



CYNGOR CYMUNDOL COEDPOETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of FULL COUNCIL held in Council Offices, Park Road, Coedpoeth on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7.00pm-9.20pm.

PRESENT

Cllrs: G Price - Vice Chairman, V. Jones, S Edwards, A Wedlake, GI Kelly, Gr Kelly, P Wilson, G Cutler, M Roberts, D.G Williams (arrived 7.10pm)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs V Bolton – Clerk, Mr N Acott - Locum Clerk Associate, Cllr K Childs-WCBC.

APOLOGIES

Cllr B Brown, Y McCarrol, L Van Ryswyk, PCSO S Howsam.

72. WELCOME

Cllr G Price, Vice Chairman advised that he would be chairing tonight's meeting as Cllr B Brown had tendered his apologies. He welcomed all Councillors and asked them to introduce themselves for benefit of new three new Co-Opted Councillors.

73. DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

In response to Chairman's question the Clerk confirmed that Cllrs G Cutler, M Roberts and D.G. Williams had all signed their Declaration of Acceptance and had received induction pack prior to meeting. The three new Councillors thanked fellow Councillors for appointment and looked forward to serving Coedpoeth community.

Chairman.....

74. DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST

None received

75. CHAIRMANS COMMUNICATIONS

None received

76. RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR

Chairman advised that written notice had been received from Cllr Stan Scheurleer that he had resigned from Community Council due to a combination of personal and increasing business commitments. He had confirmed that he was intending to continue assist with a big park project in a private capacity.

77. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That Minutes of Full Council held on 6th December 2022 be accepted subject to clarification.

Minute 67(iv) - Council Tax Precept to read £230,384

Minute 63 WCBC - Tyn y Capel to read Maes y Capel

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake Seconder: Cllr V Jones/GI Kelly

78. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

i) Minute 64 Clerk’s Report - Query regarding progress on IT situation in office. Clerk advised that unfortunately due to illness and Christmas recess it had not been possible to progress matters but a report and costings were being prepared.

ii) Minute 61 Footway Lighting – Query regarding item not on agenda and actions to be taken. Council discussed matter and felt that information was important and relevant requiring immediate attention in circumstances. Clerk confirmed she was in contact with company and had asked to be in attendance at their next visit.

Chairman.....

RESOLVED: That Council confirms invoice should be sent to the resident to recoup the costs for the two failed visits made to fix the light.

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake Seconder: Cllr Gr Kelly

Abstain: Cllr G Price

iii) Minute 65 Christmas Opening - Clerk reported that Parish Hall and Snooker Rooms had been open over Christmas period but income levels were very disappointing.

79. WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS – WARD UPDATES

Cllr K Childs – meeting held for Big Park Project and a phased approach was being considered due to scale and cost of development. It was stated that WCBC and CCC jointly own land required for development. It was also pleasing that former Cllr Scheurleer would continue to be involved.:

Homelessness was a worrying issue and disappointing that some housing support offices closed when required.

WCBC has returned to meetings in person

Lack of public conveniences of concern

Cllr A Wedlake – bad weather has created many potholes in roads. He will continue supporting residents to fix problem as WCBC slow to respond and short of funds. His priority is to focus on roads without pavements as increased danger to pedestrians.

Village Car Park – Cllr V Jones had reported numerous problems and both WCBC members had previously expressed concerns. Problems with bollards, incorrect parking, lack of public toilets, vehicles blocking – requirement for yellow lines, and sleeping policemen not working.

Following closure of car park toilets there were no public conveniences in Coedpoeth and shopkeepers had reported a reduction in visitors. Public buildings at Plas Pen Twyn and Parish Hall both have toilets for centre users. WCBC had previously enquired if Coedpoeth CC interested in asset transfer of car park toilets although no funds were previously available to assist development and no actions taken.

Cllr M Roberts enquired if either WCBC member could provide details of how County Environmental/HRA? budget worked and funds remaining. County Councillors would seek details from County.

RESOLVED

Chairman.....

That a letter be sent to Wrexham County Borough Council (owners of car park and toilet) to enquire if full costings are available for running of car park and toilets.

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake Seconder: Cllr Gr Kelly

80. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk's detailed report circulated with agenda and items included staff meeting re: changes, improvements and potential redundancy. Introduction of petty cash system and updates on banking as Clerk now fully authorised for all banking services. Update on office decoration and equipment. Chairman's action in sourcing property surveyor, external audit reports submitted and awaiting response, work on website.

Clerk had also commenced FILCA (Financial Introduction to Local Council Administration) and has successfully completed modules 1-3.

In addition application had been made for free training sessions from Association of Voluntary Organisations Wrexham (AVOW) for Staff and Councillors and further details to be circulated. A Warm Spaces Grant had also been submitted and it was hoped that Community Council and Plas Pen Tywyn could work in partnership to increase provision and times of warm spaces provision in community. Cllr K Childs in Chair of Plas Pen Twyn.

Chairman and Councillors thanked Clerk for update and offered congratulations on training module success.

81. PLAYSCHEME

Details, costing and Coedpoeth local report of Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) playscheme circulated with agenda. The service was provided by WCBC but in recent years has been funded by community councils. This year due to adverse economic climate the County has offered various levels of service ranging from £8,237 to £3,362.

Cllr S Edwards advised that Church in Wales pays for food distributed at children's playscheme.

RESOLVED

Defer item until next meeting pending clarification of cost per session, and also youth work provision in village.

82. COUNCIL PLAN

Clerk had circulated outline of proposed council plan with agenda. Topics would include i) diary dates for working groups/events/councillor surgeries. ii) Objectives – define

Chairman.....

activities/services the community council provide iii) Policy Review – standing orders/financial regulations, policies iv) Annual Appraisals

Working Groups appointed recently would also soon begin their programme of work.

83. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Details circulated with agenda. For clarity information on details of 2023/24 budget and Council Tax Precept provided to new Councillors. Locum Clerk Associate and members also provided details of previous years finances which had included using reserves to support revenue funding and these had now been reduced. The aim of 2023/24 budget proposals had been to produce a balanced budget and a number of action points had arisen hence the establishment of these working groups.

RESOLVED

i) That Schedule of Payments for December 2022 payments be accepted

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake Seconder: Cllr V Jones

ii) That Financial Statements at 30th November 2022 be accepted

84. INTERNAL AUDITOR APPOINTMENT 2023/24

Locum Clerk Associate informed Council that it would soon be necessary to appoint Council's Internal Auditor for 2023/24 and enquired about process of appointment.

Council discussed matter and felt that Internal Audit service providers should be further investigated. During discussion members enquired about bank signing procedures. Clerk reported upon process and will circulate details.

85. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED That in accordance with Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960) and Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12 A public and press be excluded during the following items: Staff Holidays

Proposer: Cllr V Jones Seconder: Cllr GI Kelly

(Cllr K Childs retired from meeting)

Confidential information removed

Chairman.....