CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held online via MS Teams on

17th June 2021

Present

Cllr. Geraint Williams (Chair) Cllrs. Rhian Llewelyn, Alun Llewelyn, Emyr Wyn Williams, Julie Jones, Cathy James, Rosalyn Davies

Apologies

Name	Reason	Other Absence:
Cllr. Ann Lewis	Personal	Cllr. Bryan Lewis Leave of Absence
Cllr. Simon Prothero	Working	
Cllr. Brian Hastie	Working	
Cllr. Arwel Hughes	Working	
Cllr. Tristian Lewis	Working	
Cllr. Ann Jenkins	Personal	
Cllr. Terry Flynn	Personal	

		ACTION
4505.	**Welcome and late Apologies** Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies. Resolved.	
4506.	**Minutes of previous meeting: All agreed- Resolved.** • Following on from minute 4497 Minutes of Previous Meeting, My Green Valley, Clerk reported that the donations from the Community Council to the organisations have now gone through. Resolved. • Following on from minute 4497 Minutes of Previous Meeting, Penyrallt Park, Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that he has received orange refuse bags from NPTCBC and will distribute to the park volunteers as soon as possible. Resolved noted.	Cllr A. Llewelyn to distribute bags.
4507.	**Covid-19 Situation & Foodbank Update** Cllr A. Llewelyn reported the following: • All-Wales Covid figures as at 17.06.2021: Recorded Cases 214,382 Deaths 5,572 including 0 in past 24 hours. As at 17.06.21 Neath Port Talbot had 25.1 cases per 100k population, which is an increase on the May figure possibly due to the new variants. These figures are still considerably lower than the beginning of the year, and when Neath Port Talbot had 263.1 cases/100k population in our January report. • As at 19.05.21 NPT had 7.7 cases/100k population (compared with 14.7/100k in the April report, 34.9 cases /100k in our March report and 94.2 cases/100k population in our February report). • All Wales remains in Tier 2 restrictions and there are unlikely to be further significant easing of regulations for several weeks. More information is available at: https://gov.wales/alert-level-2-frequently-asked-questions	Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when more information becomes available.

	• 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 Pfizer and AstraZenica vaccines have been introduced in Wales and are progressing well 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. Resolved noted. • **Foodbank:** Cllr C. James stated that the foodbank is still very busy. She reported that they had applied for Tesco for funding and had been successful in both local Tesco stores (Pontardawe and Ystradgynlais) which means that they will be able to collect the blue tokens given out for use of reusable bags in the Tesco stores. This also means that the minimum amount the foodbank will receive will be £500 per store (£1,000 in total). Members were pleased with this news and thanked Cllr C. James. Resolved noted. Cllr C. James also reported that the foodbank will now come under CATCH. This means they will be able to apply for registered charity status in order to raise funds from here onwards. Cllr R. Llewelyn asked whether monetary donations are still being banked by Ystalyfera Development Trust. Cllr C. James confirmed that this is still the case but now that the foodbank will come under CATCH, their bank account will be used for donations from here onwards. She stated that there is approx. £1,000 still in the YDT account ringfenced for the foodbank, this money will be used to purchase supplies as soon as possible. Resolved noted.	
4508.	**Planters** • Clerk stated that all of the planters have now been planted. The plants are growing well. They are being watered by the Facilities Officer and she is using fertiliser to improve the quality of the plants. Members were pleased with this progress. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that the lamp-post basket near Nesta's old shop on Commercial Street is placed very high on the pole due to signage. This means that the Facilities Officer has to climb 4 steps on the step-ladder in order to water the basket with a lance. She suggested that this be moved to the lamp-post at the bus stop (next post down from Nesta's) next year to avoid this problem. Cllr E.W. Williams suggested that if this is a potential hazard to water then perhaps it should be moved this year. All	Clerk to liaise with Andrew.

