CYNGOR CYMUNED YSTALYFERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held at Ystalyfera Development Trust and online via Zoom on

17th October 2024 at 7:00pm

Present

Cllr. Geraint Williams (Chair) Cllrs. Rosalyn Davies, Julie Jones, Rhian Llewelyn, Hayley Morgan, Ann Lewis, Kim Hopkins, Rachel Townsend (online), Alun Llewelyn (online), Dan Davey (late arrival)

Apologies

Name	Reason
Cllr. Simon Prothero	LOA
Cllr. Cathy James	Working
Cllr. Emyr Wyn Williams	Working
Cllr. Ann Jenkins	Personal
Cllr. Steve Thomas	Working

		ACTION
4865.	**Welcome, Declarations of Interest and late Apologies:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and started the meeting at 7.00pm. He welcomed K Hopkins to Council. K Hopkins completed Acceptance of Office forms. Declarations of interest: Item 9 - Planning, Cllrs A Llewelyn and R Davies declared an interest as Members of NPTCBC to avoid pre-determination issues. **Resolved.**	
4866.	**Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising:** It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2024 were a correct record – **Resolved.** **Matters Arising:** • Further to Minute 4853 Ystalyfera Heritage Society – Cllr R Davies reported that the cabinets have now been moved into YDT foyer. The pig iron is yet to arrive. Heritage Society currently looking for a cabinet for them. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4855 Matters Arising – S Mattick has now taken down the old Christmas tree from Penyrallt Park. Whilst he was there, a man approached him asking if this year's tree could be moved as it was hindering his view when pulling out from his property. Members stated that the holder had been placed there for years and that was the position of the tree every year. It is more than 2m away from the highway as per regulations. The location had been approved many years ago. It was suggested that the gentleman pull out very slowly from his yard in order to make sure he could see what is coming. **Resolved**. • Further to Minute 4855 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that J. Bayliss will plant the bulbs as soon as possible. **Resolved.** • Further to Minute 4855 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she had spoken to the officer from Powys County Council with regards to the	Clerk to liaise with J Bayliss.

	noise complaint. She informed Clerk that the matter is now being dealt with by NPTCBC. Cllr A Llewelyn will look into this. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4855 Matters Arising – Clerk reported that she has received one quote for cutting back of the trees in the garden of no.10 Gurnos Road, Ystalyfera. Three companies were invited to provide a quotation but only one responded. Quote – Our Tree Company £430 + VAT. Members agreed to get on with the work as soon as possible and accepted the quote**. All agreed - Resolved**. • Further to minute 4856 Co-opt Member – Cllr K Hopkins accepted the role. **Resolved.** • Further to minute 4859 Project Group – Clerk reported that she has put in the planning application to NPTCBC. She hand-drew plans – she is hoping that they are good enough. Reduced cost for Community Council applications £115. **Resolved noted.** • Further to minute 4864 Correspondence – Clerk reported that she is currently getting quotes for a Timber Trail for Carreg yr Afon Park as requested by Cllr R Davies. Clerk spoke to W Rees regarding the possibility of leasing more of the park. W Rees stated that the Trustees would be happy to lease another section of the park to the Community Council. • Cllr A Llewelyn gave an update on the situation with the aqueduct wall. There was a delay in getting approval for the works from CADW due to the need for a certain type of stone and mortar. They have now been approved and work will commence w/c 11th November 2024. Members were pleased with this news. Cllr J Jones asked if the footpath will be closed during the works. She suggested that if this will be the case, that a notice be put out before hand to stop people taking down the mesh fencing. If it is put out on Facebook before works start, this may avoid any issues. Cllr A Llewelyn will find out. **Resolved noted.**	Cllr A Llewelyn to follow up. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to get further quotes. Cllr A Llewelyn to follow up.
4867.	**Ystalyfera RFC:** • Clerk reported that Cllr A Llewelyn had forwarded an email to her from Ystalyfera RFC. The club are asking if the Council want to keep our pitch-side advertising board. It would be £125. This would include pitch-side board, logo in programmes (as sponsors) and on screens within the clubhouse. Members agreed that supporting the rugby club was important as it gives opportunities for local people and children to get involved in sport. It is a hub of the community. **All agreed** to go ahead - **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise.
4868.	**Remembrance Sunday 2024:** • Clerk reported that she has collected the wreaths. She will make the centrepieces ASAP. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr R Townsend confirmed that she has booked the buffet for 50 people. Clerk spoke to H Williams and he advised a larger buffet than 40 would be needed due to attendees from Scouts, Cadets etc. Members approved. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr R Llewelyn reported that Owen Lloyd has agreed to play the trumpet on the day. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr R Townsend offered to bring a PA system to the event if necessary. **Resolved noted** • Clerk to design poster, print and put on Facebook. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to make centrepieces. Clerk to create poster.

