# CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

# Minutes of the Meeting held online via MS Teams on

# 15th July 2021

**Present**

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

**Apologies**

| Name | Reason | Other Absence: | |
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| Cllr. Cathy James | Working | Cllr. Bryan Lewis | Leave of Absence |
| Cllr. Simon Prothero | Working | | |
| Cllr. Arwel Hughes | Working | | |
| Cllr. Tristian Lewis | Working | | |
| Cllr. Terry Flynn | Holiday | | |

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| 4514. | **Welcome and late Apologies**<br>Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies. Resolved. | |
| 4515. | **Minutes of previous meeting: All agreed- Resolved.**<br>• Following on from minute 4513, Correspondence, Clerk reported that she had submitted the council's objection to the proposed new Primary School in Pontardawe to replace Alltwen, Godre'r Graig and Llangiwg Primary Schools. Resolved.<br>Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that Sioned Williams MS had raised the issue of the proposed new school in the Senedd. Welsh Government have instructed NPTCBC to put any potential plans on hold until a review of the impact of the proposed new school on the Welsh Language is conducted. Resolved noted.<br>It was reported that the objection letter to Jeremy Miles MS with regards to the proposed new school compiled by Vince (Ponty Mag) has now been sent in. Resolved noted.<br>Cllr R. Davies reported that NPTCBC are now putting another demountable building on site for the temporary Godre'r Graig School in order that they can have a hall and kitchen. The problem with this is that it takes up more of the outdoor play space which is already very small. Resolved noted.<br>It was suggested that there needs to be a public meeting regarding Godre'r Graig School in order to push for either a new school in Godre'r Graig or to carry out repair to the current school and remove the tip behind it. Members thought this was a good idea. Resolved noted.<br>• Following on from Project Group Meeting, Cllr R. Davies reported that she is meeting with Aled Jones NPTCBC to discuss the possibility of having a | Cllr R. Davies to meet with NPTCBC. |

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| | sign on the A4067 pointing to the Gleision Memorial. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted. | |
| 4516. | **Covid-19 Situation & Foodbank Update**<br>Cllr A. Llewelyn reported the following:<br>• All-Wales Covid figures as at 14.07.2021: Recorded Cases 227,563 Deaths 5,581 including 1 in past 24 hours.<br>• As at 14.07.21 Neath Port Talbot had 81.07 cases per 100k population, which is a significant increase on the June figure possibly due to the new variances.<br>• FM Mark Drakeford made major announcement on 14.07.21 that Wales is moving to Alert Level 1 indoors and Level 0 outdoors from Saturday 17.07.21. with the aim of moving to Level 0 by 07.08.21.<br>• Some restrictions e.g. wearing facemasks in some settings will remain in Wales. More information is available at:<br>https://gov.wales/next-steps-towards-future-fewer-covid-rules-first-minister?fbclid=IwAR0dhTzlECA81Rjs6CWSW2xBgW8MS3VgtIWDnCruJWYb0Tf-tuQ09K691TI<br>• 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.<br>https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection?fbclid=IwAR2yivxRv_O_iQ_70MnIuvsG9W3PRkX0fGtxOweCLiJkvAde51bAKuWqAMI#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/CasesbyMSOA<br>• The Pfizer and AstraZenica vaccines are progressing well through the priority categories.<br>• 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.<br>• The health Boards' regular Coronavirus newsletters can be found at:<br>https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/health-board-news/the-second-edition-of-our-covid-19-vaccination-newsletter-is-now-available/<br>https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/news/news-categories/coronavirus-covid-19-news/<br>• Further information can be circulated to Community Council members by email in between meetings.<br>Resolved noted.<br><br>• **Foodbank:** Cllr B. Hastie stated that the foodbank is still very busy and has lots of traffic. He stated that people are struggling with a lack of money between universal credit payments. Lots of single people are struggling. He stated that Wednesday is their busiest day at the foodbank. It was stated that more food is now needed as children are off school and not getting their free school meals. Cllr J. Jones stated that there had been 11 requests yesterday from singletons and families. She stated that the donation trolley contents from Asda had gone quickly into the food parcels for yesterday. Cllr B. Hasite stated that Asda have again donated £50 worth of food to the foodbank and stated that their finances are OK for the time being. Members were pleased with this. Cllr B. Hastie stated that the blue token scheme for the foodbank is now active in Tesco (Pontardawe, Glynneath and Ystradgynlais) which means that they will be able to receive a minimum of £1,500 funding from Tesco. | Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when more information becomes available. |

