

PONTHIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTHIR

Minutes of Monthly Meeting 14th January 2019

1. **Councillors Present:** Stuart Bailey (Chair), Iain Glover, Louise Ryan-Scales, Paul Davies, Ian Danaher and Peter Matthews.
Representatives Attending: Jeremy Felvus and Tony Pead (Ponthir District Sports Club), Julian Davenne (Torfaen Play Service Manager) and Owen (Torfaen Playworker)
Members of Public Attending: None
Clerk: Karen Price
2. **Apologies:** Cllr. Morgan Barrell & PCSO Peter Walker
3. **Declarations of Interest:** It was noted that with the exception of Cllr. Paul Davies all other councillors present were either members of Ponthir District Sports Club or had family who were members of All Star Cricket.
4. **Matters Raised by Members of the Public Present** - None
5. **Ponthir District Sports Club Presentation** – Mr Felvus (JF) & Mr Pead (TP) explained that to enable the transfer of the Sports Grounds from Torfaen CBC to the Sports Club, Ponthir District Sports Club Ltd had been set up. There are currently two directors of this organisation, JF & TP, but additional directors can be appointed. The day to day running of the club is undertaken by a Management Committee which has 10 members and includes representatives from Ponthir Cricket Club, Ponthir Football Club and members of the community. The following points were made in the presentation:
 - a. Nationally there has been a decline in the number of people participating in sport. This has been in evidence at the Club with reductions in the number of teams using the facilities.
 - b. The Sports Club was set up for the provision of sport however it was getting increasingly more difficult to access grants as grant bodies were favouring applications which also showed increased community involvement and not just sport.
 - c. If the Club relied solely on income from sports activities it would have folded some time ago and although finances are still fragile the fundraising activities e.g. Bonfire Night, Music Festival etc have been of benefit.
 - d. Currently it is dog walkers who make the most use of the grounds and the quiz nights that generate the most income.
 - e. The Club recognizes that the Sports Grounds are a valuable asset to the community and are engaging with the Cricket Club, Football Club, the Club's members, the Community Council and residents to identify what the community wants the club to provide.
 - f. If the Sports Club is to become more involved in running community events that are not necessarily of a sporting nature then a change in their governing constitution may be required.Council thanked Mr Felvus and Mr Pead for this presentation. Councillors agreed that the Sports Fields are a valuable asset to the community but that good communication was vital to inform residents of the activities taking place e.g. the use of a board on the junction of School Close to advertise fixtures, use of Facebook, Twitter and Open Caerleon, use of the Community noticeboards, more involvement with Ponthir School etc. It was noted that the Community Council had previously invited the Sports Club

to submit articles for inclusion in the community newsletter, nothing had been received but this invitation remained open. Cllr. Ryan Scales noted the success of last year's All Stars Cricket.

7.30pm – Mr Felvus and Mr Pead left the meeting.

6. **Torfaen Playschemes Presentation** – Mr Davenne played a video detailing the work of Torfaen Playschemes. It was noted that:

- a. There are 32 Playschemes in Torfaen
- b. The play service has a small team that supports young people to volunteer in the Playschemes and that the training the volunteers receive can lead to qualifications.
- c. The way that the Torfaen Playschemes are run is now being used as a model scheme for other local authorities in Wales. Torfaen Playservice currently runs Playschemes in Monmouthshire.
- d. The Monday Play Club run from Ponthir Village Hall is self-funding from user subscriptions and the Play Club makes a financial contribution towards the Ponthir Summer Playscheme. Mr Davenne stated that between 20-30 children attended this club and that they were all from Ponthir.
- e. The Ponthir Summer Playscheme runs for 4 weeks during July/August over five half days.
- f. There is no charge for the Playschemes and this was something that Mr Davenne wished to continue.
- g. The Playschemes are funded by donations from the Community Councils in Torfaen with additional funding received from Welsh Government to assist with playprovision for children with additional needs. No funding is received from Torfaen CBC.
- h. Mr Davenne stated that each Playscheme costs £2.5K to run and that he was asking Ponthir Community Council to consider increasing the amount it donated. The Community Council thanked Mr Davenne and Owen for this presentation. Councillors recognized the valuable service that the Playschemes provided and noted that although the monetary value of the donation that Ponthir CC gave last year was lower than the other Community Councils in Torfaen when taking into account the amount of precept that each Council received in percentage terms the donation was on a par to the other Community Councils.

