CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held online via MS Teams on

15th April 2021

Present

Cllr. Geraint Williams (Vice-chair) Cllrs. Rosalyn Davies, Ann Jenkins, Alun Llewelyn, Julie Jones, Cathy James, Terry Flynn, Emyr Wyn Williams, Brian Hastie, Rhian Llewelyn, Tristian Lewis

Apologies

Name	Reason	Other Absence:	
Cllr. Ann Lewis	Personal	Cllr. Bryan Lewis	Leave of Absence
Cllr. Simon Prothero	Working	Cllr. Arwel Hughes	Leave of Absence

		ACTION
4478.	**Welcome and late Apologies** Vice-chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies. Resolved.	
4479.	**Public Questions: My Green Valley** Vice-chair welcomed L. Santiago (My Green Valley) and R. Vale (Member of Public) to the meeting. L. Santiago explained to Members that My Green Valley is an environmental organisation carrying out litter picking in the Swansea Valley. They provide litter picking kits to volunteers and hold group activities (which will recommence on 1st May). They have local Ambassadors that co-ordinate the volunteers. They are working on a project with local Primary Schools called Green Grass Roots. There will be prizes for the pupils including litter picking kits and an opportunity to be involved in a local exhibition. Members thought this was an excellent idea to promote looking after our green spaces to children. L. Santiago went on to say that Friends of Godre'r Graig Park volunteers often carry out litter picks and they are keen to be involved with My Green Valley. She would like to be able to offer them a litter picking kit so that they can carry out more litter picks in the Godre'r Graig area. The kits cost £202.80 each. L. Santiago was keen to ask council for a donation towards the kits from the Section 137 fund. Members stated that they are happy to discuss this in the Finance section of the meeting. Resolved noted. R. Vale stated that she would be very keen to get involved with My Green Valley and set up a team of volunteers in Ystalyfera. Members were pleased with this. It was suggested that Members discuss the possibility of donating towards a kit for Ystalyfera also. Resolved noted. Cllr A. Llewelyn thanked L. Santiago for the introduction to My Green Valley. Vice-chair thanked both members of the public for attending the meeting. Resolved noted.	

4480.	**Minutes of previous meeting: <u>All agreed- Resolved.</u>** • Following on from minute 4470, Minutes of Previous Meeting re: Proposed New Primary School at Pontardawe, Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that there is still no news with regards to this matter. He stated that the process is still in abeyance and no date has been given as to when this matter will be discussed further. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Cllrs to keep Members informed.
4481.	**Covid-19 Situation & Foodbank Update** Cllr A. Llewelyn reported the following: • All-Wales Covid figures as at 14.04.2021: Recorded Cases 210,577 Deaths 5,533 including 0 in past 24 hours. These figures are a considerable slow-down of cases and deaths in Wales since the beginning of the year. • As at 16.03.21 NPT had 14.7 cases/100k population (compared with 34.9/100k in the last report, 94.2 cases /100k in our February report and 263.1 cases/100k population in our January report). • All Wales continues to be in Tier 4 and public health rules on hand hygiene, social distancing and masks remain in place. However Welsh Government have indicated that the country is moving towards Tier 3 and recent relaxation of the regulations include: i. Non-essential retail re-opened, including hairdressers etc. ii. Travel restrictions lifted iii. Children's outdoor activities re-started iv. Self-contained holiday accommodation opened. v. Up to six people from two households can now meet up out of doors. vi. All children returned to school buildings. • Welsh Government have indicated further changes later in April and May including hospitality re-opening out of doors from 26th April, and indoors by end of May if health data allows. • More information on the rules is available on: https://gov.wales/alert-level-4-frequently-asked-questions • 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. https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection?fbclid=IwAR2yivxRv_O_iQ_70MnIuvsG9W3PRkX0fGtxOweCLiJkvAde51bAKuWqAMI#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/CasesbyMSOA • The new Pfizer and AstraZenica vaccines have been introduced in Wales and are progressing through the priority categories. • 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' regular 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. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when more information becomes available.