	• All other points on Action Plan completed. **Resolved noted.**	
4869.	**Christmas 2024** • Cllr H Morgan reported that the Trike has no means of playing music. Chair suggested that a speaker could be placed in the boot of his car and the boot left open. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that she had received an email from A Gough, Centregreat regarding the Ystalyfera RFC tree. A Gough stated that they can only access the tree from the outside of the wall. Otherwise, they would have to drive a vehicle over the rugby pitch. As the tree is so big, it is impossible to get lights on the other side of the tree. Cllr A Lewis asked if netting lights could be used. Clerk will ask A Gough. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that A Gough, Centregreat, reported that some of the garlands have stopped working. Clerk enquired as to whether or not some new ones could be purchased. A Gough stated that he will lend some lights to council for this year. **Resolved noted**. Members agreed that if there was a problem, then a garland be placed on every other post for this year and new lights be budgeted for next year. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that she has ordered the Christmas trees. **Resolved noted.** • Cllr A Lewis reported that Dobbies Garden Centre are asking communities if they would like Christmas trees. Clerk will look into this. **Resolved noted.** • Chair reported that due to the new wall being built at Sgwâr Godre'r Graig, the hole for the Christmas tree is now inaccessible. Tree may have to go elsewhere. This to be revisited in due course. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to look into this.
4870.	**Project Group** • Cllr E W Williams will organise a Project Group as soon as possible. **Resolved noted.** **MUGA:** • Clerk reported that S Pinner has been in touch to ask if Council would like a day/night sensor placed on the Godre'r Graig MUGA lights. The cost for this would be £250. Members thought this would be a good idea as long as it can be set to switch off at 9pm, as it would save on electricity in the long run. **All agreed** to go ahead - **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that S Pinner is happy to install the lights at Ystalyfera MUGA next. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that the new lighting is on order. They are updated LED's. Cost is £3,000 + VAT. Members were pleased with this news. **Resolved noted.** **Heritage Walk** • Clerk reported that the funding application had been turned down Members were very disappointed in this considering all the work involved. Reasons for refusal included "include heritage that is still in existence like the canal and aqueduct". Members were surprised by this comment as heritage and history is supposed to remember things that have gone. It was suggested that Clerk re-apply for the 18th December deadline. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk explained that NPTCBC Estates have stated that signs on walls will be fine but signs on stands will not be permitted at all locations due to	Cllr EW Williams to arrange meeting. Clerk to liaise. As above. Clerk to apply.

