**Ponthir Community Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Held on 11th March 2024**

Ponthir Village Hall

@ 7pm

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

 **Also present: Clerk to the Council -** Mrs C Danaher

 **2. Apologies:** Cllr A Lang, Cllr P Matthews and D Leech TCBC.

 **3. Declarations of Interest:**  None.

 **4. To consider matters raised by members of the Public.** None

 **5.** D Leech TCBC not able to attend. **Action: -** Clerk to forward email from Cllr Buffery regarding commercial waste.

 **6. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting** – 12th February 2024.

Proposed - Cllr Ryan-Scales

Seconded – Cllr Leighton

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

**7. Matters arising.**

* 1. **Defib Llanfrechfa –** Cllr Buffery confirmed that it wasn’t showing on the UK register. Clerk has emailed E Pead again, without success. **Action: -** Cllr Leighton to chase E Pead for a response.
	2. **Email protocol –** Cllr Leighton and Cllr Lang to provide new email addresses for website. Cllr Morgan provided a new email address at the meeting. **Action: -** Cllrs Leighton and Lang to complete asap.
	3. **Dedication Ceremony –** The event took place on 2nd March 2024 at Ponthir Baptist Chapel with over 100 people in attendance. These were made up of British Legion Veterans, Regular Army, including a Bugler, many village residents, representatives from both churches and the Guides. Chair gave a reading; Clerk laid a wreath and £340 was raised for the local British Legion. Local resident, Leslie Davies, had published a press release which was featured in the South Wales Argus. ITV Wales ran a piece on the ITV Wales news that evening featuring our Clerk, Clare. The dedication also featured on the main ITV news website. The Council has received excellent feedback from residents about the event. Thanks to the chapel for refreshments and to those Councilors who donated cakes. The council owes a huge debt to Clerk Clare who was involved in organising a very successful event for the Council. We now have a monument to be proud of for many years to come.
	4. **Planters –** Council agreed a budget of £500 from the community fund to cover summer planting and winter bulbs. **Action: -** Clerk to talk to Myf Bowen at All Saints Llanfrechfa about the purchase of spring plants.
	5. **Election –** Council welcomed Cllr Morgan (and in his absence Cllr Lang). Election was uncontested. Clerk to send card to Cllr L Morgan to acknowledge her time on the Council. Cllr Leighton agreed to be Vice Chair. Proposed Cllr Buffery and seconded Cllr Ryan-Scales. Council also thanked the Clerk for all the work which had to be undertaken for the Election.

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

 **9. Planning Applications –** None.

Cllr Buffery commented on the trees which have been felled on Candwr Lane and asked if we had received notice of planning permission for this? The Clerk confirmed that this was not the case. **Action: -** Clerk to email TCBC regarding this matter.

 **10. Correspondence -** Noted

 **11. Committee Reports**

**Ponthir CIW Primary School**. – Cllr Ryan-Scales attended virtually on 7th March. Advert for Head Teacher to go out shortly, with interviews in mid-April. There are 99 pupils on roll. Marketing of School to increase numbers is in hand. Cllr Gauden is helping with this. Cllr Buffery suggested that someone from the school came over to Mother and Toddlers on a Monday morning to speak to parents.

**Torfaen County Association of Local Councils.** – No meeting. Representation will be agreed at our AGM.

**Gwent Valleys Partnership. -** No meeting. Representation will be agreed at our AGM.

**Ponthir Village Hall. –** New doors have been fitted with electronic opening and closing. Cllr Buffery outlined the new waste management process which comes in at the start of April. It will be three times more expensive and will include a lot more work, as all waste now must be segregated. There will be a Village Hall Public Meeting in April. Cllr Buffery confirmed that a new lease has been signed for the next 25 years.

**PSCC –** Club on track to re-open for the start of the cricket season. The club now has four teams on a Saturday, five on a Sunday and two ladies’ teams.

**Mick Morris Memorial Sporting Trust-** Cllr Ryan-Scales attended virtually, where they considered twenty -five grant applications and discussed the Mick Morris 10k in July.

 **The date of the next Meeting is Monday 15th April 2024 at Ponthir Village Hall.**

 Meeting Closed at 7.45 pm.

 **This document is available on our website** [www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk](http://www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk)

**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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