**Ponthir Community Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Held on 9th October 2023**

PSCC School Close, Ponthir

@ 7pm

1. **Present:**  Cllr I Danaher (Chair) Cllr L Ryan-Scales, Cllr P Matthews, Cllr P Buffery and Cllr M Leighton.

**Also present: Clerk to the Council -** Mrs C Danaher. Residents - Mr M Bradley, Dr Brown and Mr and Mrs

Erikson.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Morgan and Cllr Bailey.
2. **Declarations of Interest:**  Cllr Matthews item 9 Candwr Park planning application.
3. **To consider matters raised by members of the Public:** Grass area Candwr Park - Mr M Bradley attended the meeting again, along with Dr Brown, and Mr and Mrs. Erikson. Concerns were again expressed about the Candwr Park grass area. **Action: -** Clerk to contact Cllr Gauden and Dave Leech TCBC to arrange a meeting at 6pm, prior to Council on November 13th, 2023. Clerk to also obtain at the request of Cllr Buffery, all documentation relating to the Councils change of policy affecting Candwr Park. Residents to also to provide Clerk with questions for Cllr Gauden and Dave Leech for this meeting. Residents left at 7.40pm.
4. **To approve the minutes of the previous meeting** – 11th September 2023.

Proposed - Cllr Ryan Scales

Seconded – Cllr Danaher

Minutes were signed and dated by Chair, as an accurate record of the meeting.

Cllr Danaher welcomed Cllr Buffery to his first meeting.

1. **Matters arising.** 
   1. **Bio-Diversity Plan –** M**e**mbers requested deferment until the November meeting, due to ongoing issues with Candwr Park. **Action-** Clerk to agenda for the November Council meeting.
   2. **Training –** Council training matrix was again reviewed by members. Cllr Morgan will maintain records, with members being responsible for their own progress with training. **Action: -** Cllr Bufferyquestioned if records should not be kept by the Clerk? Clerk to check with OVW.
   3. **Christmas Fayre-** Cllr Leighton has confirmed 19 stalls sold so far, with her target 25.Father Christmas will be in attendance, along with Newport Brass Band. Members discussed purchasing two pop up banners for the event which could also be used at the Music Festival and Bonfire night. **Action:** Clerk obtained quotes at £50 each plus vat**.** The Council agreed to purchase two. Clerk to progress.
   4. **Memorial Stone Update –** A dedication ceremony date of 2nd March 2024 h at 11am has been agreed with the Chapel. **Action: -** Clerk to talk with all parties to progress.
   5. **Christmas Trees and Lights –** Two trees, one for the Hall, and one for All Saints have been ordered from Chris Mellen. The three new streetlights have been delivered, with the three lampposts at Llanfrecha converted. **Action: -** Clerk to check with Enerveo and Chris Mellen if all can be in place for the Christmas Fayre on 26th November?
   6. **WAG/20mph Campaign-** With the changes now in force, members questioned the position of the village zebra crossing. We have no provision for the School, or the Doctors. **Action: -** Clerk to approach TCBC regarding a crossing review in the Village.
   7. **Poppies and Wreaths –** Clerk has organised Village Poppies again, with Council agreeing a donation of £350 to the British Legion. Two wreaths have again been purchased for the two churches.
   8. **Meeting Venue-** With the possibility of a greater public presence at our next meeting, Members agreed to move the November meeting to the Chapel. **Action: -** Clerk to organise.
   9. **Gwent Police –** The Clerk has organized an Officer to attend our next meeting. Councilors asked for a note of crime statistics, and a copy of their Standard Community Agenda to be made available to us before the November meeting. **Action: -** Clerk to organise.
   10. **Mick Morris Sporting Trust –** Cllr Ryan Scales to represent us. Action Completed.
   11. **RLDP –** Will be agendered for the November meeting. **Action: -** Cllr Matthews to update members.
   12. **Candwr Park Grass Area –** All actions from the previous meeting completed.
   13. **Grant Applications/ Defib Courses.** **Action: -** Clerk to follow up all information, and Cllr Buffery asked if we could look at forging links with The Grange.
   14. **Table Tennis Club –** Clare Taylor at TVA looking at the issues on our behalf. **Action: -** Clerk to update at next meeting.
   15. **Community Review –** Actions complete.

**7. To consider and discuss items.**

* 1. **Budget Reforecast** – Following the Election,The Clerk produced a revived spending schedule, which after debate was adopted by Council until March 2024**.** The 2024 precept will need carefulconsideration.
  2. **Quarterly Bank Reconciliation.** This was postponed until November as the bank statement had not arrived.
  3. **Register of Interests –** This was completed by Council following the election of Cllr Buffery.

**8. Finance and Accounts -** Balances and all transactions noted.

**9. Planning Applications –26 Candwr Park**– Demolish rear conservatory. Build a single-story Extension.

**2 Oaklands** – Replace tarmac and gravel area with permeable paving blocks to enable water to drain.

No comments made.

**10. Correspondence -** Noted

**11. Committee Reports**

**a. Ponthir CIW Primary School**. - Cllr Ryan-Scales confirmed that there are only 97 pupils on role, which

is below their target of 100. Their focus this term is to promote the School at every opportunity.

**b. Torfaen County Association of Local Councils.** – No meeting.

**c. Gwent Valleys Partnership. -** No meeting.

**d. Ponthir Village Hall. –** Bookings are up for 2024, which is encouraging.

Trustees are looking now at their business plan for 2024, which will include another public meeting.

**e. PSCC. –**  On the field: Excellent performances by the senior cricket teams, with girls and women’s

cricket an amazing success in only its first season at the club. Senior football team are

unbeaten this season, player numbers are strong. The girls football section goes from

strength to strength with 250+.members registered with FAW.

All three football pitches are now fully operational. Secondary drainage now completed.

Requirements under Sustainable Urban Drainage System are extremely onerous and costly,

so, elements of the project and additional funding are being urgently reviewed by the club.

This will lead to a slight delay to start date of the changes planned at the club.

**The date of the next Meeting is Monday 13th November at 7pm. Venue Baptist Chapel Station Road.**

Meeting Closed at 8.45pm

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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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