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| | Members thanked Cllr B. Hasite and J. Jones for their report and hard work. Resolved noted. | |
| 4517. | **Planters**<br>• Chair stated that the planters are looking lovely. Members also commented on how nice they look. The Facilities Officer is watering the planters weekly. Resolved noted.<br>• Chair reported that Lee (Quids In) is supposed to be planting the troughs on the A4067 for free but has not completed this as yet. Resolved noted.<br>• Chair reported that he and Cllr E.W. Williams had now placed the small planters on Gurnos Road. They stated that the small planters are a good temporary measure until council are in the position to purchase new large planters. Members thanked them for doing this. Resolved noted.<br>• Cllr B. Hastie stated that the Foodbank had planted some geranium plants outside Gurnos Chapel in order to brighten up the place. They will also get some planters. Members thought this was an excellent idea and thanked Cllr B. Hastie and foodbank volunteers for this. Resolved noted. | Chair to liaise with Lee. |
| 4518. | **Project Group**<br>Clerk passed on minutes of Project Group meeting to members and read through the main points. Resolved noted.<br><br>**Penyrallt Park**<br>• Clerk reported that Chris from Pro Pest Ltd had been out to assess the rat problem in Penyrallt Park. He stated that there was no sign of any nesting rats. He stated that the rats were merely passing through the park. Chris suggested that the play equipment be sprayed with disinfectant and provided a report to the Clerk to keep for council records. Clerk stated that the park is now open. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted.<br>• Clerk reported that she has applied for lottery funding in order to repair the fence at the park. She also included new play tables in the quote. Council could receive up to £5,000 if the application is successful. Clerk has received 2 quotes for the works so far: £5,427 for new timber fencing (76m, 4ft high) or £5,172.34 for green mesh fencing (76m, 4ft high). The outcome on the funding application should be received by the end of September 2021. Members thanked the Clerk for her work on this matter. Resolved noted.<br>• Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that the overgrowth on the bottom end of the park needs cutting back. Clerk will speak to Glantawe Landscapes in order to carry out these works. Resolved noted.<br><br>**Godre'r Graig Country Park**<br>• Cllr E.W. Williams stated that he and other Members met with Reg Atherton, Godre'r Graig Community Association, at the park. He stated that the boardwalk and path needed work. Some of the boardwalk was | Clerk to put on Facebook that the park is free of rats.<br><br>Clerk to obtain further quote.<br><br>Clerk to liaise with Andrew. |

rotten and has been taken down and now needs replacing. Chair stated that a gravel path would be no good as an alternative as it would be impossible to get a lorry down the hill with the gravel. He suggested that refurbishing the boardwalk would be preferable particularly as a boardwalk enables wheelchair users and parents with prams to access the park. Resolved noted.

- Clerk stated that she had completed the lottery funding application form in order to repair/replace the boardwalk. Funding outcome should be received in September 2021. Members thanked Clerk for doing this. Resolved noted.

**Gleision Memorial**

- Clerk stated that she had spoken to G. Turler (carver) again regarding a bench for Tarenni. G. Turler stated that he would not have time to make the bench until the end of this year so it would not be ready for the 10th Anniversary of the disaster in September. He stated that as all of the competitions were now reinstated as Covid restrictions have lifted, he now will not have the time to carve the bench. He sent his apologies to council. Members were disappointed with this but suggested that a plain wooden bench with plaques be purchased for the anniversary instead. All agreed - Resolved noted.

Clerk to order bench and plaques and liaise with Cilybebyll CC.

**Project Group Meeting –** It was decided that the next meeting of the Project Group will be held via Zoom on 9th September 2021. Resolved.

Cllr E.W. Williams to invite G. George to PG Meeting.

4519. **Finance**

- Clerk reported that she has compiled all of the necessary documents for the external audit and will post them to audit Wales this coming week. Resolved noted.
- There were no applications for financial assistance grants. Resolved.

Clerk to post documents.

**Accounts, July & August:** Resolved.

| Ref: | Type: | Payee: | Amount: £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 057 | DD | Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile) | £35.46 |
| 058 | BACS | NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) | £273.00 |
| 059 | DD | Survey Monkey | £44.17 |
| 060 | BACS | Celtic Leisure (Cinema Trip GG School Donation) | £100.00 |
| 061 | BACS | SSE Swalec (Godre'r Graig MUGA) | £139.78 |
| 062 | BACS | E-ON (Gas Community Hall) | £102.85 |
| 063 | BACS | Tai Tarian | £100.00 |
| 064-66 | BACS | Staff Wages & Expenses | £2,385.14 |
| 067 | BACS | HMRC Tax & NI | £353.99 |
| 068 | BACS | City & County Swansea Pensions | £475.88 |
| 069 | BACS | BT Broadband (Community Hall) | £56.70 |
| 070 | BACS | Dwr Cymru (Community Hall) | £54.62 |
| 071 | BACS | BT Payphone (Community Hall) | £133.32 |

Clerk to make BACS payments.