8.06 – Mr Davenne and Owen left the meeting.

7. **Police Report** – None

8. The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 10th December 2018 were approved and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr. Glover and seconded by Cllr. Ryan-Scales.

9. **Matters Arising from the Monthly Meeting held on 10th December 2018**

- a. **Newport Transport Bus Service** – Clerk confirmed that a follow up E-mail had been sent to Cllr. Hunt, TCBC but no response had been received.
- b. **Ponthir District Sports Club Grant Application** –(Action: Clerk awaiting dispensation decision from TCBC.)

10. **Finance and Accounts**

- a. Balance of Direct Plus Account as at 31st December 2018 = £18,932.91

b. **Approval of Cheques Already Paid**

- i. Ponthir District Sports Club (Room Hire for meetings Feb 2018 to Mch 2019) = £150.00

Council approved the above cheque.

c. **To Note Standing Order/Direct Debit Payments**

i. TCBC (Clerk's Salary) on 20th January 2019

ii. SWALEC (Telephone Kiosk, Tam Lane) = £7.23

Council noted the above payments.

11. The quarterly bank reconciliation was approved and duly signed. – **See Appendix 1**

12. The Annual Review of Internal Control for the year ending 31st March 2019 was noted.
(Action: Clerk to include item on April's agenda for approval.)

13. **Afon Lwyd Greenway Update** – Cllr. Bailey informed Council that he, together with John Palmer, had attended a meeting with TCBC officers. Welsh Government had identified £60 million of funding over three years for cycle schemes such as this. There is the opportunity for Torfaen CBC to receive funds to enable a feasibility study to be undertaken for this scheme in either 2018/19 or 2019/20. All paperwork associated with this scheme has now been deposited with TCBC. Cllr. Bailey assured Councillors that an exact route had not been determined and that the feasibility study would look at all available options.

14. **Consultations**

a. 'Waterfall Country' Public Consultation – No Comments

15. **Correspondence Received**

a. Fully funded childcare launches in Torfaen

b. BCW 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales – OVW

c. Connecting Communities in Wales – OVW

d. Enabling Natural Resources and Well-Being in Wales 2019-2023 - Call for Grant Proposals

e. Discrimination Awareness Training – TVA

f. One Voice Wales Conference and AGM 29/09/2018

g. Mudiad Meithrin - public meeting

h. Torfaen Replacement Local Development Plan - Call for Candidate Sites

i. 1st October - Centenary Plaque Unveiling, Civic Centre, Pontypool at 10:00am

j. GAVO Vacancies - Volunteering Officer & Youth Volunteering Officer

k. Latest news from the ICO

l. One Voice Wales Training Schedule

m. Local Government needs to do more to develop a strong data culture – OVW

n. Play Service Volunteer Awards, Sports Awards, Armed Forces Covenant Award, Childcare survey – TCBC

o. Thank You re Community Grant – Llanfrechfa Walled Garden

p. Now's the Time (large grants) programme - Justice and Equality Fund

q. Connecting Communities in Wales Newsletter - OVW

r. Members Meeting invitation + Partners – TVA

s. Torfaen Voluntary Alliance - seeking new Board members

t. Workplace pensions – increase to minimum contributions in 2019

u. Valley Regional Park Announcement – OVW

v. TVA's Winter Edition TAFOD 2018

w. 2019-20 National Pay Agreement – NALC

x. First Minister's new Cabinet announced – OVW

y. Gwent Valley Area Committee Meeting 15th January 2019

z. Christmas Card – Pontypool CC

aa. Christmas Card – Blaenavon TC

- bb. Toolkit – OVW
 - cc. Invitation for Chair to attend a Community Celebration Dinner – Cwmbran CC
 - dd. South East Wales Regional Engagement Team Newsletter
 - ee. Community and Town Council Update – Welsh Government
 - ff. Torfaen Armed Forces Covenant Forum Newsletter & Minutes
 - gg. Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) Statutory Guidance – OVW
 - hh. Ombudsman Case book Community Council complaint information – TCBC
 - ii. Permissive Paths at Llantarnam Abbey – TCBC
 - jj. One Voice Wales New Year 2019 News Bulletin
- Content Noted.

