

PONTHIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED PONTHIR

Minutes of the Annual Meeting 13th May 2019

1. **Councillors Present:** Stuart Bailey (Chair), Iain Glover, Louise Ryan-Scales, Ian Danaher, Paul Davies & Morgan Barrell
Clerk: Karen Price
Members of Public: None
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Davies informed Council that Cllr. Matthews would be a few minutes late.
3. **Election of Chair for 2019/2020** - It was proposed by Cllr. Danaher and seconded by Cllr. Barrell that Cllr. Glover be elected as Chair. Cllr. Glover was duly elected as Chair for 2019/2020 and presided as Chair for the remainder of this meeting.
4. **Election of Vice-Chair for 2019/20** - It was proposed by Cllr. Barrell and seconded by Cllr. Danaher that Cllr. Davies be elected as Vice-Chair. Cllr. Davies was duly elected as Vice-Chair for 2019/2020.
5. **Declarations of Interest** – None

7.04pm – Cllr. Matthews entered the meeting.
6. Council noted the Chair's Annual Report 2018/19 (**See Appendix 1**)
7. **Date of Monthly Council Meetings up to May 2020** – It was agreed that the monthly meetings would continue to be held on the second Monday of the month. (**Action: Clerk to post dates on website**)
8. **Review of Expenditure incurred under s137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Power of Well Being during 2018/19** – Council noted that the total expenditure under these two powers was £635.00 which was well within the limit of £7.86 per elector of the Ponthir Community Council Area.
9. **Election of Representatives**
 - a. **Ponthir Church in Wales School Governors** – Council noted that Cllr. Ryan-Scales term of office as the Council's representative was still active.
 - b. **Torfaen County Association of Local Councils (TCALC) / Torfaen Local Council Partnership Committee (LCPC)** – Council nominated Cllr. Davies. Proposed by Cllr. Bailey and seconded by Cllr. Glover
 - c. **Gwent Valleys Partnership Committee** – Council nominated Cllr. Danaher. Proposed by Cllr. Bailey and seconded by Cllr. Barrell.
 - d. **Any other Representatives - None**
Council approved the above nominations. (**Action: Clerk to obtain meeting schedules for items 8b & 8c and forward to the Council's Representatives**)
10. Cllr. Davies thanked Cllr. Bailey for his work during his time as Chair.
Meeting closed at 7.09pm.

Appendix 1 – Chair’s Report 2018/19

Whilst the year 2018/19 seemed a quiet year the council continued to make small improvements to improve the community

The village tubs and benches remain in good order having been jet cleaned and repainted by Cllr Davies. We have received many compliments on the quality of the village planters throughout the year, a combination of the Council investing in quality plants but also the hard work of the many volunteers who regularly water them during the dry season.

The Children’s Play Area has been further improved by the repair of the roundabout. All is in good working order and regularly use by the children of the village.

An additional Dog Bin has been installed in Stokes Drive for the dog walkers using the woods. This replaces a black sack which was regularly refreshed by a volunteer, possibly asking too much of an individual’s community spirit.

Bus shelter timetables and holders have been installed in all of the bus shelters as these are no longer maintained by TCBC. There remain concerns about changes to the bus timetable and this will be an ongoing issue as the Council is keen to ensure that a reliable bus service remains. All bus shelters have been jet washed.

The Christmas Tree was back with much improved lighting, hopefully permanently solving an ongoing headache of failing lights. Residents commented that it was still too small and a slightly larger tree will be sought for this year. Unfortunately the non availability of the schoolchildren led to the cancellation of the lighting event.

Cllr Ryan-Scales organised a trip to the Christmas Market in Bath. This was well supported and clearly identified the demand for similar events in the future.

Cllr Glover organised an anti-scamming event with the police and Nat West bank

One of the major concerns this year was the maintenance of trees in School Close and The Oaklands. The Council have requested Cllr Anthony Hunt Leader of TCBC personally intervenes to resolve a long standing issue. This currently remains unresolved though Cllr Hunt has visited the site and met with residents.

The Afon Llwyd Greenway (a walking and cycle route linking Ponthir with Caerleon and Cwmbran) has now been taken over by TCBC who are seeking funding for a feasibility study. Additional funding has been set aside by the Welsh Assembly Government to fund such schemes and the ALG is one of two being championed by Torfaen.

The Council has continued to support local groups directly within our area and Torfaen if local residents will benefit. Total grants this year were £1985.

My thanks to all of the councillors, the clerk and the other volunteers for their hard work throughout the year, giving up their time to help improve on life in the community

Stuart Bailey
Chair Ponthir Community Council

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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 o ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg.
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