



## **CYNGOR CYMUNDOL COEDPOETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes** of FULL COUNCIL held in The Old Carnegie Library, Park Road, Coedpoeth on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm-9.30pm.

### **PRESENT**

Cllrs: G Price – (Acting) Chairman, V Jones, G Cutler, Gl Kelly, Gr Kelly, S Edwards, A Wedlake, M Roberts

Cllr K Childs

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mrs V Bolton – Clerk

### **APOLOGIES**

Cllrs B Brown, G Williams, Y McCarroll, L Van Ryswyk, P Wilson

### **103. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **104. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public present

### **105. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Cllr Price Welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllr Price raised 2 points of matter:

- i) Pay dispute with AL regarding unresolved back pay
- ii) Banking mandate

Signed by Chair.....

- Clerk reported that both matters were in hand and being dealt with but required further information to be collected
- Cllr Wedlake questioned if the dispute over unpaid utilities at the Cemetery Lodge would be taken into account before the pay dispute would be resolved and requested that both unresolved matters could be added as an agenda item for the next meeting

## **106. MINUTES**

That Minutes of Full Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 be accepted with no matters arising.

### **RESOLVED:**

Proposer: Cllr S Edwards                      Seconder: Cllr V Jones      Vote: All in favour

Minutes signed by Cllr G Price

## **107. LIGHTING**

Resident cancelled attendance for meeting and asked to be included on next agenda. Clerk highlighted past and present concerns of resident around lights in the vicinity of residence and effects upon wildlife and the offer to purchase more wildlife friendly lamp fittings.

**RESOLVED:** That as current lamps fitted are wildlife friendly, offer to purchase new lamps will not be accepted. Clerk to email resident with feedback. No further action to be taken.

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake                      Seconder: Cllr Gr Kelly      Vote: All in favour

## **108. WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS – WARD UPDATES**

Cllr A Wedlake – informed Council that:

- Snow had caused issues – gritters not able to keep up and grit bins being empty – Environment team did well however.
- WCBC FC voted for a 6% Council Tax increase on last year's figures.
- Labour councillors supported a motion to reduce Council tax by 2% utilising a pension payback contribution
- Social Services team is working well notwithstanding challenges with budget
- Environment team arranging walkabout for pathways

Cllr K Childs – informed Council that:

- Local hero – Ben Owen – provided transport to NHS and services workers during heavy snow conditions – suggested Council offer thanks to him

Signed by Chair.....

- Housing issues – cost of living/poverty crisis cause of eviction notices
- Maes y Capel – will take 2yrs to complete
- Big Park Project – moving forward – input from Business Officers at WCBC, AVOW Funding Officer and Football Association of Wales - asset transfer is on back burner however Cllr Childs requested that the Big Park Project be added as an agenda item for the next meeting to discuss Council support
- Nant Mill – Groundwork and Woodland Trust to take over management of site with Environment Department sharing report
  - Suggestion made for a Councillor to join group as a volunteer – Cllr S Edwards offered to represent Council
  - Cllrs Price + Jones mentioned not having heard from the Nant Mill group since late 2022

### **109. CLERK'S REPORT**

Clerk's report and Community Agent 6mths Report circulated at meeting. Clerk informed Councillors of the ongoing hard work carried out by Arthur Evans as Community Agent.

Clerk read brief statement identifying her disappointment in recent correspondence containing comments bringing her integrity into doubt. Clerk reminded Councillors that she had been chosen through recruitment process and entrusted to carry out the role and should therefore be given the support needed from Council to continue with the work required. Councillors identified the need to work more as a team and for the need to hold an initial Planning Meeting to form a Community Plan for the Council.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- i) That Council should offer Clerk full support and a vote of confidence
- ii) That Clerk shall set a date for future Planning meeting and circulate details to Councillors.
- iii) Meetings should be held every 2 weeks for the next few months to allow Council to work through the backlog of pressing issues

Proposer: Cllr Gr Kelly      Seconder: Cllr S Edwards    Vote: All in favour

### **110. PLANNING APPLICATION**

- i) Pwll y Go Cottages, The Dolls House, P/2023/0045

#### **RESOLVED:**

That no objections be raised to the application

Proposer: Cllr S Edwards    Seconder: Cllr Gr Kelly

Vote: 1 Against: Cllr G Price All others in favour

Signed by Chair.....

