CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at the YDT and online via Zoom on 14th March 2024 at 7:00pm

Present

Cllr. G Williams (Chair) Cllrs. R Davies, C James, J Jones, A Lewis, D Davey, Rhian Llewellyn, Rachel Townsend, A Llewelyn (online) A Jenkins (online), S Thomas (online)

Apologies

Name	**Reason**
Cllr E W Williams	Working
Cllr. T Flynn	Personal
Cllr H Morgan	Working
Cllr S Prothero	Working

		ACTION
4802.	**Welcome, Declarations of Interest and late Apologies:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting (and online) and started the meeting at 7.00 pm. No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.	
4803.	**Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising:** Amendments to the draft minutes for the meeting held on 8th February 2024: • Incorrect date – minutes should read 8th February 2024 • Minute 4799 – Councillors name should read R Llewellyn • Minute 4801 – the wording "sit on the Planning Committee" be omitted. With the following amendments it was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2024 were a correct record – **RESOLVED** **Matters Arising:** • Further to Minute 4800 Correspondence – Cllr A Llewellyn responded to Mr M Pugh's email regarding the proposal for 160 homes within Ystalyfera. The email was shared with all Councillors. Mr Pugh showed an interest to attend the meeting it was being discussed at but had not seen any agenda posted. Cllr A Llewellyn contacted the interim Clerk to invite Mr Pugh to this evening's meeting. Councillors requested that the Monthly Agenda be published and displayed at the following locations for Public Notice – Council Website and Facebook page. Printed copy at the Post Office, Community Hall, YDT and Library. **RESOLVED** • Further to Minute 4801 Godre'r Graig School Building – As requested at the last meeting Cllr T Flynn emailed NPTCBC for an update on the planned demolition of the school building. A reply was received and the email was shared with the Meeting reassuring the Community Council that the Engineering Team managing the project will send a programme of proposed work to the Council thus enabling it to be cascaded to the Community. Cllr A Llewellyn informed the meeting that a letter has been received to the Clerks inbox, Clerk to forward the email to all Councillors. Letters to residents have also been hand delivered to those living near the school. **RESOLVED** Clerk will send out the letter to all Councillors.	Clerk Clerk

4804.	**Foodbank Update** • Cllr C James has shared the Ystalyfera Foodbank Activity Report 2022-23 with the Council. The report outlined the number of parcels delivered to households. Halfway through the year they have started to keep a record of the reasons the parcels are requested – main reasons being money issues, especially impacting those with ill health, disabilities, and delays in benefit payments. Councillors discussed the catchment area and from how wide a field people were visiting the foodbank. The recently opened outreach centre in Penrhos has made an impact on how many deliveries were now needed in the Ystradgynlais area, this was good news. Cllr C James informed the meeting that the project was financially good, with the help of Lottery Funding, however, there is a shortfall of volunteers, especially delivery drivers, but they have a small core of committed volunteers. **RESOLVED** The report was well received and a thank you given to Cllr C James and the volunteers.	
4805.	**New Regulations for Commercial Waste and Recycling Collections** • From April 6th 2024 the new Workplace Recycling Regulations places a statutory duty to all commercial, public, and charitable sector premises to separate items for recycling. The specified items and regulations apply to the Community Hall where the information has been posted from NPTCBC with advice and contact details if more information and guidance is required. Councillors discusses the current recycling done at the Community Centre, and proposed that notices are put into the kitchen to encourage users to recycle their waste correctly. **RESOLVED** Clerk to check with the caretaker that the information has been received and that sufficient recycling bins are available.	Clerk
4806.	**Project Group** **MUGA Lighting :** • Cllr S Thomas updated the meeting – Modification of the light posts has been needed for the new LED lights. The lighting comes with a 10-year guarantee. It was proposed that the Council purchase the lights and pay for the fitting to benefit fully from the warranty. All Councillors agreed this was a good idea**. RESOLVED** Cllr S Thomas to liaise with the Clerk to arrange for the purchase. **Heritage Walk** • Cllr G Williams relayed a message on behalf of Cllr E W Williams – he will be contacting the Councillors to arrange a meeting to progress with the project. **RESOLVED** noted	S Thomas Clerk
4807.	**Finance** **Accounts: RESOLVED** 218 PayPal Adobe Systems - Acrobat Pro £29.96 219 DD iD Mobile £38.54 220-22 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses £2,989.18 223 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions £816.46 224 BACS Westward Ltd - Gas works £68.40 225 BACS Westward Ltd - Gas works - boiler service £150.00 226 BACS Starboard Systems Limited - Scribe Accounts £676.80	Clerk to make BACS payments.

