CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held online via Zoom on

21st April 2022

Present

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

Apologies

Name	Reason
Cllr. Brian Hastie	Working

		ACTION
4589.	**Welcome, Declarations of Interest and late Apologies** Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Cllr R. Davies declared an interest in item 6 Planning, due to her involvement with the NPTCBC Planning Committee. No late apologies. Resolved.	
4590.	**Minutes of previous meeting: All agreed- Resolved.** • Following on from minute 4584 Project Group, Clerk reported that a boy had been cut by a piece of metal at the MUGA. Chair and Cllr A. Llewelyn met with Andrew Jenkins at the MUGA to see what works needed to be done. All agreed that Andrew carry out repair works and cut back overgrowth. Resolved noted. • Following on from minute 4584 Project Group, Clerk reported that Nadine Prothero is finishing as caretaker of Penyrallt Park but her sister is willing to take over. All agreed - Resolved noted. • Following on from minute 4584 Project Group, Clerk reported that the trees earmarked for Alltygrug Park have now been planted elsewhere. Clerk liaised with Steve Todd who stated that he would be happy to look at a tree planting project with the council for the Autumn. Resolved noted. • Following on from minute 4588 Correspondence, Cllr R. Davies suggested that wildflowers could also be planted at the entrance to Cilmaengwyn. Cllr E.W. Williams also suggested some could be planted at the bottom of Gnoll Road. All agreed – Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to email Z. Richards.
4591.	**Foodbank Update** • Cllr C. James reported that the foodbank has recently gotten busier. April to date has been as busy as the whole of March, which means that need for the service is ever increasing. Chair stated that people are already finding the cost of living rises difficult and that is before the energy cost increases. Resolved noted. • Cllr C. James reported that the foodbank has sufficient funds for the time being due to grants received. She will look at other sources of funding shortly. Resolved noted. • Cllr J. Jones asked if the takings of the charity shop go towards the foodbank. Cllr C. James stated that all of the money made by the charity shop goes back into the foodbank. Resolved noted.	Cllrs to keep everyone updated as and when more information becomes available.

	• Cllr C. James reported that the foodbank is looking to open a Community Café in the chapel. This will provide a service to the community as well as raising funds for the foodbank. This will be set up as a separate arm of the organisation. Members thought this was a good idea. Resolved noted. • Chair thanked Cllr C. James for her report. Resolved noted.	
4592.	• Cllr E.W. Williams reported that unfortunately, one of the planters on Gurnos Road has gone missing and another has been knocked over. He stated that he and Chair have returned it to its upright position, but it will need replanting. Cllr A. Jenkins stated that she had gone for a walk a couple of weeks ago and noticed that one planter had been completely smashed, as if a car had run over it. She suggested that it may have been removed by NPTCBC as it could have been a hazard on the pavement. Cllr J. Jones suggested that larger planters be placed on Gurnos Road as they would be more easily seen by drivers and more solid. Chair suggested that this project be looked at again in the next council term in May. Resolved noted. • It was suggested that the two small planters left from Gurnos Road be moved down to the Farteg. Cllr A. Jenkins stated that the only problem with putting planters at the Farteg is that cars tend to park on the pavements. This is particularly bad when a home rugby match is on in the RFC. All agreed that repositioning the two small planters be discussed in the next council meeting. Resolved noted. • Chair stated that the small daffodils in the planters have now died off. These will need cutting back and more flowers will be needed to fill the planters for the summer. All agreed that new plants be purchased. Resolved. • Chair suggested that in the new council term, Members could take charge of watering one planter each throughout the area. Facilities Officer happy to water the hanging baskets. Doing all of the planters as well as the baskets is very time consuming. If a Member can be allocated a planter to look after then this would reduce the cost of watering for the council. All agreed that this matter be considered in the next meeting of council. Resolved noted.	Chair to liaise with Lee re: cost of 2 large planters. Clerk to purchase plants.
4593.	**Project Group** **Parks Projects** • Clerk reported that Parc y Gnoll project has been completed. Cllr R. Davies stated that it looks excellent, and she has put photos on Facebook. The fences have now been taken down but need to be collected. Clerk will complete report for NPTCBC Play Team and thank them for the funding. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies had reported to Clerk that one of the diggers had unfortunately caught the corner of 32 Gnoll Road and damaged the roof. Clerk has reported this to Sutcliffe. The contractors will contact the residents to sort this matter out. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that the projects at Carreg yr Afon Park and Penyrallt Park will be started w/c 2nd May 2022. Members were pleased with this news. Resolved noted.	Clerk to complete report.

