**Ponthir Community Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**9th November 2020**

**In accordance with;**

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

1. **Present:**  Cllr Paul Davies (Chair), Cllr Ian Danaher (Vice-Chair), Cllr Peter Matthews, Cllr Stuart Bailey, Cllr Lorraine Morgan. Cllr Morgan Barrell, Cllr Louise Ryan-Scales
   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. Mr M James – 81 Candwr Park – Trees in Afon Llwyd – Clerk updated the council as to progress on both sites of concern along the banks of the Afon Llwyd that have been reported by residents in recent months. Clerk will continue to attempt to contact the South East Engineering Catchment Engineer at Natural Resources Wales about both issues.
5. **Approve the minutes of the last meeting**
   1. Proposed, Cllr Stuart Bailey
   2. Seconded, Cllr Peter Matthews
6. **Matters arising from last meeting/items for next meeting**.
   1. Barnfield Play Area – Agreed to fund new equipment in principle, not the fencing. Council’s standing orders need to be adhered to and assurances around extra costs given if Torfaen County Borough Council do the work. – Clerk to contact Torfaen to take forward. Cllr Danaher proposed/Cllr Stuart Bailey seconded – all in agreement.
   2. Underspend – Mostly spent on Barnfield play equipment.
   3. Afon Llwyd Works – as in matters reported by residents
   4. Newsletter – to be collected by councilors from clerk week ending 15th November 2020
   5. Drain Survey – mainly satisfied that work is ongoing
   6. Trees in Ponthir – Meeting was updated with recent actions involving Cllr Huw Bevan and Torfaen County Borough Council. Clerk is to send a strongly worded email to Torfaen in relation to policy and management of the tree stock in the village.
   7. Community Hall Info – Council has contacted the manager of the Village Hall
   8. Community Gardens update – Four companies to be contacted. Specs and design to be sent and site visits to be arranged. Clerk to progress.
   9. Phone Box in Llanfrechfa – Cllr Davies to take forward.
   10. Resident contacted Cllr Matthews in relation to planning permissions and adherence to regulations of a build near to her residence – Cllr Matthews informed the meeting that matters had progressed to the satisfaction of the resident and she now has a point of contact in Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Department for further queries.
   11. Mrs Doreen Mountjoy.- Clerk informed all present that as Mrs Mountjoy’s home was sold quickly following her death, contact with relatives for permission to publicise her prior status as Ponthir’s most long lived resident could not be sought.
   12. Cllr L Morgan enquired as to whether it would be possible to encourage residents to come forward if they require support through lockdown and restrictions on travel. – Cllr Ryan Scales informed the meeting that Ponthir School does some intergenerational work including Knitting Nannies. Cllr Ryan-Scales to let Cllr Morgan know what activities are ongoing.
   13. Remembrance Sunday – Wreath was given to both Llanfrechfa Church and Ponthir Baptist Church in commemoration on behalf of the council.
   14. Declaration for new councillor – L Morgan – Clerk confirmed this has been received.
7. **Christmas Tree**
   1. Clerk to contact C Mellen to erect the tree at the beginning of December.
8. **Finance and Accounts**
   1. Balance at bank – Noted
   2. To note standing orders/direct debits – Noted
   3. Cheques paid – Noted and approved
9. **Planning Permissions**

None received for the period

1. **Any other business**
   1. Clerk is to source lamppost poppies for next Remembrance/Armistice day for distribution around the village.
   2. Contact details to be put up on Noticeboards
   3. New bus timetables to be loaded online and placed in Noticeboards/circulated to councillors.
2. Correspondence

Noted

**The date of the next Monthly Meeting 14th December 2020 (Virtual meeting)**

Meeting Closed at 8:15pm

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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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