CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting
held via Zoom on 19th January 2023 at 7:00pm

Present

Cllr. Rhian Llewelyn (Chair)
Cllrs. Alun Llewelyn, Cathy James, Ann Jenkins, Ann Lewis, Hayley Morgan, Julie Jones, Rosalyn Davies, Terry Flynn, Geraint Williams, Rachel Vale, Dan Davey

Apologies

Name	Reason
Cllr. Simon Prothero	Working
Cllr. Emyr Wyn Williams	Working
Cllr. Steve Thomas	Working

		ACTION
4673.	**Welcome, Declarations of Interest and late Apologies** Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No late apologies. Declarations of interest: Item 6, Cllrs. C. James & R. Davies as Members of NPTCBC Planning Committee. Cllr A. Llewelyn also declared an interest in item 6 as Member of NPTCBC to avoid pre-determination issues. Cllr A. Jenkins declared and interest in item 8 due to her involvement with Ystalyfera Bowls Club. Resolved.	
4674.	**Minutes of previous meeting & matters arising:** All agreed that the minutes were a correct record - **Resolved.** • Following on from minute 4665 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that she and Cllr A. Llewelyn have been trying to arrange a suitable date for a PACT meeting with Claire Rodgers, but dates currently clash. Clerk will liaise to arrange a meeting ASAP. Resolved noted. • Following on from minute 4665 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that she has emailed R. Revera, NPTCBC Biodiversity and is awaiting her availability to meet with council. Resolved noted. • Following on from minute 4665 Matters Arising, Clerk reported that she will liaise with Cllr T. Flynn to arrange a meeting with the Trustees of Carreg yr Afon Park in the next couple of weeks. Resolved noted. • Following on from minute 4668 Finance, Budget & Precept, Clerk reported that precept has been accepted and approved by NPTCBC for financial year 2023-24. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Claire Rodgers and biodiversity team. Clerk to arrange site meeting.
4675.	**Foodbank Update** • Cllr C. James reported that the foodbank delivered 60 Christmas hampers. She stated that this was thanks to the generosity of the local residents and businesses. Cllr C. James went on to say that there has been no lull after Christmas this year (January is usually a bit quieter) which is concerning. She reported that Powys County Council have awarded a grant that will fund the foodbank until the end of this financial year. Members were pleased with this news. Resolved noted. • Chair thanked Cllr C. James for her report. Resolved noted.	Cllr C. James to provide updates.

4676.	**Project Group** **Review of Christmas 2022** • Clerk reported that it had been difficult to get Centregreat to come out to sort the tree lights and that new lights were not provided for the Ystalyfera RFC tree after this had been promised. Cllr R. Davies stated that the tree in Cilmaengwyn should also have had additional lights as of Christmas 2021, but this is yet to happen. It was suggested that Centregreat be asked for a discount due to their failings. Cllr A. Lewis suggested asking a representative from Centregreat to attend a Project Group meeting so that the matters of concern could be discussed. Resolved noted. • Chair suggested that giving ownership of the Ystalyfera RFC tree lights to the rugby club may be a good idea. They could organise new lights and installation and council could pay for this as long as the cost is not extortionate. It was reported that some negative comments had been made towards the Community Council regarding this tree, even though council was not to blame. Therefore passing on the responsibility of this tree to the rugby club may be a good idea. Resolved noted. • Cllr J. Jones reported that she has removed the Christmas flags from Ystalyfera and washed them ready for next year. It was very positive that none were stolen this year. Members were pleased with this. Chair thanked Cllr J. Jones for doing this. Resolved noted. • Cllr A. Llewelyn reported that the Santa Tour had gone very well. Timings were much better this time and there was an excellent turnout. Cllr A. Llewleyn stated that it was important to order trees for next Christmas rather than relying on hand outs. Members agreed. He also asked if the old trees could be removed ASAP before they start rotting. Resolved noted. • Clerk asked what had happened to the lights given to Junction Café. Cllr R. Vale reported that she had gone down and put the lights around one of the trees. She stated that Junction Café owners did not have batteries for the lights, but Clerk explained that they had told her when she dropped off the lights that they would sort out batteries for the lights. Cllr R. Vale stated that an additional set of lights will be needed for next Christmas as the ones provided by council only covered one tree. Resolved noted. • It was agreed that the next meeting of the Project Group be held on Monday 30th January at 6pm to discuss tenders and 6:30pm for all other matters. Resolved noted.	Clerk to liaise with Centregreat. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise with Andrew. Clerk to order lights for next Christmas. Clerk to arrange link.
4677.	**Finance** • Clerk stated that her wage increment is due to be considered every January. All agreed that Clerk be awarded incremental rise from SCP 29 to SCP 30 Resolved. • Clerk reported that the first Online VAT Return is due in on 7th February 2023. The software should be able to work out everything and she will have to submit the information. Resolved noted.	Clerk to complete online VAT return.

