**Ponthir Community Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**22nd June 2020**

**Held remotely in accordance with;**

Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020

1. **Present:**  Cllr Paul Davies (Vice Chair), Cllr Stuart Bailey, Cllr Louise Ryan-Scales, Cllr Morgan Barrell, Cllr Ian Danaher
   1. Clerk: Karen Kerslake
2. **Apologies:** None
3. **Declarations of Interest**
   1. None
4. **To consider matters raised by members of the public present (N.B. Such matters will be reported upon by the clerk at the next meeting, where appropriate)**
   1. Cllr Danaher and Davies explained community concerns that had been raised by members of the public in relation to,
      1. Rubbish accumulations around the British Heart Foundation clothes bin in the Star car park.
      2. Environmental concerns in the car park.
   2. Clerk will investigate further with the statutory authority in Torfaen County Borough council.
   3. Clerk informed the meeting that Torfaen County Borough Council is prioritising front line services to support the most vulnerable throughout lockdown, but other services are now being reintroduced.
5. **To receive a police report**
   1. Clerk informed the council that once again the area remains low in relation to crime.
6. **Approve the minutes of the last meeting**
   1. Proposed, Cllr Stuart Bailey
   2. Seconded, Cllr Ryan-Scales
7. **Matters arising from last meeting/items for next meeting**.
   1. Drains/Flooding/Potholes – Clerk to contact Cllr Bevan and TCBC to chase drain survey. Pothole repairs are just restarting across Torfaen. Residents are encouraged to report to Torfaen County Borough Council directly.
   2. Changes to Caerleon School Catchment Area – nothing received at time of meeting from Torfaen County Borough Council. Clerk to contact Cllr Bevan to chase any decisions or direction for appeal against the decision to exclude Ponthir children from the Caerleon Comprehensive catchment area
8. **Internal Audit Report**
   1. Content of annual return and auditor’s comments noted and agreed – Clerk to action including
      1. Notices of Audit to be placed online and on noticeboards
      2. Annual Return and associated documents to be forwarded to External Auditors as per Accounts and Audits (Wales) Regulations 2014.
9. **Annual Meeting/Election of Chair/Council Vacancy**

In accordance with Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020, the Annual Council meeting must take place prior to the end of 2020. A meeting of all councilors is to be set up to discuss further on 29th June 2020. Members of the public will be invited to attend this meeting through the use of electronic media.

Current Councillor vacancy has been advertised through notice by Torfaen County Borough Council and Ponthir Community Council on websites and social media.

1. **Finance and Accounts**
   1. Balance at bank – Noted
   2. To note standing orders/direct debits – SWALEC to be contacted by Clerk in relation to frequency of payments for telephone box in Llanfrechfa which seem sporadic.
   3. Cheques paid – Noted and approved
2. **Traffic through the village**
   1. An increase in traffic speed has been noted by councillors and some residents in recent weeks. The GoSafe Partnership has been asked to consider reintroducing speed checks in the village.
   2. Clerk will obtain standards to be met for fixed speed camera installation from Torfaen County Borough Council.
3. **Planters in Llanfrechfa and Ponthir**
   1. Cost of planters was considered – Clerk will write to the contractor to ensure that the correct permissions are obtained to proceed. Other options for planting will be considered prior to winter planting as costs are rising.
   2. Planters in Llanfrechfa were not watered due to miscommunication with the contractor. Clerk will contact Llanfrechfa Village Association to clarify for future planting.
4. **Consultations- Planning Applications** 
   1. No observations in respect of applications received for,
      1. 1 Laburnum Cottages – single storey extension.
      2. Lysbrechfa house – change of use for annexe and new garage.
   2. Council reviewed the existing building plans for modifications to the Ponthir and District Sports Clubhouse, as some residents had asked if the PDSC building was in keeping with the plans. **Council concluded that the ongoing building was in accordance with the plans submitted and the permissions given.**

**The date of the next Monthly Meeting is to be determined.**

Meeting Closed at 8.40 pm

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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.

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

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