CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held online via MS Teams on

20th May 2021

Present

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

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		

		ACTION
4496.	**Welcome and late Apologies** Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies. Resolved.	
4497.	**Minutes of previous meeting: All agreed- Resolved.** • Following on from minute 4479, My Green Valley, Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that a group had now been formed in Ystalyfera and that the leader was P. Dennis. All agreed that a further 202.80 be awarded to My Green Valley for a litter kit for Ystalyfera. Resolved. • Following on from minute 4480, Minutes of Previous Meeting re: Proposed New Primary School at Pontardawe, Chair thanked Cllr A. Llewelyn for forwarding information and documents with regards to the NPTCBC cabinet meeting tomorrow on the 'Design Options for the Remediation of Cilmaengwyn Tip above Godre'r Graig Primary School'. Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies will be attending the meeting and will ask further questions on behalf of the Community Council. Chair stated that he would like clarity on the report – tip and landslip. A landslip has never been mentioned or happened in this particular area, so Chair would like clarity on this. Chair asked if another study costing £20,000 was a good use of funds. Cllr R. Davies stated that further investigations were needed due to some of her previous suggestions i.e. gabions and/or netting to ensure the safety of the tip. Cllr A. Llewelyn also stated that a full and thorough further investigation was needed. Chair asked if clarity could be sought on point 3 (design, demolition and reusing site for community benefit) as if the site is not safe to house a school, how would it be safe to use as a community area? He also asked for clarification on the effect of this on nearby properties. Resolved that Cllrs R. Davies and A. Llewelyn pass on questions to NPTCBC and keep Members informed. • Following on from minute 4483, Penyrallt Park, Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that if orange rubbish bags were used for litter picks and park rubbish	Clerk to set up BACS payment. Cllrs to keep Members informed. Cllr A. Llewelyn to order bags.

	(the same ones as used by My Green Valley) then NPTCBC litter pickers can pick these up. Cllr A. Llewelyn will order orange bags. Resolved noted.	
4498.	**Covid-19 Situation & Foodbank Update** Cllr A. Llewelyn reported the following: • All-Wales Covid figures as at 19.05.2021: Recorded Cases 212,316 Deaths 5,560 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, 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 is now in Tier 2 restrictions and public health rules on hand hygiene, social distancing and masks remain in place. • From 17.05.2021 the following relaxations in regulations were introduced: Indoor hospitality can re-open, 6 people from up to 6 households (not including children under 11) can book a table. All holiday accommodation can re-open fully. Entertainment venues, including cinemas, bingo halls, bowling alleys, indoor-play areas, casinos, amusement arcades, and theatres can re-open. Indoor visitor attractions, including museums and galleries can re-open. Up to 30 people can take part in organised indoor activities and up to 50 people in organised outdoor activities. This includes wedding receptions and wakes. International travel will resume, but there is a recommendation against travelling abroad unless essential. More information on the rules is available at: https://gov.wales/alert-level-2-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 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. <u>Resolved noted.</u> • **Foodbank:** Cllr C. James presented a report to Members and stated that the foodbank is still very busy. They are seeing new people every week. She stated that the foodbank is OK financially at the moment and she has applied for further funding from Tesco. Cllr J. Jones stated that they have had problems in picking up the trolley from Tesco in Pontardawe as Tesco have changed their system. She stated that donations are still needed.	Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when more information becomes available.