16. The next Meeting of the Council will be the **Monthly Meeting on Monday 11th February 2019 at 7.00pm at Ponthir District Sports Club**

17. **Further discussion on the Ponthir District Sports Club presentation** – Following on from the presentation Councillors discussed ways in which the Council could assist the Sports Club in communicating events to residents e.g. sharing facebook posts (which the Clerk already does), the use of the Community Noticeboards, articles in the Community Newsletter, possibility of organising a community event using the Club's facilities. It was also noted that in past years the Sports Club, Cricket Club and Football Club have all applied for and received community council grants on an individual basis and that this may have to be reviewed moving forward.

18. **Further discussion on the Torfaen Play Scheme presentation** – Councillors disagreed with Mr Davenne's statement that only children from Ponthir attended the Ponthir Play Club as it was known that children from outside Torfaen also attended. The Council repeated that, as previously mentioned, it couldn't match the financial amount awarded by any of the other Torfaen Community Councils but that it may be possible to consider a donation based on a percentage of the precept received. It was also felt that parents wouldn't object to a small subscription being charged particularly when compared to the charges made by other child care providers.

Meeting Closed at 8.37pm

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A copy of this document could be made available in Welsh. Please contact us on the telephone number or e-mail below.

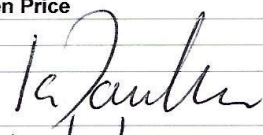
Mae dogfen yma yn ar gael mewn gwefan ni www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk Mae copi or ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg.

Cysylltwch a ni ar y rhif ffôn neu drwy e-bost isod.

Telephone/ Ffôn: 07971948351 E-Mail/ E-bost: clerk@ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Quarterly Bank Reconciliation

PONTHIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL RECEIPTS PAYMENTS
1ST OCTOBER 2018 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2018

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 30/9/2018		£ 17,265.36
ADD INCOME		
Bath Trip Payments	£ 560.00	
TCBC (Precept)	£ 6,075.14	
TOTAL INCOME		£ 6,635.14
SUB TOTAL		£ 23,900.50
LESS PAYMENTS		
Barclaycard	£ 479.13	
SWALEC (Telephone Kiosk, Tram Lane)	£ 5.97	
Edwards Coaches Ltd (Bath Christmas Trip)	£ 615.00	
TCBC (Clerk's Salary)	£ 1,576.69	
Acorn Garden Services (Village Planters)	£ 460.00	
Caerleon Comprehensive (Grant)	£ 100.00	
Llanfrecha Grange Walled Garden (Grant)	£ 250.00	
K Price (Home Working Allowance)	£ 22.50	
Ponthir Village Hall (Friends of Ponthir School Xmas Fete)	£ 85.00	
K Price (Reimbursement of Expenses - Christmas Tree Lights)	£ 486.00	
Wales Audit Office (External Audit Fee)	£ 192.30	
Groundscapes (Christmas Tree)	£ 430.00	
Torfaen CBC (Grant)	£ 200.00	
Ponthir District Sports Club (Hire of room for meetings)	£ 150.00	
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£ 5,052.59
TOTAL BALANCE AS AT 31/12/18		£ 18,847.91
BANK BALANCE AS AT 31/12/2018		
DIRECT PLUS ACCOUNT	£ 18,932.91	
		£ 18,932.91
LESS UNPRESENTED CHEQUES		
Chq 401063 - Ponthir Village Hall	£ 85.00	
TOTAL UNPRESENTED CHEQUES		£ 85.00
TOTAL BALANCE AS AT 31/12/2018		£ 18,847.91
Prepared By: Karen Price		
Date: 7/01/2019		
Approved By: 		
Date: 14/1/19		