	Highways regulations. They stated that a licence for 5 of the signs will be available from NPTCBC but that landowners will need to be contacted with regards to the other 4. The old Godre'r Graig School is in their ownership, yet they said we would need permission from the school owner. Clerk will get clarity on this. **Resolved noted.** **Defibrillators** • The lady living where the old Telephone box near the Sgwâr Godre'r Graig was contacted but refused to let Council fit the box to her wall. **Agreed** that Handyperson install post instead - **Resolved noted.** • Handyperson reported to Clerk that the cost for galvanised posts will be £144 each. **All agreed** to purchase 2. **Resolved.** **Parks** • Clerk reported that Handyperson is completing some small works at the parks. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that she had received an email from a lady from Penyrallt stating that her daughter had broken her wrist after falling from the zip-wire. Clerk stated that she has reported this to Council insurers, and it is now in their hands. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that she is in the process of obtaining quotes for a new toddler swing at Parc Y Gnoll. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise. As above. Clerk to obtain quotes.
4871.	**Grass-cutting & Planting Tenders 2025** • Grass-cutting: Clerk reported that of the tenders invited, 2 had responded. Quotes as follows: - James Bayliss: £8,142 - Countrywide: £6,500 + VAT It was decided that although Countrywide were the cheaper option, Members were not happy with the work carried out by Countrywide in the past. They decided to accept the tender from James Bayliss as he had done a good job this year. **Resolved.** • Planting: Clerk reported that of the quotes invited, 3 had responded. Quotes as follows: - James Bayliss: £4,550 plus £297 for hanging baskets - Wren Vale: £1,560 exc. hanging baskets - Sion Nicholls: £2,700 inc. hanging baskets Members decided to accept the quote from Sion Nicholls as hanging baskets are included and he has won awards for his work in the past. **Resolved.** • It was suggested that the Handyperson be asked if he would be able to carry out the watering for the Summer season. Clerk to liaise. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise. Clerk to liaise.
4872.	**Finance** • Clerk reported that she has not received an outcome from the external auditors as yet. Awaiting news. **Resolved** noted. • Clerk reported that she will arrange a Finance Committee meeting in November to discuss budget and precept for 2025-26. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to submit. Clerk to arrange.

	Accounts: RESOLVED 112 DD NPTCBC Hall Council Tax £309.00 113 DD Survey Monkey £44.17 114 PP PayPal - Adobe Systems £29.96 115 DD iD Mobile (Clerk's mobile) £36.92 116-19 BACS Staff Wages & Expenses £3,009.57 120 BACS City & County Swansea Pensions £588.87 121 BACS HMRC Tax & NI £570.44 122 BACS SJB Floodlighting Ltd (Yst. MUGA) £3,600.00 123 BACS BT Broadband £63.38 124 BACS SSE - Godre'r Graig MUGA £336.72 125 BACS E-ON Next - Hall Gas (acc. In credit) £0 126 BACS NPTCBC Trade Waste £286.67 127 BACS BT Payphone £133.32 128 BACS James Bayliss - Grass cutting £1,357.00 129 PP Passinc Ltd (Buy a Plan - MUGA Ystalyfera) £22.93	Clerk to make BACS payments.
4873.	**Planning** There were no planning applications for review. **Resolved noted.**	
4874.	**Community Hall** • Clerk reported that the Youth Group run by Whitehead Ross Education has started. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that Pathfinders Cymru held a successful disco at the hall as well as an afternoon with Helen Doherty which Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera also attended. Members suggested that Pathfinders liaise with Clerk so that Council can advertise these events on Facebook. Communication between Pathfinders and Council needs improvement. Cllr J Jones stated that the school benefited enormously by the events and the use of the library. Members were pleased with this. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that Pathfinders Cymru will be holding their Christmas Fayre in the hall on Sunday 1st December 2024. **Resolved noted.** • Clerk reported that a smart meter is being fitted by SSE next week. This will avoid estimated bills in future. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to liaise.
4875.	**Correspondence** • NPTCBC Heritage Fund – refusal of grant. **Resolved noted.** • Pontardawe Town Council – invitation to volunteering awards event. Chair will attend on behalf of Council. **Resolved noted.** • T Jones, NPTCBC – Minor Projects Grant documents. Clerk will complete and submit once quotes received for timber trail for Parc Carreg yr Afon. **Resolved noted.** • A Gough, Centregreat – email stating that most of the garlands are no longer working. He will loan other lamp post decorations to the Council for this year. **All agreed** that new decorations be ordered for next year – this to be budgeted for and order to go in during April/May 2025. **Resolved noted.**	Clerk to re-apply. Chair to attend. Clerk to liaise. Clerk to budget for new decorations.
	The meeting ended at 8.25 pm. Chair thanked all for attending the meeting. Next Meeting will be held on 21st November 2024.	