	agreed that Clerk contact Andrew, Glantawe Landscapes to see if this can be done this year and if so, to obtain a quote for moving the basket. Resolved noted. • Chair stated that he had spoken to Lee, Quids In to explain that planting had to be done in-house this year due to the need for a new roof on the Community Hall. Lee has offered to plant the three troughs on the main road (A4067) free of charge for this year. Members were very pleased with this offer and thanked Lee for his kind gesture. Resolved noted. • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he has sent the details of the size of the proposed planters for Gurnos Road to NPTCBC for consideration. He is awaiting a response. Resolved noted.	Chair to liaise with Lee. Cllr A. Llewelyn to liaise with NPTCBC.
4509.	**Project Group** **Penyrallt Park** • Clerk stated that she has spoken to NPTCBC Pest Control regarding the issues with rats at Penyrallt Park. She explained that the lady on the phone stated that payment for two visits would have to be made upfront by card. Clerk explained that council do not have a bank card and asked if cheque was acceptable. The lady wasn't sure about this and said she'd check with the cash desk. Clerk has not heard back from NPTCBC as yet. She suggested that she could contact a local Pest Control company, Pro Pest Ltd to get a quote for the visits instead. Clerk stated that Chris from Pro Pest Ltd used to work for NPTCBC so knows the area well. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that Chris has done lots of work in the area previously. Members were happy that Clerk approach the company and if cheaper than NPTCBC, ask them to do the works instead as action needs to be taken as soon as possible. Resolved noted. **Alltygrug Park** • Clerk reported that she has contacted Cooke & Arkwright regarding the potential sale of a parcel of the park and a longer lease for the Community Council. She is awaiting a response from them and the Ynyscedwyn Estate. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that the Tyre Swing seat with chains arrived today. The Facilities Officer will paint the swing frame next week and fit the swings. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted. **Soldier Silhouettes** • Cllr E.W. Williams had suggested in the Project Group meeting that some Soldier Silhouettes could be purchased for Remembrance Sunday for the Cenotaph in Ystalyfera and the Sgwâr, Godre'r Graig. He stated that 4' silhouettes were £65 each on eBay, sold by SSAF Charity. Cllr R. Llewelyn said that she had seen some of these on a walk recently and thought they looked a little tacky. Cllr J. Jones stated that the Cenotaph itself has had a fair amount of money spent on it over the last few years and did not think that spending money on silhouettes was appropriate when money needs to be found to pay for the roof of the Community Hall. Members	Clerk to liaise with Pro Pest Ltd. Clerk to liaise with Cooke & Arkwright. Clerk to liaise with Facilities Officer.

	agreed with this. Cllr E.W. Williams offered to purchase a silhouette for the Sgwâr, Godre'r Graig out of his own money. Chair and Cllr R. Davies offered to contribute towards this also. Members were pleased with this and thanked the Councillors for their kind contributions. Resolved noted. • Cllr R Davies stated that the bench on the Sgwâr in Godre'r Graig also needs rubbing down and re-varnishing. <u>All agreed</u> that Clerk arrange these works. <u>Resolved noted.</u> • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he had received an email from J. Powell regarding the Cenotaph, stating that the lettering needs repair on the memorial. <u>All agreed</u> that this be deferred until next financial year due to financial constraints this year. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Clerk to liaise with S. Turk re: bench. Clerk to respond to J. Powell.
	Outdoor Gym 2 • Clerk reported that she had received an email from M. Goatson, NPTCBC stating that the Highways team have confirmed that the land in question is not an adopted highway, therefore the land can be offered for lease. She has to check with the Streetcare team if they are happy with the land being leased to the Community Council. If so, then a lease and terms can be drawn up by NPTCBC. Members were pleased with this news. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Clerk to liaise with NPTCBC.
	Gleision Memorial • Clerk stated that she had spoken to G. Turler (carver) regarding a bench for Tarenni. He stated that he could do this, no problem. He stated that it would be a shame to use the oak from the Ffynnon for this. Cllr J. Jones stated that she had seen a bench in Diamond Park that had silhouettes of miners on the back. She suggested that this could be more suitable. <u>All agreed</u> that Clerk cost a metal bench with silhouette before asking G. Turler to continue - <u>Resolved noted.</u> • Cllr A. Llewelyn and Cllr R. Davies stated that they will get in touch with the families of the miners to make sure they are happy with the suggestions made for the anniversary memorial. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Clerk to liaise with G. Turler and get quotes for bench. Cllrs A. Llewelyn & R. Davies to contact families.
	Sign on Cycle Track • Clerk reported that Shelley Signs have provided a quote for paper leaflets: design would cost £350, then printing of 500 leaflets would be £210 or 1,000 leaflets would be £305. Members were pleased with the quote. Clerk will now look for possible funding for the project. <u>Resolved noted.</u>	Clerk to liaise with Shelley signs & apply for funding.
	End of Year 6 Celebrations Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera & Godre'r Graig Primary School • Clerk reported that she had spoken to Catherine Donovan, Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera PTA who had initially contacted the council for a donation towards an end of year 6 party, and she stated that Ystalyfera Rugby Club have agreed to host the party free-of-charge. Members were pleased with this. C. Donovan had stated that they would like to hire a bouncy castle or similar for the event and asked if the Community Council could put funds towards this. <u>All agreed</u> that £100 be donated to pay for bouncy castle or similar. <u>Resolved.</u>	Clerk to make £100 payment to bouncy castle firm.