	Accounts: Resolved. **Ref: Type: Payee: Amount: £** 157 DD NPTCBC (Hall Council Tax) £273.00 158 DD Survey Monkey £44.17 159-61 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses £2,382.73 162 BACS HMRC Tax & NI £427.17 163 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions £535.89 164 BACS BT Broadband £66.35 165 BACS BT Payphone £133.32 166 BACS E-ON Gas £358.33 167 BACS Member Remuneration £150.00 168 BACS Glantawe Landscapes Ltd - Xmas float and trees £1,750.00 170 DD iD Mobile £33.99	Clerk to make BACS payments.
4678.	**Planning** Resolved that there were no objections to the following Planning Application: P2022/0952 – 3 Storey rear extension – 17 Wern Road, Ystalyfera SA9 2LX	Clerk to email NPTCBC with decisions.
4679.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that KDY have completed the new lighting installation. Keith will send certificate for new lighting and invoice shortly. Resolved. • Clerk reported that K. Williams has started the Korean Karate club at the hall and the first week went very well. He is very happy with the facilities. Members were pleased with this news. Resolved noted. • Clerk reported that she had received an email and spoken to Erika Lye. She visited the hall last week and would like to start a new project with the hall as the base for the project. Clerk read email to Members explaining the project is working with disabled children and young people. This will be set up as a charity. They would like to create a vegetable garden in the grounds of the hall as well as run the library and add to this as a lending library (equipment for disabled people to try out etc). Members thought this project was a fabulous idea and supported it wholeheartedly. Clerk asked Members what they thought about keeping the library in the front room of the hall, as this had previously been earmarked for a meeting room. Members agreed that keeping the library open would be the ideal scenario, and if the young people would be happy to run it then council would support this. Clerk explained that this would mean that in-person council meetings could not be held at the hall in future. Cllr H. Morgan suggested that the benefit to the community of this type of project would far outweigh the needs of the council and should go ahead. Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested that Clerk contact W. John, NPTCBC Libraries to discuss further. Cllr R. Davies stated that council meetings could alternatively be held at Ystalyfera Development Trust instead. Members thought this was a good idea. Resolved noted. Members were happy to approve a vegetable garden in the grounds of the Community Hall but wanted to make sure that if the group was to disband or the charity to cease, that the grounds would be put back to their original state and not left in a mess. Resolved noted. Members stated that they would back this project with a start-up grant of £250 rather than giving a discount on hall hire. Resolved. Members were very	Clerk to pay KDY. Clerk to liaise with Erika.

	pleased with this project and wished Erika and her team all the best. Resolved noted.	
4680.	**Correspondence** • Ystalyfera Bowls Club – request for sponsorship of their centenary celebrations. Members agreed that a club reaching a centenary year was an excellent achievement. All agreed to sponsor the celebrations to the sum of £500.00. Resolved noted. • Ystalyfera RFC – email of thanks for grant. Resolved. • C. Rodgers – PACT meeting plans. Clerk will liaise. Resolved noted. • R. Atherton – email to state that the National Lottery Community Fund funding is now again accessible. Members were pleased with this news. Resolved noted. • Z. Richards, Ramblers Cymru – Paths to Wellbeing accessible ramble and request for wildlife boxes at the Community Hall. It was suggested that Clerk contact Zoe to find out more about the wildlife boxes and what types of animals they attract. If they are likely to attract rats, then this would not be ideal at the Community Hall. If they attract bats for example, council would be happy to support this. Resolved noted. • MICNPT – email of thanks for grant. Resolved noted. • Wales Air Ambulance – email of thanks for grant. Resolved noted. • A. Hinder, NPTCBC – acceptance of Precept requirements. Resolved noted. • Swansea Valley Schools Consultation, NPTCBC – (Cllrs A. Llewelyn, R. Davies and C. James declared an interest in this matter and declined to comment due to their involvement with NPTCBC as County Councillors). Clerk reported that the public consultation closes next week. The majority of the council agreed to object to the plans. It was suggested that the Clerk send out a copy of the previous objection letter to Members and they can suggest amendments before submitting. Resolved noted. • S. Williams MS – letter re: Ystalyfera MUGA. All agreed that the overgrowth be cleared ASAP. Resolved noted.	Clerk to make payment. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to email. Clerk to send email with objections. Clerk to respond.
	The meeting ended at 8:15pm. Chair thanked all for attending the meeting. The next meeting of council will take place on 16th February 2023 at 7:00pm via Zoom.	