

# PONTHIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTHIR

## Minutes of Monthly Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017

1. **Councillors Present:** Stuart Bailey (Chair), Iain Glover, Peter Matthews, Paul Davies, Louise Ryan-Scales & Ian Danaher.  
**Members of Public Attending:** None  
**Clerk:** Karen Price
2. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Councillor Morgan Barrell.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr. Louise Ryan-Scales declared an interest in Item 10a as a member of the Friends of Ponthir School Committee and took no part in this decision.
4. **Matters raised by the members of the public present – None**
5. **Police Report –** Council was disappointed there was no police presence but noted the content of an e-mail received from ward manager PC Christine Smith advising that the new PCSO for Ponthir and Llanfrechfa was Amanda Read and that for the local area the figures for the period 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were:
  - a. 9/9/17 – 15/9/17 1 antisocial behaviour incident (fireworks thrown on bonfire night)
  - b. 16/9/17 – 22/9/17 2 crime incidents
  - c. 23/9/17 – 29/9/17 No incidents
  - d. 30/9/17 – 5/11/17 1 crime incidentThe crime incidents involved burglaries and a damage to a car. **(Action: Clerk to confirm where the above incidents took place and to enquire why police officers were unable to attend this meeting)**
6. The minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were approved and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr. Peter Matthews and seconded by Cllr. Paul Davies.
7. **Matters Arising from the Monthly Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017**
  - a. **Reconsideration of a request from Mr Mishra for the Community Council to pay for and install a new street sign for Brechfa Close** – Council noted a response had been received from Mr Mishra in which he stated that he was unable to accept the Community Council's proposal. Council agreed that this matter was now closed. **(Action: Clerk to advise Mr & Mrs Matthews)**
  - b. **Testing of Christmas Tree Lights** – Cllr. Stuart Bailey thanked Cllr. Paul Davies for the repair work he had undertaken on the Christmas Lights. Cllr. Davies confirmed that additional work was needed relating to the extension lead connecting the lights to the Village Hall's electrical socket. Council agreed to Cllr. Davies purchasing a rectifier plus a spare. **(Action: Cllr. Paul Davies to purchase rectifiers).**
  - c. **Bus Shelter at The Star** – Council noted that Torfaen CBC would not agree to an independent contractor undertaking any repair work rather than the manufacturer of the shelters. Council agreed to defer any decision on the replacement of the screening in the bus shelter until the next financial year. In the meantime Council agreed that all the shelters in Ponthir and Lower Llanfrechfa needed cleaning. Clerk informed Council that she has contacted Newport Transport by e-mail and telephone

requesting new timetables be installed in the shelters. Cllr. Paul Davies noted that the electrical connections in the bus shelter opposite Lamb Lane looked faulty. **(Action: Clerk to:**

- i. **Contact TCBC to enquire when the next scheduled cleaning of the shelters is to be undertaken and if appropriate arrange for additional cleaning of all the shelters in our community area (both inside and out and to remove plumbing posters).**
  - ii. **To follow up the updating of the timetables.**
  - iii. **Contact TCBC concerning electrical connections)**
- d. **Christmas Tree Lighting Event** – Council noted that the band Spellbound had been booked and that the Christmas Tree was due to be installed by 6<sup>th</sup> December. **(Action: Cllr. Peter Matthews to contact Mick Bubela to confirm numbers. Clerk to purchase sweets for the children & print tickets for the catering. Cllr. Paul Davies to return Christmas lights to Clerk to ensure Colin Richardson can install with the tree)**
- e. **One Voice Wales Training Sessions** – Council noted that Cllrs. Louise Ryan-Scales, Paul Davies and Ian Danaher had attended the ‘New Councillor Induction’ training on 23<sup>rd</sup> October held at Undy Community Hall.
- f. **Community Newsletter** – Clerk confirmed that articles had been sent to the printer and she was awaiting the proof copy. Delivery routes have all been allocated. **(Action: Clerk to circulate proof copy when received.)**
- g. **Gwent Best Kept Village Competition** – Cllr. Paul Davies asked whether there was any feedback available specifically for Ponthir Baptist Church. **(Action: Clerk to contact GAVO)**
- h. **Photographs of New Councillors** – Clerk confirmed these had all been received and that they have been posted on the Community Council’s website.
8. **Finance and Accounts**
- a. Balance of Direct Plus Account as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 = £12,890.40
  - b. **To Approve the Following Cheques**
    - i. Cllr. Paul Davies (Reimbursement of travelling expenses £11.25 & replacement part for Christmas Lights £37.95) = £49.20
    - ii. One Voice Wales (New Councillor Induction Training Session) = £70.00Council approved the above payments.
  - c. **To approve Cheques already Paid**
    - i. RBL Poppy Appeal (Wreath for Remembrance Day) = £17.00Council approved the above payment.
  - d. **To Note Standing Order/Direct Debit Payments**
    - i. TCBC (Clerk’s Salary) on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017
    - ii. Barclaycard on 8<sup>th</sup> November (Stationery and Toner) = £32.72 (No direct debit as correction of a mis-posted entry has resulted in a credit balance)Council noted the above payments.
9. Council approved a donation of £100.00 in support of Caerleon Comprehensive School’s prize days (Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 – Power of Well Being). Proposed Cllr. Peter Matthews and Cllr. Paul Davies. Cllr. Ian Danaher confirmed that he was available to attend the Senior Prize Evening. **(Action: Clerk to advise school)**

