

**CYNGOR CYMUNED**  
**YNYSYBWL & COED-Y-CWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE**  
**OF YNYSYBWL & COED-Y-CWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**HELD AT YNYSYBWL COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024 @ 18:45 PM**  
**CLERK ANNEMARIE BEVAN EDWARDS**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Messrs E. Wigfall, G. Haines, C. Evans, R. Davies and C. Binks  
Councillors Mrs P. Evans, C. Banwell and B. Leach

**1 TO RECEIVE DISCLOSURES**

Members of the Community Council who are members of the Community Centre Sub Committee and HR committee have previously signed disclosures, these council members are Cllr E. Wigfall, Cllr G. Haines, Cllr C. Banwell, Cllr P. Evans and Cllr C. Evans

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies in writing for absence were received from Cllr Mrs A. Ellis, Cllr B. Williams and Cllr C. Jones

**3. PUBLIC BREAK**

There were three presentations from the public for help with events or situations at the meeting.

**1. Presentation from Mrs Julie Cook**

Julie Cook provided a presentation to the council about the work she and her husband are doing to enhance and protect the Lady Windsor Colliery Site. The work revolves around the publication of books highlighting the biodiversity, historical and social importance of this local greenfield and public right to walk site. Books have been and are in the process of being produced by experts in entomology and mycology. Once the publications have been finished it is hoped that they will be packaged as a project and sold or used in places like museums and independent book shops. The work is primarily being supported by artists and authors based at Pwllheulog Barn. The group firmly believe this site is of great importance to local residents because of its history and biodiversity and should not be seen as a brownfield site for development. The group have garnered support from experts in the field ranging from an entomologist, industrial archaeologist and a mycologist.

The group are asking for support to launch work which will help protect this site:

- The provision of site safaris by an entomologist and a mycologist for the public. This is to help increase awareness of the biodiversity at the Lady Windsor Colliery Site. The group are asking for a total of £500 – to pay the experts providing the safaris, £250 each.
- Help with organising a group “Friends of Lady Windsor”

The following questions from councillors included:

- Cllr G. Haines asked if the project is being advertised, what dates are the safaris, how many people they expected will attend the safaris?

*The response from Julie Cook was that the project had been advertised on the library and the group had seen interest from the local residents. The group are hoping to attract about 20/30 people to attend the safaris and this could be a rolling event. The group are hoping to provide the safaris in the next couple of months. And once the project is complete the group are hoping it will be used by museums.*

- Cllr R. Davies stated that this was an excellent project and in keeping with the council responsibilities to support local biodiversity and facilitate the wellbeing of the local

community. Cllr R. Davies also asked if the group had thought about contacting local schools to present their work, maybe as the form of a workshop. Cllr Davies said the project would work well with the “in my backyard” schemes in the new school curriculum. Cllr Davies suggested Mrs Cook contact the two local primary schools.

- Cllr Davies also suggested that the council has the option of supporting community groups with set up costs such as printing  
*Mrs Cook responded that contacting schools is a good idea and that the group would appreciate help with setting up the group.*
- Both Cllr P. Evans and Cllr B Leach told the council that they had attended a safari in the area a few years ago and it had been attended by about fifty people and that previous events had been very good and well received by the local community. They both highlighted that projects such as this are very important “on the doorstep” events about the local area.

**It was PROPOSED** by Cllr G. Haines and seconded by Cllr R. Davies that the community council fund the safaris to the sum of £500. This was **RESOLVED** and agreed to by the council. Cllr Haines suggested that Mrs Cook contact the council when the group require support to set up the group “Friends of Lady Windsor”.

**2.** Presentation from Elaine Williams regarding Butchers Paddling Pool

This was a follow up presentation from Mrs Williams regarding the provision at the Butchers Paddling Pool for children during the summer holidays. The concern was in regard to the cost of providing lifeguards at the facility.

Cllr G. Haines informed council and Mrs Williams that he had received an email communication from Mr Christopher Lock from RCT explaining that on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022 a commission had been set up to determine the needs for provision at Butchers Pool and that the recommendations were:

- A person/volunteer be trained to achieve the RLSS UK emergency response pool certificate – the course is provided by RCT at no cost
- A person/volunteer be trained as a paediatric first aider

Cllr E. Wigfall asked how many volunteers helped at the Butcher’s paddling pool – and queried if there were enough.

Cllr C. Banwell asked how many volunteers were required to train?