	SPAR Heritage Funding • Cllr E.W. Williams stated that he had noticed that Spar Supermarkets currently have a fund open for heritage projects. He thought it would be a good idea to apply in order to have funds to start the project. The closing date for applications is 2nd May. Clerk will meet with Cllr E.W. Williams over the coming week to complete a speculative application. Members were pleased with this. Resolved noted. **Proposed Allotments Project** • Clerk had forwarded email from Aled Jenkins to Members. It was agreed that Mr Jenkins may have misinterpreted some of the legal implications associated with finding land for allotments. However, council are still supportive of this project and will look at this in the new council term. Resolved noted. **Outdoor Gym** • Cllr R. Davies asked whether or not there had been any progress obtaining a lease for the outdoor gym at the entrance to Godre'r Graig Country Park. Clerk stated that she had contacted M. Goatson recently but had no response. She will chase up this matter again. Resolved. **Defibrillator Project** • Clerk reported that the two phone kiosks in Ystalyfera are now the property of the community council. Defibrillators can now be ordered for the kiosks. Clerk obtained advice from David Thomas (Leon Heart Foundation) and Phil Hill (National CPR & Defibrillator Manager). Phil stated that there is a possibility of getting the defibrillators free of charge but heated cabinets would need to be purchased by the council. He explained that the locked cabinets would have a combination lock on them which would be given out by the 999 call handlers in the event of an emergency. This would negate the possibility of someone using the defibrillators in a non-emergency and would also discourage vandalism. Clerk will liaise further with Phil Hill and David Thomas on this matter. Members thanked the Clerk for her work on this project and for finding out further information. Resolved that this matter be further discussed and actioned in the new council term. • Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that Noir James, Ystalyfera RFC had contacted him in relation to the defibrillator outside Ystalyfera RFC. He reported that someone had tried to use the defibrillator in an emergency but stated that there were no pads in the cabinet. After inspecting the cabinet, N. James found that the pads were in fact in a pack inside the cabinet. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that David Thomas had advised that people can adopt a defibrillator i.e. look after it, check it and order replacements batteries, pads etc. All agreed that this be looked at in the new council term as some of the new Members of council may wish to do this. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Cllr E.W. Williams. Clerk to email A. Jenkins. Clerk to liaise with M. Goatson & D. Phillips. Clerk to liaise with D. Thomas and P. Hill.

	• Cllr R. Davies asked if council could inform people of the placement of the defibrillators in the area. Clerk explained that Welsh Hearts have a list of defibrillators and can inform emergency services of their locations and the codes to the cabinets. Information could also be added to the council website. Resolved noted. **Next Council Term** • Cllr E.W. Williams thanked Members for their support with the projects carried out over the last 5 years. Cllr R. Davies thanked Cllr E.W. Williams for all of his hard work as Chair to the Project Group for the last 2 years and for implementing the projects. Cllr E.W. Williams stated that he would be happy to carry on his role as Chair of the Project Group if nominated in the AGM. He will unfortunately be absent for the AGM as he is working. His apologies will be noted. Resolved noted.	Clerk to place defibrillator info on website.
4594.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that she is preparing the accounts for internal audit. She hopes to get everything over to the internal auditors next week. Resolved noted. **Accounts:** Resolved. **Ref: Type: Payee: Amount: £** 001 DD NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) £271.50 002 BACS Tai Tarian £100.00 003 BACS LA Alarms £87.60 004 BACS E-ON Gas £219.70 005 BACS BT Payphone (Com. Hall) £133.32 006 DD Survey Monkey £44.17 007-9 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses £2,170.54 010 BACS HMRC Tax & NI £367.48 011 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions £473.56 012 BACS BT Broadband £57.35 013 DD Vodafone £38.28	Clerk to complete accounts and compile files for audit. Clerk to make BACS payments.
4595.	**Planning** Cllr R. Davies left the meeting due to declaration of interest. Cllr A Llewelyn left the meeting to avoid predetermination issues. Resolved. • P2021/0881 - Partial demolition & re-build with new roof to facilitate 2no. 1 bedroom residential units and associated parking - 60 Commercial Street, Ystalyfera SA9 2HS – no objection – Resolved. • P2022/0266 - Discharge condition 3 (archaeological survey) of planning application P2021/1054 approved 28/01/2022 - Cilmaengwyn Uchaf Farm, Maen Gwyn, Cilmaengwyn, SA8 4TX – no objection – Resolved. • P2022/0285 - Application to reduce height of hedge under the High Hedges Legislation (Part 8 of the Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003) - 102 Graig Road, Godre'r Graig SA9 2NX – council decided to refrain from commenting on this matter as it is a matter between neighbours – Resolved. • P2022/0239 - Two storey detached dwelling with attic room together with detached garage and parking provision for donor property (No. 42 Gnoll Road) - 42 Gnoll Road, Godre'r Graig, SA9 2PA – no objection – Resolved.	Clerk to send responses to NPTCBC.

