CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held online via MS Teams on

21st January 2021

Present

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

Apologies

Name	**Reason**	**Other Absence:**
Cllr. Emyr Wyn Williams	Sickness	Cllr. Bryan Lewis Leave of Absence
Cllr. Brian Hastie	Working	Cllr. Arwel Hughes Leave of Absence
Cllr. Tristian Lewis	Working	Cllr. Simon Prothero Leave of Absence
Cllr. Ann Jenkins	Medical Appointment	

		ACTION
4451.	**Welcome and late Apologies** Chair welcomed all to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. No late apologies. Resolved.	
4452.	**Minutes of previous meeting: All agreed- Resolved.** Following on from minute 4445, Proposed New Primary School at Pontardawe, Clerk reported that comments had been received by NPTCBC and would be considered. Resolved noted. Following on from minute 4444, Project Group, Clerk reported that she has received advisory notes from Nick Thomas NPTCBC regarding the tree in Alltygrug Park. Resolved noted.	Clerk to submit form.
4453.	**Covid-19 Situation & Foodbank Update** Cllr A. Llewelyn reported the following: • All-Wales Covid figures as at 21.01.2021: Cases 185,035. Deaths 4,392 including 46 in past 24 hours. These are significant increases on last month's report, though today's Public Health Wales report indicates a small reduction in rates from the peak. • The situation has been critical in Neath Port Talbot and the Swansea Bay Health Authority area though again the PHW figures show recent reductions during lockdown. • As at 16.01.21, NPT had 263.1 cases/100k population (7-day average) compared with the Wales average 284.8 /100k population. • Public Health Wales produce an interactive map of Covid incidents on a weekly basis which can be searched on a national, county, health board or locality basis.	Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when more information becomes available.

	https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection?fbclid=IwAR2yivxRv_O_iQ_70MnIuvsG9W3PRkX0fGtxOweCLiJkvAde51bAKuWqAMI#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/CasesbyMSOA • Ystalyfera and Godre'r Graig are in a MSOA locality reaching up to Gwaun Cae Gurwen, a population of about 7,000, with Pontardawe etc in a separate locality. As at 16.01.21 our locality had a 7-day average of 286.9/100k population though these figures can fluctuate with relatively small changes. • Members will be aware of local people who have been affected, and outbreaks in schools, care homes, workplaces, and hospitals. • As a response to a surge of cases in December and concern over increased spread of the virus, Welsh Government introduced a new national lockdown Alert Level 4. It will next be reviewed on 29.01.21 but is expected to be largely extended for a further period including school classrooms closed until half term. • Over winter the county council and health board revised plans for Safe and Well schemes. In our area, Ystalyfera Food Bank, community groups and support mechanisms such as LACs and Age Connect will help identify support needed. • The new Pfizer and AstraZenica vaccines have been introduced in Wales. As at 21.01.21 190, 435 first vaccine dose had been administered in Wales. • In the Ystalyfera community area the vaccines are being administered through Powys Local Health Board, Ystradgynlais Group Practice, Swansea Bay Health Board and Aman-Tawe Practice. • The health Boards' Coronavirus newsletters can be found at: https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/health-board-news/the-second-edition-of-our-covid-19-vaccination-newsletter-is-now-available/ https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/news/news-categories/coronavirus-covid-19-news/ • Further information can be circulated to Community Council members by email in between meetings. • **Foodbank:** Cllr C. James reported that January has been a little quieter than December at Ystalyfera Foodbank and presented the report below: This report covers the period 15th April to 31st December 2020. During that time the Foodbank has issued 462 parcels to 151 separate households, helping 398 individuals – 238 adults and 160 children. Many of these have been helped on more than one occasion. We aim to provide a week's food in each food parcel, with an average parcel size of 45 items. During 2020 we provided 9646 person-days of	

food.