	Summary by month |	Apr 20	May 20	June 20	July 20	Aug 20	Sept 20	Oct 20	Nov 20	Dec 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	Total | |---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---| | Total people | 67 | 174 | 161 | 131 | 80 | 169 | 162 | 166 | 268 | 169 | 215 | 237 | 120 | 2119 | | Adults | 39 | 97 | 97 | 81 | 55 | 103 | 93 | 90 | 142 | 100 | 132 | 148 | 73 | 1250 | | Children | 28 | 77 | 64 | 50 | 25 | 66 | 69 | 76 | 126 | 69 | 83 | 89 | 47 | 869 | | Total parcels | 27 | 61 | 61 | 48 | 31 | 56 | 53 | 47 | 78 | 50 | 73 | 82 | 42 | 709 | | Total items | 886 | 2290 | 2071 | 2009 | 1369 | 2383 | 2494 | 2772 | 4677 | 2759 | 2498 | 3769 | 1826 | 31,803 | Resolved noted.	
4499.	**Planters** • Chair stated that the daffodils in the planters need cutting back. Facilities Officer will do this asap. Resolved noted. • Chair stated that the flowers are growing well in his greenhouse and should be ready for planting in a few weeks. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that Andrew (Glantawe Landscapes) has planted the baskets in Ystalyfera. Facilities Officer has carried out one watering so far. She found that a lance would be needed as some of the baskets are very high. Clerk ordered lance ready for next week's watering. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Cllrs & Facilities Officer.
4500.	**Project Group** **Alltygrug Park** • Clerk stated that Ynyscedwyn Estate would be happy to grant a longer lease but they are considering selling the piece of land containing the woodland (where knotweed is currently being treated) to an individual. Clerk stated that the land in question would be of no use to the community council as it is too steep to do anything with it. She stated that 2 complaints had been received in relation to this parcel of land – one stating that anti-social behaviour has increased since the knotweed had gone and that the now dead knotweed is like a tinder box waiting to be lit. Another complaint stated that the individual's fence is constantly being damaged by young people who hang around on the land. Clerk stated that if Ynyscedwyn Estate choose to sell this land to the individual, then the community council would still need access to the park gate and path. It was suggested that if this parcel of land is sold by the Ynyscedwyn Estate, then could there be a covenant in the agreement saying that the new owner would need to put up a fence on his/her boundary. All agreed that the community council would like a longer lease on the remainder of the park. Resolved noted. All agreed that it be made public to the local residents that the decision to sell the parcel of land is outside of the community council's remit as the land is owned by the Ynyscedwyn Estate and it is up to them if they want to sell it. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that the Facilities Officer had removed the two toddler swings from the park as they were rusty and damaged. Clerk reported that there was a swing seat with chains in the Community Hall that had	Clerk to liaise with Cooke & Arkwright.

	been taken down from Carreg Yr Afon Park when the inclusive swing was installed. The swing seat is still in excellent condition and can be used in Alltygrug Park. Resolved that the swing be used in Alltygrug park and that a new Tyre Swing seat with chains be purchased for £140 + VAT to fill the remaining space.	Clerk to order tyre swing seat.
	Outdoor Gym 2 • Clerk reported that she had received an email from M. Goatson, NPTCBC stating that she is still awaiting a decision from the Highways team on the land. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with NPTCBC.
	Gleision Memorial • Clerk suggested that a joint Project meeting be held next Thursday to discuss options for the memorial. All agreed - Resolved noted. • Cllr E. W. Williams stated that a planter would be difficult to maintain in this area and that seating or lit silhouettes would be a better option. Cllr R. Davies stated that she had received requests from members of the public for seating in the area. Resolved that this matter be discussed further in next week's Project meeting. • Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested getting in touch with the Families in order to let them know what council intends to do to commemorate the anniversary of the disaster. Resolved noted.	Clerk to arrange meeting.
	Sign on Cycle Track • Clerk reported that Shelley Signs are able to provide paper leaflets in addition to the signs. Members suggested getting quotes for 1,000 and 500 to see what would be more cost-effective. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Shelley signs.
	Carreg Yr Afon • Clerk reported that the see-saw will be replaced with a brand new one in about 4 weeks' time. The broken see-saw was under warranty and will be replaced free of charge. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Sutcliffe Play.
4501.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that she has submitted the accounts for internal audit. The internal audit is currently being carried out by Fergusons & Peters, Pontardawe. Resolved noted. **Accounts:** Resolved.	

Ref:	Type:	Payee:	Amount: £
015	BACS	NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax)	273.00
016	PayPal	eBay - syphon, high vis vest, paint, brushes, steps etc.	147.05
017	PayPal	eBay - portable pressure washer	22.49
018	BACS	Online Playgrounds Fenland Ltd (Wet pour repair kit)	120.00
019	BACS	Glantawe Landscapes Ltd (Gnd Maint. Signage inst.)	1,005.00
020	BACS	Brace Gas (Boiler Repair & Service)	90.00
021	BACS	Viking Office Depot (Stamps, dividers etc.)	43.76
022	BACS	My Green Valley (Grant Donation Godre'r Graig Group)	202.80

Clerk to make BACS payments.