4596.	**Community Hall** • Clerk asked whether any Members had noticed if the potholes at the Community Hall Car Park had been filled by Swansea Valley Tarmacadam. Cllr R. Davies stated that they had not been filled on 5th April when she was last there. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he thought they had been filled. He stated he will call down to the hall to have a look if the works have been completed. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that the signage should be ready in the next couple of weeks. Facilities Officer will collect and fit the signage as soon as it is ready. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Llewelyn stated that it may be a good idea, in order to avoid parking in the hall car park by school pupils, to suggest to the school pupils that they could park in ASDA or Tesco and walk to school from there as there is unlimited parking available. Cllr J. Jones stated that this is also true of Home Bargains Car Park. Resolved that Clerk contact school with suggestion. • Members reported that the hall is looking good and clean. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he had received lots of positive comments about the new floor in the hall. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that she spoke to Andrew and he will cut back the trees outside the hall over the next couple of weeks. Resolved noted. • Cllr R. Davies stated that she had noticed that the stench pipe was loose outside the kitchen. The clips may have broken. Clerk will ask Andrew to have a look at this whilst he is at the hall. Resolved noted.	Cllr A. Llewelyn to check. F.O. to install signage. Clerk to liaise with school. Clerk to ask Andrew to look at pipe.
4597.	**Correspondence** • S. James, NPTCBC. Knotweed treatment quote received for Prospect Place, Ystalyfera and Carreg yr Afon Park, Godre'r Graig. £150.19 total cost. All agreed that this was an excellent quote and that NPTCBC be instructed to go ahead with the works. Resolved noted. • Cllr A. Llewelyn, City Nature Challenge Guided Walk. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that the walk, arranged by the Ramblers, will take place on 29th April 2022 at 11am from Ystradgynlais Volunteer Centre. The walk will be suitable for many abilities and will go up towards Diamond Park. He suggested that anyone interested in attending the walk should download the iNaturist app as the Rambers have asked that wildlife be recorded along the walk. Cllr A. Llewelyn also stated that the Ramblers have offered a Community Toolkit containing loppers, cutters etc to help with works on footpaths. He asked if this could be stored in the storeroom of the Community Hall. Clerk stated that she will make room for the items. Resolved noted. • A. Handford – Caretaker of Alltygrug Park. Clerk read out email to Members. Lots of dogs being seen within the park and there is lots of dog mess in the park. Dog mess signage has been removed. Cllr R. Davies suggested that if people know the names of the people leaving dog mess within the park, the names can be reported to NPTCBC and the	Clerk to respond to S. James. Clerk to order signage.

	perpetrators will be contacted. All agreed that replacement signage be ordered. Resolved. • J. & S. Davies, Complaint re: school MUGA. Clerk read out email to Members. Cllr A. Llewelyn stated that he was unaware of an application at the time the matter was first raised. The application came through after the initial email from J. & S. Davies and this was for a fence as it was higher than allowed under permitted development. All other aspects of the MUGA was built under permitted development. Members stated that although they empathise with J. & S. Davies' situation, particularly the matter of their easement being blocked, the Community Council has very little power with regards to planning matters. Members went on to state that they would not object to improved school playing facilities on areas that were already school playing fields as they are important to the children's health and wellbeing as well as their physical education. It was suggested that signage be placed on the lane to state that no vehicles should be parked on the lane. Vehicles must park within school grounds or on the main road. Resolved noted. • Clerk stated that she had received a text from an unknown caller asking for a financial contribution towards a Queens Jubilee Party for Gough Road, Ystalyfera. Clerk replied to the person and stated that any requests would need to be done by email, with details of the organisation etc. No email received. Members stated that they could not hand out funds to members of the public for street parties unless they were organised by a registered community group. Resolved. • Emma Field, Pryor & Rickett Silviculture. Email received asking if council would like more information on creating woodlands in our area. Members stated that as council is already dealing with the Woodlands Trust on tree planting that there would be no need of information from another company. Resolved. • Cllr A. Llewelyn, request that the next meeting of council and AGM be held in the Community Hall. Clerk asked Members how they felt about this. Chair stated that it would be prudent to adhere to social distancing if this was to happen as many council Members are vulnerable, either due to age or pre-existing health issues. Cllr E.W. Williams suggested that face masks could be worn. Cllr R. Davies stated that it is more difficult to hear people when speaking through a face mask. Cllr A. Jenkins suggested that every other meeting could be held in the hall on a social distanced basis. All agreed that this be trialled with the AGM and next meeting of council being held in the hall, the June meeting to be held online and the July meeting to be held in the hall. Clerk reminded any member that may not feel well before the meeting not to attend. Clerk also stated that if she was ill with Covid-19, then the meeting would have to be online as she would not want to spread the illness amongst members. Resolved.	Clerk to respond. Clerk to respond.

	Chair thanked all for attending the meeting. The next meeting of council and AGM will take place on a Social Distanced basis on 19th May 2022 at 7:00pm in the Community Hall, Ystalyfera.	