	• **Foodbank:** Cllr C. James reported that March has been the busiest month to date for Ystalyfera Foodbank with 82 food parcels given out to 237 people. She stated that today is the one-year anniversary of the foodbank opening. Over the year they have issued over 30,000 items of food. Members were amazed by this and thanked the foodbank for all their work. Resolved noted.	
4482.	**Planters** • Vice-chair stated that he had purchased 400+ plants online for the Summer planting of the planters including Geraniums, Begonias and Dianthus for £113.95. He is currently growing them in his greenhouse at home ready for planting in late May / early June. Members were very pleased with this and thanked Cllr G. Williams for doing this. Vice-chair stated that doing the planting and plant care 'in-house' will mean a significant saving for the council this year. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that Vice-chair had been reimbursed for the flowers. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that any Members who want to take on the care of a planter should let her know via email and she will make sure that plants are delivered to them. The Facilities Officer will carry out the remainder of the planting and carry out the weekly watering on all planters and hanging baskets. Clerk stated that water can be supplied from the Community Hall but that a syphon, steps and containers will be needed in order to water the hanging baskets. Resolved that these items be purchased. • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that NPTCBC need to know the size of the planters proposed for Gurnos Road before a decision can be made for placement approval. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Cllrs & Facilities Officer. Clerk to measure planters.
4483.	**Project Group** **Alltygrug Park** • Clerk stated that the playground works have been completed, and that the post-installation inspection has been completed and passed as safe to use. She stated that the playground can now be opened as soon as the hares fencing is taken down over the next few days. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted. • Some Members stated that they had visited the park and were very impressed by the equipment. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that she had sent a photo of the park to Angharad Sulley-Williams, NPTCBC and she was thrilled with the outcome. She can't wait to visit the park to see it for herself. Clerk now needs to write a report on the project. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that she had received an email from Cooke & Arkwight saying that a longer lease could be a possibility. They stated that a gentleman has enquired as to buying a part of the land. This could be the gentleman who is currently trespassing at the park. Members were not keen to lose any of the park and would be happy with a longer lease for	Clerk to write report on project for NPTCBC. Clerk to liaise with Cooke & Arkwright.

	the entire site if possible. Clerk will follow up with Cooke & Arkwright and ask them to issue a letter to the gentleman. Resolved noted.	
	Outdoor Gym 2 • Clerk reported that she had received an email from M. Goatson, NPTCBC stating that before a decision is made on a lease for the front of Godre'r Graig Park, she has to wait for a decision from the Highways team. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with NPTCBC.
	Gleision Memorial • Clerk explained that Cilybebyll Community Council would be keen to work with Ystalyfera Community Council in order to provide a memorial planter or similar on the cycle track to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the disaster at the Gleision Colliery. Members were keen to work with Cilybebyll Community Council on this. Cllr. E. W. Williams suggested getting a silhouette of miners made and some solar lighting. Cllr J. Jones suggested getting a bench made of recycled materials with a plaque. All agreed that a joint meeting of both Community Councils be arranged to discuss this matter further. Resolved noted. • Cllr E. W. Williams requested that a sign be placed on the A4067 pointing to the miner's memorial to raise awareness of the site. Cllr R. Davies will enquire as to the possibility of this. Resolved noted.	Clerk to arrange meeting. Cllr R. Davies to liaise with NPTCBC.
	Sign on Cycle Track • Clerk reported that she has had trouble finding footpaths maps for the re-creation of the sign. She has come across a company called Shelley Signs, they can create illustrated footpaths maps and information signage. Total cost of a new sign would be in the region of £1,209.00 + VAT. Clerk stated that she has spoken to P. Hinder, NPTCBC regarding possible funding options and she will investigate further funding options for this project. Resolved noted. • Cllr C. James suggested that paper maps be included in the funding application. Resolved noted. • Cllr J. Jones suggested that Members walk some of the footpaths to make sure they are passable before creating a new map. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies stated that some local people would be prepared to pay a nominal amount for a footpaths map. This way, council may be able to re-coup some of the printing costs. Resolved that this be looked into further after funding options are considered. Resolved noted.	Clerk to investigate funding options. Clerk to enquire whether Shelley can provide paper maps too. Members to walk paths.
	Park Maintenance • Clerk reported that some of the park and play equipment needs painting and maintenance in preparation for the next ROSPA inspections in June 2021. Facilities Officer will be able to carry out the painting and small repairs. Clerk stated that she could order safety surfacing patch-up kits that could be used by the Facilities Officer to avoid having to pay a company a large sum to re-lay the entire safety surfacing at various parks	Clerk to order supplies. Facilities Officer to carry out works.

	as most surfaces only need small repairs. Members thought this was a good idea. Resolved noted. • A new swing seat is needed at Gnoll Park and two new swing seats needed for Alltygrug Park. Clerk showed Members the type of inclusive seats that could be purchased. Members thought they were excellent. Clerk explained that she had received quotes below: Sutcliffe Play: Full Support Seat with Chains: £1,215.00 + VAT Dragon Play: Tango Seat & Inclusive Seat: £999.00 + VAT Hags: Tango Seat: £468.00 + VAT All agreed that this matter be discussed further in the next meeting of the Project Group. Resolved noted. **Farteg Park** • Clerk reported that a part of the fence has come down around the play equipment at Farteg Park. Andrew (Glantawe Landscapes) has ordered new strain cable and will fix asap. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that the Covid safety sign has been stolen from the park. All agreed that new sign be ordered asap. Resolved noted. **Carreg Yr Afon Park** • Clerk reported that the spring has broken in the see-saw. Sutcliffe Play will repair this asap. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies stated that people living in Graig Newydd and surrounding area have been asking for some play equipment for older children at Carreg Yr Afon Park, something similar to the new trail equipment in Alltygrug. All agreed that this be discussed further in the next meeting of the Project Group. Resolved noted. • Cllr T Flynn stated that the fence surrounding the play equipment near the road is damaged. This is the property of the Trustees of Carreg Yr Afon Park. It was suggested that Clerk contact them in order to get this fixed. Resolved noted. **Penyrallt Park** • Clerk reported that there have been reports of rats in Penyrallt Park. All agreed that an appointment with Pest Control be arranged. Resolved noted. • Cllr S. Prothero had messaged Clerk to state that he is no longer able to accommodate all of the waste from Penyrallt Park in his personal wheelie bin. It was suggested that he take the bags down to the Community Hall Trade Waste bin in the first instance. If Trade Waste is needed for Penyrallt Park at a later date, Members will look at this again. Resolved noted. **Community Survey** • Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested that council carry out a new Community Survey to ascertain what people would like done in their communities. Resolved that this be look at in the next meeting of the Project group.	Clerk to order replacement sign. Clerk to contact Trustees. Clerk to book appointment. Clerk to inform Cllr S. Prothero.
4484.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that an income of £195.00 was received from NPTCBC for Community Hall Hire in February and March. Resolved.	