Summary by month

	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	**Total**
Total people	67	174	161	131	80	169	162	166	268	**1378**
Adults	39	97	97	81	55	103	93	90	142	**797**
Children	28	77	64	50	25	66	69	76	126	**581**
Total parcels	27	61	61	48	31	56	53	47	78	**462**
Total items	886	2290	2071	2009	1369	2383	2494	2772	4677	**20951**

December was our busiest month by a considerable margin. It remains to be seen whether this is related to increasing incidence of COVID-19 and the resulting economic effects, or due to the increased pressure of household finances due to Christmas.

During the week before Christmas we also distributed 60 Christmas dinner and treat hampers to the multi-person households we helped during October-December. These are not included in the December or annual totals.

68% of the parcels have gone to households within Neath Port Talbot (54% in the Ystalyfera / Godre'r Graig ward). A further 31% went to Powys and 1% to Carmarthenshire.

17% of parcels went to households who were only helped once. 19% went to households who needed help 2 or 3 times, 24% to those needing help 4-7 times and 40% to those who needed assistance 8 times or more.

- Chair thanked Cllrs C. James and A, Llewelyn for their reports. Cllr T. Flynn sent his congratulations to the organisers of the foodbank and complimented Cllr C. James for the 'frightening but rewarding report'. He gave sincere thanks to all volunteers working at the foodbank. This vote of thanks was reiterated by all Members.
- Resolved noted.

4454. **Planters**

- Cllr G. Williams reported that the small trees will be removed from the planters and planted into the ground at appropriate/suitable areas over the next week or so (weather dependant) by S. Turk. Cllr R. Davies stated that she had spoken to S. Tucker, Tai Tarian, about areas in Cilmaengwyn, Glantwrch and Ffordd Emlyn and he envisages no problem with planting the trees but will check with management to make sure that this will be acceptable. Resolved noted.
- Cllr G. Williams stated that during the Project Group meeting, planters on Gurnos Road were discussed. All agreed that planters be placed on Gurnos Road in place of the lost trees in order to bring some colour and joy to the area. Resolved noted.

Cllr G. Williams to liaise with S. Turk & Lee.

Cllr R. Davies to liaise with Tai Tarian.

4455. **Project Group**

- Project Group Minutes approved – Resolved.
- Clerk summarised Project Group Minutes for those who had not been in attendance and informed Members that the NPTCBC Funding for Play application had been approved for Alltygrug Park playground

	refurbishments. Funding must be spent by 31st March 2021. Resolved noted. **Alltygrug Park Refurbishment** • After reviewing quotes, all agreed that the Dragon Play quotation for £24,999 + VAT for the refurbishment of Alltygrug Park be accepted and that works should start as soon as possible to adhere with the Funding for Play grant criteria. Resolved. All agreed that £20,000 from Funding for Play grant and £4,999 from community council reserves be used to pay for works. Resolved. **Wooden Furniture for Ffynnnon** • Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from G. Turler (woodcarver) asking what he should make with the oak. Members would like estimates for a carved bench and table with stools. Resolved noted. **Christmas Flags** • Members thanked Cllr J. Jones for removing and washing the Christmas Flags from Ystalyfera. Cllr G. Williams stated that he had removed all of the flags from Godre'r Graig apart from the one at Graig Newydd lights. He will remove this when it is safe to do so. Members thanked him for this. Resolved noted. **LEADER Funding** • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he had received information on LEADER funding. He will forward to Clerk for review during next Project Group meeting. Resolved noted. **Project group Meeting** • It was suggested that the next meeting of the project group be set up for 11th February 2021. All agreed – Resolved.	Clerk to liaise with Dragon Play. Clerk to liaise with Gary. Cllr G. Williams to remove flag. Cllr A. Llewelyn to forward information to Clerk. Clerk to set up online meeting.
4456.	**Finance & Grant Applications** • Clerk reported that there had been 6 grant applications submitted. After reviewing applications, it was Resolved that the following amounts be donated to organisations: 1. Ynysmeudwy FC: £150.00 2. Ystalyfera Public Band: £150.00 3. Ystalyfera RFC Youth Teams: £150.00 4. Urdd National Eisteddfod: £50.00 5. Ystalyfera Bowls Club: £150.00 6. Wales Air Ambulance: £50.00 It was Resolved that Ystalyfera RFC Chunky 7's event be supported, and a grant awarded once it is known if the event will go ahead or not in July 2021. Members will look at this in June 2021.	Clerk to inform applicants of decisions & make BACS payments.

