CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held online via MS Teams on

16th September 2021

Present

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

Apologies

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

		ACTION
4523.	**Welcome and late Apologies** Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies. Resolved.	
4524.	**Minutes of previous meeting: All agreed- Resolved.** • Following on from minute 4522, Correspondence, Cllr A. Jenkins reported that the wall under the tennis courts is being taken down. The roots of the overgrowth will be removed, and the wall will be rebuilt due to the safety concerns raised. The bowling club are very pleased with this and thanked Cllr A. Llewelyn for sorting it out with NPTCBC. Resolved.	
4525.	**Covid-19 Situation & Foodbank Update** • Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that new Covid regulations for Wales will be presented by the First Minister tomorrow. He will circulate the figures for NPTCBC to members via email. Resolved noted. • **Foodbank:** Cllr C. James reported that the foodbank provided 71 parcels of food during August 2021 which fed 164 people. This figure was twice as much as August 2020. She stated that once the Universal Credit top-up payments end in October, it is expected that the foodbank could become even busier. Cllr C. James stated that the blue token scheme for the foodbank is progressing well in the Tesco stores (Pontardawe, Glynneath and Ystradgynlais). Currently the foodbank is in second place at Ystradgynlais store. She reported that the foodbank has received £3,000 funding from Powys County Council which was funding provided by Welsh Government. Due to the location of the foodbank, and as it serves Powys and NPTCBC residents, the foodbank will be able to apply for the same grant from NPTCBC, so there is a possibility of another £3,000 funding. Members were pleased with this. Chair thanked Cllr C. James for her report. Resolved noted.	Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when more information becomes available.

4526.	**Planters** • Chair stated that the Summer plants are now starting to wilt due to the time of year. Members commented on how nice they had looked during the Summer and the good feedback received from local residents. Chair suggested Winter planting for the planters and troughs. He stated that he had costed this, and it would be less than £100 for 400 plants (Primroses and Winter Pansies). All agreed that Winter planting should be carried out. Resolved noted. • Chair reported that Lee (Quids In) planted the troughs on the A4067 for free. Members were very thankful for this. Resolved noted. • It was stated that residents of the Farteg had asked if planters could be placed at the bottom of Ystalyfera. It was suggested that some small planters be purchased and that some of the troughs from Commercial Street be moved down to the Farteg / Ynysydarren Road. All agreed that this was a good idea. Resolved noted.	Chair to order plants. Facilities Officer to plant. Clerk to arrange trough removal and re-positioning.
4527.	**Project Group** **Gleision 10th Anniversary Memorial Event Review** • Chair reported that the event had gone very well. Everyone was happy with the way the proceedings were conducted. Chair stated that the bench had been a nice gesture from both Community Councils, Cilybebyll and Ystalyfera. Chair thanked Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies for speaking with the media. Cllr A. Llewelyn thanked the Chair for leading the proceedings. It was stated that the Cwmtawe band were outstanding, and the music was very moving. It was suggested that a donation of £50 be sent to the band. All agreed - Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies stated that the sign for the Gleision memorial has been order by NPTCBC and will be installed on the A4067 as soon as possible. Cllr E.W. Williams thanked Cllr R. Davies for sorting this. Resolved noted. **NPTCBC Members Community Fund** • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that the Members Community Fund is now open. There is £10,000 available for each County Borough Councillor. He stated that Penyrallt Park is a well-used facility and perhaps some refurbishment, or additional equipment could be installed. Resolved that this matter be discussed further in the next meeting of the Project Group. • Cllr R. Davies would like to add a timber adventure trail to Carreg Yr Afon Park (similar to the one in Alltygrug Park). Members agreed that this was a good idea. Cllr R. Davies will contact the trustees of the park to arrange an on-site meeting to see where the trail could be placed. Resolved noted.	Clerk to send donation to band. Cllr R. Davies to arrange meeting.