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Clerk explained that she is currently putting together the accounts in preparation for internal audit. External audit arrangements have changed this year. Clerk will keep Members informed. Resolved noted.
Members discussed My Green Valley's grant request. Even though grants are normally awarded in July and December, Members decided that as this was a vital project that helps the community, that a grant be considered immediately. Clerk stated that this year's Section 137 budget was £3,000.00. All agreed that a Section 137 grant of £202.80 be awarded to My Green Valley immediately to cover the cost of the litter picking kit for Godre'r Graig. Resolved. Cllr R. Llewelyn suggested that another £202.80 be donated towards the kit for the Ystalyfera group once it is formed. All agreed - Resolved.

Accounts: Resolved.
<table>
<tr><th>Ref:</th><th>Type:</th><th>Payee:</th><th>Amount: £</th></tr>
<tr><td>001</td><td>DD</td><td>NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax)</td><td>271.50</td></tr>
<tr><td>002</td><td>DD</td><td>Survey Monkey</td><td>29.17</td></tr>
<tr><td>003</td><td>DD</td><td>Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile)</td><td>35.46</td></tr>
<tr><td>004-6</td><td>BACS</td><td>Staff Wages & Expenses</td><td>2,076.91</td></tr>
<tr><td>007</td><td>BACS</td><td>HMRC Tax & NI</td><td>335.75</td></tr>
<tr><td>008</td><td>BACS</td><td>City & County Swansea Pensions</td><td>455.85</td></tr>
<tr><td>009</td><td>BACS</td><td>SSE Swalec (Godre'r Graig MUGA)</td><td>135.56</td></tr>
<tr><td>010</td><td>BACS</td><td>E-ON (Gas Community Hall)</td><td>224.22</td></tr>
<tr><td>011</td><td>BACS</td><td>BT Broadband (Community Hall)</td><td>56.70</td></tr>
<tr><td>012</td><td>BACS</td><td>BT Payphone (Community Hall)</td><td>133.32</td></tr>
<tr><td>013</td><td>BACS</td><td>Treecreepers (Tree Planting)</td><td>150.00</td></tr>
<tr><td>014</td><td>BACS</td><td>Viking Office Depot (Files, Refuse bags-Farteg)</td><td>52.61</td></tr>
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Transfer from Business Account 121 to Current Account: £5,000.00
Resolved.
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<td>Clerk to pay grant.

Clerk to make BACS payments.</td>
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Planning Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the meeting. Resolved.

P2021/0298 – Single storey side extension and relocation of existing retaining wall: 6 Wernwood Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2NE. No objection: Resolved.
P2020/0904 – Commercial development, 7 light industrial units in 2 storey blocks plus car parking: Swansea Valley Business Park, Ystalyfera SA9 2EB. No objection: Resolved.

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<td>Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC.</td>
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Community Hall

Clerk reported that as the tier level 4 lockdown is still in force, the hall is still closed to the public but NPTCBC Mental Health / Child Welfare are using it twice a week to work with a vulnerable young person. This is deemed as an essential service. It is hopeful that the hall will be able to re-open w/c 17th May 2021 in accordance with Welsh Government Guidelines. Resolved noted.

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	• Clerk reported that she is awaiting further quotes for the roof. Resolved noted. • Clerk explained that it may be possible to apply for a minor projects grant from NPTCBC in order to pay for half of the roof costs. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with roofers.
4487.	**Correspondence** • BT – Adoption of Phone Boxes. Telephony will be removed asap. Resolved noted. • M. Goatson, NPTCBC – Gym 2. Resolved noted. • A Sulley-Williams, NPTCBC – Alltygrug Park. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies – Rat complaints. Resolved noted. • M Kelly – Scootering Sessions in Ystalyfera MUGA. All agreed to allow. Resolved. • C. Hyde, Cooke & Arkwright – Alltygrug Park lease. Resolved noted. • NPTCBC – UKCRF. Possibility of funding. YDT are also applying. This could be used for decking removal at Godre'r Graig Park. Resolved noted.	
	The next meeting of council will take place via MS Teams on 17th June 2021 at 7:00pm.	