	023 PayPal Karcher (Spray Lance - watering) 23.44 024 PayPal eBay (Watering Cans) 7.99 025 PayPal eBay (Hose - watering) 12.60 026 BACS Ynysmeudwy FC - MUGA lease 400.00 027 BACS E-ON (Gas Community Hall) 154.51 028 BACS Chubb (Community Hall Fire Extinguisher Services) 66.52 029 DD Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile) 35.46 030 BACS BT Broadband (Community Hall) 56.70 031-33 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses 2,209.25 034 BACS HMRC Tax & NI 346.37 035 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions 465.87 036 BACS Cllr G.Williams (reimbursement - fertiliser) 13.49 037 BACS My Green Valley (Grant Donation Ystalyfera Group) 202.80 038 PayPal Enwau.Wales (Netistrar) - Domain Renewal 11.99 Transfer from Business Account 121 to Current Account: £2,000.00 Resolved.	
4502.	**Planning** Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the meeting. Resolved. • P2021/0497 - Replacement garage door with a window to facilitate a garage conversion - 16 Ffordd Danygraig, Godre'r Graig SA9 2BH. No objection: Resolved. • P2021/0469 - Change of use of ground floor shop (A3) to create three self-contained apartments together with two storey rear extension and ancillary parking - 17 Wern Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2LX. No objection: Resolved. • P2021/0088 - Converting integral garage into reception room with matching brick wall and window - 15 Llys Rhaeadr, Godre'r Graig SA9 2BG. No objection: Resolved. • P2021/0388 - Conversion of an integral garage into living space - 2 Ffordd Danygraig, Godre'r Graig SA9 2BH. No objection: Resolved. • P2021/0330 - Non-material amendment to condition 10 of planning approval no P2018/0136 to allow for windows 11, 14 and 16 to be fitted with restrictor hinges (Rather than top hinged with the lowest part of the opening a minimum of 1.7 metres above the floor level of that room) - Former Thomas & Sons Minerals LTD, Old Wern Road Ystalyfera SA9 2HP. No objection: Resolved. • P2013/0737 - GMF Motor Factors Ltd, Glanyrafon Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2EB - Proposed residential development comprising 68 units including means of access, landscaping and drainage (Amended description and additional plans and supporting documents received 7/4/21). **Objection**: Whilst the council acknowledged that affordable housing for local young people would be advantageous to the area, they decided that they would like to make a formal objection to this particular planning application due to the plots proximity to the landslip at Cyfyng Road, Ystalyfera. They stated that as the surrounding area is still unsafe, and the proposed plots would be directly underneath the landslip, this entire area could be unsafe for development. The current canal towpath which is directly	Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC.

	behind the proposed plots is still closed due to the landslip as it is deemed unsafe for public access. It was also stated that the ground under the proposed development could be unstable as it was mentioned that the last Geo environmental report was carried out in April 2007. Much has happened geologically speaking in this area in the last 14 years, including the landslip above the proposed plots. The reports are extremely outdated, and Members felt that investigations needed to be redone. The community council felt that at this time, building new homes on this land would be unsafe. They also had concerns regarding the flooding possibilities in this area due to the Farteg being flooded on numerous occasions since the building of the ASDA store. They were concerned as to how building these houses could potentially negatively affect the flooding problem in the nearby area. Infrastructure was also discussed. Members felt that the roads in the area would be unable to cope with an additional 68 homes, with potentially between 68 – 136 extra cars on the road. Due to these concerns, council objected to this planning application.	
4503.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that the hall reopened this week in accordance with Welsh Government Guidelines. It was decided that 15 adults will be allowed in the hall for the interim. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that she is awaiting further quotes for the roof. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that she is currently completing a Minor Projects Grant Application form from NPTCBC. She is hopeful that council could get up to £20,000 towards the new roof. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that the Painting has now been completed by Tai Tarian and the hall looks great. It was suggested that a post be put on Facebook thanking Tai Tarian for all of their help and support. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with roofers. Clerk to complete form. Clerk to post on Facebook.
4504.	**Correspondence** • W. Rees, Trustees of Carreg Yr Afon Park. Phone call stating that the trustees are hoping to offer allotments in Carreg Yr Afon Park. Council are happy to support this and Clerk offered to help with any funding application forms. It was suggested that a site meeting be arranged with members and trustees. Resolved noted. • C. Hyde, Cooke & Arkwright – Alltygrug Park. Resolved noted. • R. Howells – Japanese Knotweed at Alltygrug Park. Resolved noted. • I. Babic – Knotweed and anti-social behaviour at Alltygrug Park. Resolved noted.	Clerk to arrange meeting.
	The next meeting of council will take place via MS Teams on 17th June 2021 at 7:00pm.	