	227	BACS	Ystalyfera Development Trust Room Hire	£40.00	
	228	BACS	NPTCBC Knotweed Treatment 2023 season	£945.46	
	229	BACS	G. Roberts - Twmpath Band (Dwynwen/Burns)	£400.00	
	230	BACS	Glantawe Landscapes Ltd - Shrub Removal	£180.00	
	231	BACS	Centregreat Limited - Festive Illuminations	£7,460.40	
	232	BACS	L. Evans - Minutes (Clerk cover)	£167.22	
	233	BACS	BT Broadband	£66.25	
	234-39	BACS	Cllr Remuneration Payments	£936.00	
	240	DD	Survey Monkey	£44.17	
	241	DD	iD Mobile	£38.54	
4808.	**Planning** There were no planning applications for review at this meeting.				
4809.	**Community Hall** • A plumber was needed to deal with a blockage in the disabled toilets. RESOLVED and no further work was needed. • The library is set to open on 25th March 2024 in the Community Hall. Openings times will be 1.00 – 4.00 pm **RESOLVED** noted.				
4810.	**Correspondence** • Circulation to Town and Community Councils – Craig Griffiths - All-Wales Forum for Independent Chairs of Standards Committees, to encourage consistency of approach and the adoption of best practice across Wales. The Standards Committee Chair attended the second meeting and during this meeting and overview was given on the Town and Community Councils, Civility and Respect Pledge and a request that Councils sign up to the pledge – Councillors debated the information with views that there are procedures in place to monitor behaviour, such as standing orders, code of conduct training and the standards committee. **RESOLVED** Council agreed to sign the pledge and instructed the Clerk to complete the document. • Quote received from James Bayliss – Grass Cutting and Planters – Cllr S Thomas had met with the company representative to discuss the need for a regular and consistent schedule for grass cutting and planter maintenance. The quote is within the Council Budget set for grass cutting and planters. Clerk had previously supplied a spreadsheet with a list of areas to cut and planters to maintain. Cllr R Llewellyn stressed the urgency on the Council to decide on who will be maintaining the grass and planters due to imminent growing season. The Council requested to know if this was the only quote received. Interim Clerk relayed a message from the Clerk requesting a list of tenders so that the contract can be quoted for. The Council decided the following along with the existing quote from James Bayliss: Planters – Old School Nursery and Glantawe Landscapes. Grass Cutting – Countrywide and Wrenvale. **RESOLVED** Clerk to send the tenders to the agreed companies with a 2-week deadline. Councillors agreed in principle to accept the quote from				Clerk

	James Bayliss if no other quotes were received in the required time due to the urgent nature of the work needed and the time of year. **RESOLVED** Cllr S Thomas has agreed to monitor the company who wins the tender for grass cutting and planters, for consistency and quality. He will also ensure the planters have been cleared and replanted as required. It was noted that residents had already commented on the overgrown grass in the parks. **RESOLVED** When the contract is awarded the grass should be prioritised. It was noted that the Christmas Tree at the Chapel needs to be taken away. **RESOLVED** noted.	Cllr S Thomas
	The meeting ended at 8.40 pm. Chair thanked all for attending the meeting. Next Meeting will be held on 18th April 2024.	