	• Clerk reported that she had received an email from Janine Cotton, Godre'r Graig Primary School PTA requesting a donation towards their end of year 6 party. All agreed that a sum of £100 be donated to pay for entertainment at the party. Resolved.	Clerk to liaise with J. Cotton.
4510.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that the internal audit has now been completed by Fergusons & Peters, Pontardawe and no issues raised. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted. • Clerk presented Financial Statement, Annual Return and explanation of variances to council. Annual Return approved by council, signed by Clerk (RFO) and Chair immediately after the meeting. Resolved. **Accounts:** Resolved. **Ref: Type: Payee: Amount: £** 039 BACS NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) £273.00 040 BACS Came & Company (Council Insurance) £2,154.35 041 BACS SSE Swalec (Community Hall) £127.90 042 BACS SSE Swalec (Ystalyfera MUGA) £138.28 043 BACS Cllr G.Williams (reimbursement - flowers) £20.00 044 BACS Online Playgrounds Fenland Ltd (Tyre Swing) £189.60 045 BACS Bouncy Hire Swansea (Ystalyfera PTA donation) £100.00 046 BACS Glantawe Landscapes Ltd (Penyrallt) £310.00 047-49 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses £2,409.56 050 BACS HMRC Tax & NI £351.58 051 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions £470.87 052 BACS BT Broadband (Community Hall) £56.70 053 BACS Glantawe Landscapes Ltd. (Gnds Maint x2) £1,250.00 054 BACS Lockshop Direct - NLS Security Ltd £39.79 055 BACS J. Parr-Williams (Reimburse - disinfectant sprayer) £20.97 056 BACS Cllr G.Williams (Reimburse locks & cable ties) £6.67 Transfer from Business Account 121 to Current Account: £5,000.00 Resolved.	Clerk to prepare documents for external audit. Clerk to make BACS payments.
4511.	**Planning** Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the meeting. Resolved. • P2021/0550 – Single storey rear extension – 1 Lower New Houses, Off Rhiwfawr Road, Lower Cwmtwrch SA9 2TN. No objection: Resolved. • P2020/1086 – Appeal – Retention of change of use of ground floor from shop to residential use associated with existing 1st floor residential use so the property can be used as a single dwelling, together with proposed external alterations and access ramp to accommodate new integral garage in order to accommodate new integral garage in order to facilitate internal access improvement – 28 Wern Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2LY. Council felt that the final decision should be made by NPTCBC and/or The Planning Inspectorate, therefore no objection from Community Council: Resolved.	Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC.

4512.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that she is having trouble obtaining further quotes for the roof as several companies she has approached are either oversubscribed at the moment or are not interested in the work. Chair stated that he has spoken to a roofer and he will visit the hall tomorrow in order to supply council with a further quote on a rubber roof. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that the Minor Projects Grant Application from NPTCBC has been agreed and approved. NPTCBC will pay up to £10,000 towards the cost of a new roof. Members were pleased with this and thanked NPTCBC for their contribution. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that Rebecca Thomas, Tai Tarian would like to take photos with Chair and Vice-chair of the Community Hall in order to advertise the results of the Community Challenge on Facebook and the Tai Tarian website. Chair and Vice-chair available any weekday after 4pm. Resolved noted.	Clerk & Chair to liaise with roofers. Clerk to liaise with R. Thomas.
4513.	**Correspondence** • M. Goatson, NPTCBC – land next to Godre'r Graig Park. Resolved noted. • My Green Valley – thanks for donation. Resolved noted. • J. Cotton – donation request, Godre'r Graig School Year 6 leavers Party. Resolved noted. • A. Thomas, NPTCBC – Statutory Notice, New 'Super' Primary School in Pontardawe & closure of Godre'r Graig Primary, Llangiwg Primary and Alltwen Primary Schools. Members were extremely disappointed with the decision of NPTCBC cabinet to push ahead with plans for a new super primary school in Pontardawe thus closing Godre'r Graig Primary, Llangiwg Primary and Alltwen Primary Schools. Chair asked if any of the cabinet Members know the area to which it was stated that none of the Members are from this area. Cllr R. Llewelyn asked what the point of the initial consultation had been (with 240+ responses with only 21 responses in favour of the plans) as NPTCBC cabinet Members had taken no notice of the comments raised. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that Cllr R. Davies had advocated vigorously in the meeting for the case of keeping Godre'r Graig School. He stated that there were 15 fors and 11 against with 1 abstention, therefore cabinet will proceed with the next stage of consultation. All agreed that Ystalyfera Community Council will submit a formal objection to these plans, reasons for which as stated in minute no. 4445 (Dec 2020). Resolved noted. Cllr R. Davies stated that there is a special case for Godre'r Graig School as the pupils have not had a hot meal since the beginning of the Covid pandemic. She also stated that the pupils have been in temporary classrooms with no hall or suitable outdoor play facilities since 2019 and it would be unfair to expect them to continue in these facilities until 2024 when the proposed new school would be ready. She will put these comments to NPTCBC. Members were supportive of these comments. Resolved noted.	Clerk to submit objection on behalf of Community Council. Cllr R. Davies to raise concerns with NPTCBC.

	The next meeting of council will take place via Zoom on 15th July 2021 at 7:00pm.	