- Clerk explained that she is due an annual incremental wage-rise in January 2021. All agreed that pay award be approved. Resolved.

Accounts: Resolved.

Ref:	Type:	Payee:	Amount: £
147	BACS	Ystalyfera Development Trust (Electricity grant for Christmas Tree)	50.00
148	BACS	Ystalyfera Rugby Club (Electricity grant for Christmas Tree)	50.00
149	PayPal	HP Ink Ltd	9.99
150	DD	NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax)	273.00
151	DD	NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax)	273.00
152	DD	Survey Monkey	29.17
152	DD	Vodafone Clerk's Mobile	37.59
153	BACS	BT Broadband (Community Hall)	56.34
154	BACS	Viking Office Depot	72.50
155	BACS	Quids In (Xmas Planting)	1,500.00
156-158	BACS	Staff Wages & Expenses	2,124.78
159	BACS	City & County Swansea Pensions	455.85
160	BACS	HMRC Tax & NI	231.83
161	PayPal	eBay -St David's Bunting	99.80
162	BACS	Ystalyfera RFC (Youth Teams) - Grant Donation	150.00
163	BACS	Ynysmeudwy FC (Mower) - Grant Donation	150.00
164	BACS	Ystalyfera Public Band - Grant Donation	150.00
165	BACS	Ystalyfera Bowls Club - Grant Donation	150.00
166	BACS	Urdd Eisteddfod - Grant Donation	50.00
167	BACS	Wales Air Ambulance - Grant Donation	50.00
168	C301	J. Austin - Honorarium Farteg Park	100.00
169	BACS	BT Payphone (Community Hall)	133.32
170	BACS	Dwr Cymru (Community Hall)	52.59
171	BACS	T.A. Handford - Honorarium Alltygrug Park	100.00
172	BACS	S. Mansell - Honorarium Gnoll Park	100.00
173	BACS	N. Prothero - Honorarium Penyrallt Park	100.00
174	BACS	W. Jones - Honorarium Carreg yr Afon Park	100.00
175-182	BACS	Councillor Remuneration Payments	1,200.00
183	BACS	Mr Flag (St David's Day Flags)	92.40
184	BACS	LA Alarms (Community Hall)	84.00

Transfer from Business Account 121 to Current Account: £ 3,000.00
Resolved.

Clerk to make BACS payments.

4457. **Planning** Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the meeting. Resolved.

- P2020/1099 – Part change of use from Pub to Hotel – Old Swan 54-58 Gurnos Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2HY. No objection: Resolved.
- P2020/1086 – Retention of change of use from ground floor shop to residential dwelling – 28 Wern Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2LY. No objection: Resolved.

Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC.

4458.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that as the tier level 4 lockdown is still in force, the hall is still closed. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that Andrew will look at the Community Hall roof and see if small repairs are needed. If the roof needs complete renovation, then he will ask a roofer for an estimate on behalf of the council. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Andrew.
4459.	**Correspondence** • HM Land Registry – Survey of Community and Town Councils. Resolved noted. • G. Marvelley – Public Rights of Way. Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested re-printing the footpath maps. Members thought this was a good idea. Cllr J. Jones stated that the footpaths need to be passable before council re-print the maps. All agreed that a sign at Godre'r Graig Park would be an excellent addition. It was suggested that this topic be discussed in the next Project Group meeting. Resolved noted	Clerk to complete survey.
	The next meeting of council will take place via MS Teams on 18th February 2021 at 7:00pm.	