## 10. Grant Applications

- a. The following grants were approved:

### **Local Government Act (Misc. Prov.) 1976 Section 19**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Ponthir Brownies	£250.00	Cllr. Louise Ryan-Scales	Cllr. Peter Matthews
Ponthir Baptist Church	£200.00	Cllr. Peter Matthews	Cllr. Ian Danaher
Ponthir Playclub	£250.00	Cllr. Peter Matthews	Cllr. Iain Glover
Ponthir Playgroup	£100.00	Cllr. Peter Matthews	Cllr. Paul Davies
Ponthir WI	£200.00	Cllr. Iain Glover	Cllr. Peter Matthews
Torfaen Summer Playscheme	£400.00	Cllr. Peter Matthews	Cllr. Louise Ryan-Scales

### **Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011- Power of Well Being**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
Friends of Ponthir School	£200.00	Cllr. Iain Glover	Cllr. Ian Danaher

- b. **Cwmbran Big Event 2018** - This application was declined as Council felt that this event did not significantly benefit residents of Ponthir and Llanfrechfa and that the level of support required by this event was significantly more than the Council's budget.
- c. **DEBRA EB** – Council noted that this request had come from a national charity but that a Ponthir resident had this condition and a local campaign was currently running looking to raise funds to assist this resident. Clerk informed Council that it was not permissible for community councils to donate to an individual and therefore it could not donate directly to the local fundraising. Council agreed that should a community event be arranged in Ponthir to assist with raising funds for this resident then the Community Council would consider contributing towards event costs.  
**(Action: Clerk to advise all applicants of Council's decisions)**

11. **Request to install a dog waste bin in Stokes Drive (close to Water Works entrance)** – Following a resident's request Clerk has contacted Torfaen CBC and is awaiting a response. **(Action: Clerk to follow up)**

## 12. **Community Council Diary Procedures November/December 2017**

- a. Preparation of 2018/19 budget – **(Action: To be included on December agenda)**  
b. Preparation of 2018/19 precept – **(Action: To be included on December agenda)**

## 13. **Final arrangements for Christmas Tree Lighting Event 2017**

- a. Cllrs Stuart Bailey, Peter Matthews, Ian Danaher, Paul Davies and Clerk to meet at the hall at 5.30pm
- b. Cllr. Peter Matthews to man the door at the main entrance, Cllr. Ian Danaher to welcome community, Cllrs. Stuart Bailey and Paul Davies to sell raffle tickets, Clerk and Mrs Danaher to serve teas/coffees.
- c. Cllr. Louise Ryan-Scales noted that the school would prefer to sing outside, weather permitting.
- d. Refreshments served at 7.15pm

**(Action:**

- i. Clerk to purchase tea, coffee, milk, sugar and festive tablecloths/ decorations as necessary.
- ii. Clerk to print posters and post in noticeboards, website and facebook page.
- iii. Cllr. Peter Matthews to contact Mick Bubela to enquire if grass within the fenced area could be cut beforehand.)

**14. Review of Community and Town Council Sector – Consultation Event 5<sup>th</sup>**

**December , Henllys Village Hall 2pm to 4pm** – Cllr. Paul Davies to attend but if he is not available Cllr. Stuart Bailey will attend the event held in Pencoed.

**15. Reports and Updates**

- a. **LVA Meeting** – Cllr. Peter Matthews was unable to attend.