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| | 072 | BACS | E-ON (Gas Community Hall) | £68.06 | |
| | 073 | BACS | Fergusons & Peters (Internal Audit) | £720.00 | |
| | 074 | BACS | Glantawe Landscapes Ltd (Planting Yst.) | £700.00 | |
| | 075 | BACS | Cotton & Sons (disinfectant - parks) | £22.78 | |
| | 076 | DD | Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile) | £35.46 | |
| | 077 | BACS | Cllr G. Williams (Plants & Compost Reimb.) | £29.98 | |
| | 078 | BACS | ROSPA Play Safety Inspections | £588.00 | |
| | 079 | DD | NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) | £273.00 | |
| | 080 | PayPal | McAfee Total Protection Anti-virus | £12.99 | |
| | 081 | BACS | Peter Lynn & Partners | £864.00 | |
| | 082 | BACS | Viking Office Depot (Stamps, batteries) | £56.57 | |
| | 083 | BACS | Propest Ltd (Penyrallt Park report) | £45.00 | |
| | 084 | DD | Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile) | £35.46 | |
| | 085 | DD | Survey Monkey | £44.17 | |
| | 086-88 | BACS | Staff Wages & Expenses | £2,453.77 | |
| | 089 | BACS | HMRC Tax & NI | £350.38 | |
| | 090 | BACS | City & County Swansea Pensions | £470.87 | |
| | 091 | BACS | T.A. Handford - Honorarium Alltygrug Park | £100.00 | |
| | 092 | BACS | S. Mansell - Honorarium Gnoll Park | £100.00 | |
| | 093 | BACS | N. Prothero - Honorarium Penyrallt Park | £100.00 | |
| | 094 | BACS | W. Jones - Honorarium Carreg yr Afon Park | £100.00 | |
| | 095 | 304 | J. Austin - Honorarium Farteg Park | £100.00 | |
| | 096 | BACS | E-ON (Gas Community Hall) | £58.66 | |
| | 097 | BACS | BT Broadband (Community Hall) | £56.70 | |
| | 098 | BACS | Glantawe Landscapes Ltd (Gnds Maint.) | £625.00 | |
| | 099 | BACS | 4 Colour Digital (Planter Stickers) | £90.00 | |
| | Resolved. | | | | |
| 4520. | **Planning** Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the meeting. Resolved.<br>• P2021/0590 – Proposed change of use of existing storage building (B8) to separate business comprising Canine Microchipping, Canine Artificial Insemination, and Canine Grooming – 34 Gurnos Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2HY. No objection: Resolved.<br>• P2021/0646 – Proposed 2 storey detached dwelling with associated parking and engineering works –Site of former Stables & Workshop, Alltygrug Road, Ystalyfera. No objection: Resolved.<br>• P2021/0722 – Prior approval for the demolition of 2 separate one storey buildings known as the Canteen and Drama/Music block – Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera SA9 2JJ. No objection: Resolved. | | | | Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC. |
| 4521. | **Community Hall**<br>• Clerk reported that Rebecca Thomas, Tai Tarian visited the hall to take photos of the Chair, Vice-chair and Cllr A. Lewis for the Tai Tarian website in order to advertise the results of the Community Challenge. Members thanked Tai Tarian for their excellent work on refurbishing the main hall. Resolved noted.<br>• Clerk reported that she is having trouble obtaining further quotes for the hall roof. It was suggested that Clerk liaise with NPTCBC to see who is on their approved contractors list. Resolved noted. | | | | Clerk to liaise with roofers. |

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| 4522. | **Correspondence**<br>• A. Cleverley, Age Cymru – advocacy officer. It was suggested that A. Cleverley be invited to a future meeting. Resolved noted.<br>• R. Davies – Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera. School are carrying out a memorial service for the Gleision anniversary. It was suggested that council support the school with this. Resolved noted.<br>• Cllr R. Davies – Members Community Fund. 14th February 2021 is the closing date for applications to the fund. It was suggested that quotes be obtained asap to extend the children's play area in Carreg yr Afon Park and provide a timber trail. All agreed - Resolved noted.<br>It was suggested that Members meet with the trustees of the park in order to discuss plans. Resolved noted.<br>• Cllr A. Jenkins stated that the wall is falling towards the bowling green in Ystalyfera. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that this is NPTCBC's responsibility. Resolved noted. | Clerk to invite.<br><br>Clerk to liaise with school.<br><br>Clerk to obtain quotes & arrange meeting.<br><br>Cllr A. Llewelyn to liaise with NPTCBC. |
| | **The next meeting of council will take place via Zoom on 16th September 2021 at 7:00pm.** | |