreed that there is no money in council budget to complete this for 2020 but this will be costed for 2021. Resolved noted. • All agreed that flags be purchased and handed out to businesses as usual. Resolved noted.	Clerk to cost posts & fixings. Cllr A. Llewelyn to order flags.
4304.	**St Dwynwen & Burns Night 2020** • Cllrs B. Hasite & A. Llewelyn suggested that due to the success of the event this year that it should be repeated in 2020. It was suggested that the event be held on Friday 24th January 2020. All agreed – Resolved.	

	• It was suggested that a meeting of the project group be arranged before the event to discuss further. All agreed – Resolved.	Clerk to arrange project group meeting.
4305.	**Planning** Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the room. Resolved • 5312: 4 Llys Cambrian, Godre'r Graig – single storey rear extension. All agreed - Planning approved. • 5317: Ynysydarren Road, Ystalyfera – retrospective planning on land (storage facility). All agreed - Planning approved. • 5193: Ystalyfera RFC – Extension to changing rooms. All agreed - Planning approved. Resolved.	Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC planning dept.
4306.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that the toilets had now been completed. Feedback has been very positive. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that Swift had provided a quote to complete further works in the entrance hallway: painting of skirtings and radiator, replacement of doors and door-handles at a cost of £945.00 + VAT. All agreed that this work wait until next financial year – Resolved. • Clerk reported that Cllr G. Williams had bought a microwave oven for the kitchen at a cost of £35.00. Cllr G. Williams to be reimbursed. Resolved noted. • Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested that a one-off deep clean be given to the Community Hall. All agreed that this be costed in the first instance. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that PAT testing and a boiler service is required at the hall. All agreed that local companies be used. Resolved noted.	Clerk to inform Swift of decision. Clerk to reimburse Cllr G. Williams. Clerk to cost deep clean service. Clerk to arrange.
4307.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that Pastor Steve Sharpe would like to hire the Community Hall on a Sunday afternoon for £10 per session. All agreed with hire cost to be reviewed in the new year. Resolved. • Clerk reported that she had received a request from Rev. Tim Hewitt with regards to a financial contribution towards the buffet at Ystalyfera RFC on Remembrance Sunday. All agreed that £100 should be donated. Resolved. **Accounts:** C277 066 Bobath Cymru (Grant Donation) £25.00 C278 067 Godre'r Graig Com. Assc. (Grant Donation) £100.00 C279 068 Ystalyfera OAPs (Grant Donation) £100.00 C278 069 Ystalyfera RFC (Grant Donation) £4086.14 DD 070 Survey Monkey £29.17 BACS 71&72 Staff Wages & Expenses £1888.15 BACS 073 HMRC £155.68 BACS 074 City & County Swansea Pensions £336.41 BACS 075 Viking Office Depot (Stationery & Inks) £73.13 DD 076 Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile) £27.23 DD 077 NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) £268.00 DD 078 Survey Monkey £29.17 BACS 079 BT Broadband (Community Hall) £72.72 BACS 080 SSE (Community Hall Electric) £122.85 BACS 081 SSE (Godre'r Graig MUGA lights) £120.25	Clerk to liaise with Steve Sharpe. Clerk to inform Rev Hewitt of decision.

	BACS	082	SSE (Ystalyfera MUGA lights)	£118.34	
	BACS	083	Swift Property Services (Toilets Com. Hall)	£14040.00	
	BACS	084	Swift Property Services (Hallway Floor Com. Hall)	£1068.00	
	BACS	085	G.Williams (Reimbursement Microwave)	£35.00	
	BACS	86&87	Staff Wages & Expenses	£1864.90	
	BACS	088	HMRC	£155.68	
	BACS	089	City & County Swansea Pensions	£336.41	
	BACS	090	DJ Greenwood Monumental Masons (Cenotaph)	£2326.44	
	BACS	091	BT Broadband (Community Hall)	£112.72	
	DD	092	Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile)	£24.57	
	INCOME		Dance Class (Community Hall)	£300.00	
	Transfer from Business Account 121 to Current Account: £27000.00				
4308.	**Correspondence** • Pontardawe Town Council – invite to defibrillator meeting. Resolved that Chair attend if available. • Rev. T. Hewitt – letter of thanks for grant donation for hall. • NPTCBC – removal of phone boxes. Cllr A. Llewelyn has already given objections to the removal of the phone boxes in Ystalyfera. If the boxes are to be removed then the Community Council has some ideas on what could be placed inside them e.g. defibrillator, cash machine. • Email: Pegasus Group re: Solar Farm at Brynhenllys – information.				Clerk to forward email to councillors.
	The next meeting of council will take place at 7:00pm on 17th October 2019 at the Community Hall, Ystalyfera.				