

Ponthir Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Held on 12th May 2025 at Ponthir Village Hall at 7pm

Present: Cllr I Danaher, Cllr M Leighton, Cllr R Morgan, Cllr A Lang and Cllr L Ryan-Scales.

Also present: Clerk to the Council – Mrs C Danaher.

1. **Apologies** – Cllr P Matthews and Cllr P Buffery. Apologies accepted, proposed by Cllr Leighton and seconded by Cllr Danaher.
2. **Declaration of Interests** – None.
3. **To consider matters raised by members of the public** – None.
4. **To approve the minutes of the meeting on 14th April 2025** – Proposed by Cllr Morgan and seconded by Cllr Lang.
5. **Guests** – Joel Cantello, Community Capacity Builder for Ponthir and Lower Llanfrechfa attended the meeting to discuss his role and what he could do to help build resilience of residents in the village. He said that the main issue in Ponthir is loneliness and isolation, especially with the older residents. He has been working with the PSCC and they are hoping to start a Community Fridge, if grant funding allows. Joel hopes to do a leaflet drop in the village incorporating the village hall and the PSCC.
6. **Matters Arising**
 - a **Bank Forms** – Cllr Leighton and Cllr Buffery have completed the necessary forms now. **Action:** Clerk to send to the Co-op Bank to enable the signatories to be updated.
 - b **Planters** – The plants were delivered last Friday and all planters in the village have been completed. Clerk stressed the need for them to be watered regularly and the following rota was agreed: -
 - 3 at Village Notice Board – Cllr Danaher and Clerk.
 - 2 at Candwr Park Bus Stop – Cllr Matthews.
 - 2 at Lamb Lane – Cllr Morgan and Periam Family.
 - 2 at Hafod Road Bus Stop – Cllr Leighton.
 - 2 at Stokes Drive/Bus stop – John Pollard (resident).
 - Large planter at Barnfield – Cllrs Ryan-Scales and Lang.
 - Back up waterer – Cllr Buffery.
 - c **Biodiversity** – Clerk was disappointed that only one Councillor had replied with regards to the Action Plan. Clerk did not feel that it was up to the required standard, but Council agreed for it to be published anyway. Proposed by Cllr Danaher and seconded by Cllr Morgan.
 - d **Training Plan** – Not all Councillors had responded to Clerk regarding training. **Actions:** All Councillors need to choose a course and let the Clerk know before the next meeting, so that a Training Plan can be completed. Cllr Lang needs to complete his New Councillor Induction, as he missed it last July.
 - e **AGM** – Clerk gave her intention to step down from her post at the end of September. This intention has not been made in writing currently. No Councillors are willing to stand as Chair, so the meeting requested the Clerk to contact TCBC and OVV to ascertain our options. Present Chair, Cllr Danaher reiterated the need for 100% attendance at the AGM in June.
 - f **Councillor Expenses** -Clerk is still awaiting a reply from Cllrs Matthews and Lang. **Action:** Cllrs Matthews and Lang to let Clerk know their intentions by Friday 23rd May.
 - g **Community Event** – Cllr Leighton confirmed that no event at the PSCC is planned for the summer.

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

a **Register of Interest Form** – Form completed at meeting.

b **VAT Return** – VAT return has been submitted for sum of £927.46.

c **Audit** – Cllr Lang signed the accounting statement for 24/25 following our internal by Mrs N Lewis. **Action:** Forms to be sent to Audit Wales.

d **Representative on the Village Hall Trustees** – This will be discussed at the AGM.

e **LDP Scrutiny Committee** – Cllr Danaher attended. Ponthir CC was discussed as an example of good practice by TCBC.

8. **Finance and Accounts:** balance and all transactions noted.

9. **Planning:** SPRI/25/P/0237/FUL Retention of building to accommodate community Hwb Clwb, car park/delivery area, conversion of existing pavilion to changing rooms, siting of new storage containers/bin stores. Sports Pavilion, School Close, Ponthir - No comments.
TBRA/25/P/0149/FUL Extension of an existing menage including a retaining wall and a net gain of three floodlights – Ty Llwyd Farm, Church Road, Llanfrehfa. – No comments.

10. **Correspondence received** – Noted.

11. **Committee Reports**

Ponthir Church in Wales Primary School – No report.

Torfaen Community Trust: No meeting.

Gwent Valleys Partnership: Meeting postponed.

Ponthir Village Hall: No report.

PSCC: AGM 28th May at 8pm – open to public.

Mick Morris Memorial Sporting Trust: No report.

Local Council Partnership Committee: Cllr Morgan believes this has been disbanded.

Chair's Report: Cllr Danaher thanked Cllr Lang for attending the wreath laying at Ponthir Baptist Church to commemorate VE Day.

The date of the next meeting is Monday 9th June at Ponthir Village Hall. This meeting is to follow the Council AGM at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 20:00

This document is available on our website.

A copy of this document can be made available in Welsh.

Please contact the Clerk on 07454 988250 or email clerk@ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk

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