ii) 1 Hillsbrook Top, Talwrn – P/2023/0075

**RESOLVED:**

That no objections be raised to the application

Proposer: Cllr GI Kelly      Second: Cllr M Roberts      Vote: All in favour

**RESOLVED:**

That Council set monthly meetings to assess Planning Applications with a Planning Group

Proposer: Cllr GI Kelly      Second: Cllr Gr Kelly      Vote: All in favour

**110. MEMBERSHIP OF ONE VOICE WALES 2023-24**

Clerk recommended to continue with membership due to level of support provided and current access to it

**RESOLVED:**

That membership be renewed and calculated cost of £670 be accepted

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake      Second: Cllr V Jones      Vote: All in favour

**111. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Details circulated with agenda. Cllr Gr Kelly would like to note concerns around current lack of information regarding end of year reports.

Also that he has concerns that there is currently no access to Payroll/Reserves Account due to Cllr B Brown being absent, Cllr Brown being the only Councillor with access to the account able to transfer funds

**RESOLVED**

That all financial reports be accepted:

- i) Schedule of Payments for February 2023 be accepted with the understanding that 2 items need to be deferred payment until April as there are insufficient funds in the current bank account.
- ii) That Payroll payments be authorised
- iii) That the Financial Statement as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 be accepted

Proposer:      Cllr Gr Kelly                      Second: Cllr A Wedlake

Signed by Chair.....

**RESOLVED:**

To arrange changes to Bank Mandate for Reserves Account, allowing access to Chair Cllr B Brown, Cllr Gr Kelly and Clerk V Bolton.

(Clerk to write formally to Cllr Brown. Cllr GI Kelly to contact directly. Otherwise access to be sought via contact with Unity Bank).

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake    Second: Cllr S Edwards

Abstained: Cllr M Roberts

**RESOLVED:**

That Cllr B Brown be contacted and instructed to transfer the sum of £20,000 from Reserves to Current Account to ensure sufficient funds to cover deferred bills

Proposer: Cllr Gr Kelly    Second: Cllr GI Kelly

Abstained: Cllr M Roberts

**112. PLAYSCHEME – WCBC - PM81**

Details of correct information for costing of playscheme circulated with agenda.

Clerk explained discussion with WCBC Play Team regarding costs being over budget and potential to cover the difference with funding from other sources within WCBC for 2023-24

**RESOLVED:** To accept costs of £8858.95 for 2022-23 and approve payment

To accept costs of £8285 for 2023-24 with the condition that other funding can be found to cover the difference ( £1633.36) by WCBC

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake    Second: Cllr S Edwards    Vote: AIF

**113. COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES**

- i) Cemetery Working Group

**RESOLVED:** To form a Cemetery Working Group

Proposer: Cllr GI Kelly    Second: Cllr S Edwards    Vote: AIF

- ii) Finance Working Group

**RESOLVED:** To form a Cemetery Working Group

Proposer: Cllr GI Kelly    Second: Cllr S Edwards    Vote: AIF

Signed by Chair.....

#### **114. CEMETERY**

Clerk reported on concerns:

- i) AL carrying out burials whilst on sick leave and not following instruction to direct enquiries to Office
- ii) No accompanying documentation for burial taking place
- iii) Incorrect payment and the additional payment at a later date
- iv) Lack of mapping of cemetery leading to inability to cross reference between documentation and records
- v) Burials of cremated remains continuing to be allocated by AL when space is limited

Clerk requested clarification on previous instruction for cemetery to be closed to 'new burials' as discrepancy between minutes of 28-06-2022 and information sent out publicly. Also, for decision to be made on current situation for new burials.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That Clerk contact AL in writing to request correct documentation for recent burial and for further explanation.

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake

Seconder: Cllr GI Kelly

Vote: AIF

#### **RESOLVED:**

That notification be made to staff members, WCBC, public and all local Funeral Directors that until further notice, Coedpoeth Cemetery be closed to all new burials, including cremated remains

Proposer: Cllr A Wedlake

Seconder: Cllr V Jones

Vote: AIF

#### **114. 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: Staffing, Property and Budget Question

Proposer: Cllr GI Kelly

Seconder: Cllr S Edwards

Vote: AIF

Cllr K Childs left the meeting at 9.11pm

Confidential information removed

**Meeting Ended 9.30pm**

Signed by Chair.....