	Public Footpaths • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he had put in a speculative bid for funding and support with the Ramblers Association to help with upgrading Public Footpaths in the area. He stated that the application had progressed to stage 2 of the process. Members were pleased with this. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that there was already lots of interest from potential volunteers on Facebook. He stated that a group would need to be set up to handle the funding if the application was successful. It was stated that our local footpaths link with many other communities in the area, including Cwmllynfell, Cwmtwrch, Cilybebyll, Pontardawe etc. Cllr R. Davies stated that since lockdown, more people are using the Public Footpaths. All agreed that the Community Council support this project - Resolved noted. **Overgrowth at the Ffynnon** • Cllr R. Davies reported that she had received an email from Cllr B. Hastie stating that the Ffynnon was overgrown. All agreed that Clerk contact Mark Bentley to cut back the overgrowth - Resolved noted. **Screwfix Community Fund** • Cllr E.W. Williams stated that he had come across a fund from Screwfix that could be accessed to carry out some refurbishment works at the Community Hall. 14th December is the closing date for applications. Clerk to check whether the Community Council would be eligible. If not, then perhaps the Hall Management Committee would be eligible. Resolved noted. **Project Group Meeting –** It was decided that the next meeting of the Project Group will be held via Zoom on 30th September 2021. Resolved.	Cllr A. Llewelyn to keep Members informed of developments. Clerk to contact M. Bentley. Clerk to check terms. Cllr E.W. Williams to invite G. George to PG Meeting.
4528.	**Christmas 2021** • Clerk reported that she has already arranged the Christmas lights as usual with Centregreat. Cllr E.W. Williams requested that the bulbs be checked before they are installed as some of them were not working last Christmas. Clerk will send lighting plan to NPTCBC. Resolved noted. • Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested that Clerk contact City & County Swansea asap to check if the land train will be available this year for the Santa Tour. If not, Ian Davies Plant could be an alternative. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Llewelyn stated that she thought it would be too much of a risk in the current pandemic to hold a Christmas party at the Community Hall. All agreed that there be no party this year due to Covid-19. Resolved. • It was suggested that selection boxes be sent to the 2 local primary schools as usual and that any children who have siblings of pre-school age, be given extra boxes to take home. Resolved. • It was stated that Jerusalem Chapel is now closed. An alternative could be to put this year's tree outside the Surgery, or near Nesta's old shop	Clerk to liaise with Centregreat and NPTCBC. Clerk to email CC Swansea. Clerk to check with Surgery.

	instead. The tree could have battery lights so that no electricity supply would be needed. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies stated that access to Godre'r Graig School may not be available this year. It was suggested that a tree could be put on the Sgwâr, next to the bench instead. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies stated that more lights are needed on the tree in Cilmaengwyn this year as the tree has grown so much. Clerk will speak to Centregreat about this. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Centregreat.
4529.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that she has received an email from the external auditors requesting further explanation of variances. She will send them to audit Wales this coming week. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that she will arrange a Finance Committee meeting next month. Resolved noted. **Accounts:** Resolved. **Ref: Type: Payee: Amount: £** 100 DD NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) £273.00 101 DD Survey Monkey £44.17 102 BACS M. Battenbough (MD Plumbing - Com. Hall) £60.00 103 BACS E-ON (Gas Community Hall) £56.92 104 BACS SSE Swalec (Community Hall) £156.95 105 BACS SSE Swalec (Godre'r Graig MUGA) £154.26 106 BACS SSE Swalec (Ystalyfera MUGA) £151.44 107-9 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses £2,324.92 110 BACS HMRC Tax & NI £344.97 111 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions £465.87 112 BACS BT Broadband (Community Hall) £56.70 113 BACS Cllr G. Williams (Plants Reimbursement) £62.91 Resolved.	Clerk to send documents. Clerk to arrange meeting. Clerk to make BACS payments.
4530.	**Planning** Cllrs A. Llewelyn and R. Davies declared an interest and left the meeting. Resolved. • P2021/0881 - Conversion of part of basement of property and outbuilding to 2 no. flats - 60 Commercial Street Ystalyfera SA9 2HS. No objection: Resolved. • P2021/0804 - Proposed Rear Canopy, the works for which include replacing a ground floor window and door with a set of Bi folding doors - 5 Graig Y Fforest, Godre'r Graig SA9 2DP. No objection: Resolved.	Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC.
4531.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that she has obtained a further quote for the hall roof from Alpha Roofing, Glynneath for £14,300.00. Quotes now received: a. Alpha Roofing: £14,300.00 – Rubber Roof b. T & M Building Contractors Ltd: £23,00.00 – Rubber Roof c. Andrew: £20,000.00 – Rubber Roof or £15,500 - Fibreglass Roof All agreed that Alpha Roofing be contracted to carry out the works. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Alpha Roofing.

	• Clerk reported that she, the Facilities Officer and the Chair had moved the piano into the kitchen for now to create more room in the hallway. It was a difficult job as the castors underneath are seized up. Chair suggested that next financial year, perhaps Coach House Pianos could take a look at the piano and cost repairs as it is a lovely piano and still worth refurbishing. All agreed that this be considered in the next meeting of the Finance Committee. Resolved noted.	
4532.	**Correspondence** • Carwyn Evans – request to re-start the Multi-sport group at Ystalyfera MUGA. All agreed that the group re-start as long as Covid guidelines are followed. Resolved noted. It was suggested that Ynysmeudwy MUGA could also be used for a similar group. Resolved noted. • Cllr E.W. Williams – email with links to Screwfix Foundation. Resolved noted. • Audit Wales – further information request. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with C. Evans.
	The next meeting of council will take place via Zoom on 21st October 2021 at 7:00pm.	