**16. Consultations**

- a. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales - Draft Annual Report – No Comment
- b. Public Services Ombudsman (Wales) Bill – No Comments
- c. Town and Village Greens – No Comments
- d. Consultation on proposed amendments to the Local Authorities (Capital Finance & Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003 – No Comments
- e. Mandatory Concessionary Fares in Wales: Maintaining free bus travel for older people, disabled people and some injured service veterans – No Comments
- f. Boundary Commission for Wales: Revised Proposals Report 2018 Review
- g. Thoracic Surgery Services in Wales – No Comments
- h. Torfaen draft well-being plan and consultation survey - No Comments
- i. Local Approaches to poverty reduction: The Well-Being of Future Generations Act and public service boards – No Comments
- j. Consultation on Older Adult Mental Health Services in Gwent - No Comments
- k. South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority has published its Improvement Plan - “How did we do in 2016/17 and what we plan to do in 2018/19 – No Comments

**17. The following planning application was noted:**

- a. 17/P/0760/TPO - Works to Oak Tree at Stonecroft, Caerleon Road, Ponthir – No Observations

**18. Correspondence Received**

- a. Concerns over temporary closure of cycle route 88 off Pillmawr Lane, Newport – Mr Cope
- b. Latest news from the ICO
- c. Veterans’ Gateway OCT 2017 Newsletter (IPs) – TCBC
- d. Your Voice – Gwent Police
- e. TVA's Autumn TAFOD 2017
- f. Query concerning council minutes – Mrs C. Sharp
- g. Burial Charges for Children – OVW
- h. Invitation for a representative to attend Ponthir Village Carol Service (**Cllr. Iain Glover attended**)
- i. WCVA Newsletter

- j. TVA's Members Bulletin October 2017
  - k. Gwent Valleys Area Committee Minutes 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017
  - l. Changes to Co-Operative Bank General Business Terms and Conditions
  - m. Advertisement for the position of the Welsh Language Commissioner's Audit and Risk Committee Member – OVW
  - n. Mapping of physical activity, healthy eating and weight management opportunities in Torfaen – TVA
  - o. Invitation to Tax Forum meeting - 6 November 2017
  - p. Capturing Planning in Images – Competition to Picture Wales – OVW
  - q. Invitation to Network Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – Torfaen Armed Forces Covenant
  - r. Invitation for Chair to attend Cwmbran Community Council's Senior School Choral Festival 2017
  - s. One Voice Wales October 2017 News Bulletin
  - t. Skill Up Break Free – TVA Wales
  - u. WCVA Policy and Public Affairs Digest
  - v. Thoracic Surgery Services in Wales - Public Meeting 21st November between 10am – 12 noon at the Newport Centre, Castle Room, Newport, NP20 1UH
  - w. Wales Centre for Public Policy - An Exciting Announcement – OVW
  - x. Future of Work in Wales – OVW
  - y. Cwmbran Community Council's Community Awards 2017
  - z. One Voice Wales Innovative Practice National Awards 2018
  - aa. Annual Volunteer Awards Ceremony 2017 – TCBC
  - bb. Cwmbran Community Council Residents Handbook 2017
  - cc. Latest news from the ICO
  - dd. Review of Community and Town Council Sector – Cwmbran CC
  - ee. Welsh Government: Scheme promoting closer working with local government – OVW
  - ff. Welcome to Zurich's Local Community Advisory Service (LCAS) – Zurich Insurance
  - gg. Flanders/Wales: A First World War Symposium – OVW
  - hh. The Ombudsman's Casebook - Issue 30
  - ii. Parking in Oaklands on 5<sup>th</sup> November – Mr Pilgrim
  - jj. Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust – Chair - Information Event – Monday November 20, 2017 - OVW
  - kk. NHS Appointments – OVW
  - ll. Torfaen Event Safety Advisory Group 15th November 2017 - Presentation
- Contents Noted.

19. Council noted that an e-mail was received from Torfaen CBC on 10<sup>th</sup> November detailing the road closures affecting Candwr Road, Ponthir and Caerleon Road, Llanfrechfa. **(Action: Clerk to post details on Facebook page and noticeboards)**

20. Cllr. Paul Davies brought to the Council's attention:

- a. Silted storm drains on Caerleon Road near Station Road junction – concerns raised that these may cause flooding
- b. The Western Power transformer building on Candwr Park and its state of repair – concerns raised over the buildings safety re rotten doors.

**(Action: Cllr. Davies to forward photographs of the transformer building to Clerk. Clerk to contact Torfaen CBC and Western Power)**

21. The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Monthly Meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.00pm at Ponthir District Sports Club.**

Meeting Closed at 8.30pm

This document is available on our website [www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk)  
A copy of this document could be made available in Welsh. Please contact us on the telephone number or e-mail below./ Mae dogfen yma yn ar gael mewn gwefan ni [www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk) Mae copi or ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg.

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