**It was PROPOSED** by Cllr G. Haines and seconded by Cllr C Banwell that the volunteer group and the community council advertise for more volunteers. A date was set for providing the paediatric first aid course – the course would be undertaken by Cllr. Chay Binks and provided by Cllr. G. Haines (who has the required training and certification to provide this course). Cllr R. Davies stated that if the volunteer group experienced any further issues around the provision of lifeguards, once they had contacted Chris Lock they could request a further meeting with council. This was **RESOLVED** and agreed to by council.

**3.** Presentation from Julie Evans and residents from Coed-y-Cwm regarding the planning application of 20 residential houses in Coed-y-Cwm. Acolaid case # 23/0958/10

Mrs Evans explained that the residents had attended the community council meeting in the hope that they could garner support to object to the building of 20 new houses in Coed-y-Cwm. The objections to the planning application were as follows:

- The current amenities in the area do not support the current population – this is without the addition of twenty new residential houses.
- The amenities listed by the developer are to be situated in Glyncoch – an area two miles away from Coed-y-Cwm. This distance would not be convenient or realistic for a lot of the residents of Coed-y-Cwm and the amenities are not easily accessed by motor vehicles or public transport.
- Adequate drainage of surface is not sufficient, and this issue has been highlighted in several reports previously.

- There have been several issues with the drainage of foul waste in the past and the services of both RCT and Welsh Water have been required to resolve serious concerns with this issue. The system is struggling to cope with current capacity, without the additional residents. Welsh Water are known to have rejected a previous application this was to do with the issue of water drainage and the pumping stations.
- The proposed area for building the additional houses is on the only green space in the Coed-y-Cwm estate. The current biodiversity on the area includes bats, newts and slow worm snakes. There are many young oak trees on the area and the green space is very important to the local area especially for the children.
- The current infrastructure and rights of way are major concerns for the residents – the bridge entering the Coed-y-Cwm frequently requires repair and is unlikely to cope with heavy machinery and the increased vehicular traffic.
- There are serious concerns about the impact on safe route to schools for children of Coed-y-Cwm.
- Road and pedestrian safety will be affected as there are already issues with short supply of on road parking, there is a serious shortage of parking in the area.

Several other issues were discussed this included previous rejections of planning applications on this site, the issue with youth provision in the area and questions about the developer Castle Group.

The Clerk asked the group if they had sent in their individual objections to the planning application and the response was that many residents of Coed-y-Cwm had sent in objections to the planning application.

The Chair asked the group what it was they wanted the council to do and explained that as a community council the council does not have statutory rights in this area. He also highlighted that many councillors have already sent their individual objections to this planning application to RCT. The Borough Councillors have also forwarded their objections.

Cllr C. Banwell asked if the group have learned when RCT are sitting on this application.

Cllr C. Binks explained that it is better for the group to focus primarily on areas of infrastructure, water drainage, green space for children and biodiversity and road safety and the detrimental effects on the bridge capacity as the only route into Coed-y-Cwm.

Cllr R. Davies suggested that the council could support the group by paying for the community centre to host any meetings they have and advised the group to contact Julie Cook for help with assessing the biodiversity of the green space in Coed-y-Cwm.

**It was PROPOSED by** Cllr E Wigfall and seconded by Cllr C. Banwell and agreed by council that the residents of Coed-y-Cwm who have not lodged objections to the planning application be encouraged to do so if they agree with the group. Community Councillors and Borough Councillors have lodged objections already. The group were encouraged to attend RCT when the Borough Council sit for the reading of this application.

#### 4. POLICE REPORT

The Clerk explained that despite two emails to Sargeant Rees of South Wales Police no response had been received regarding enquiries about the lack of police reports. **It was PROPOSED by** Cllr Davies and seconded by Cllr G. Haines and agreed by council that a senior officer should be contacted to help with this issue.

The Chair read out the reports provided by the environmental officer, and these were noted with no action required.

#### 5. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD:

It was **RESOLVED** by council to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Community Council Meeting on Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## 6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes from June 11<sup>th</sup> 2024.

## 7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- 7.1 The Chair asked council to approve the purchase of a new commercial grade cooker for the community centre. Cllr C. Evans explained that it was important to ensure a commercial cooker is purchased. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr R. Davies and seconded by Cllr B Leach to purchase the cooker for the community centre to the value of £1600 + VAT. The proposal was ratified by Cllrs Chay Binks, Beth Leach, Rob Davies and Clive Evans.
- 7.2 The Chair informed council of the recruitment process for hiring a new Clerk and outlined the process including the timeline for the recruitment process. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr R Davies and seconded by Cllr C Banwell to agree on the advertising budget for the post of £1000.00 This was ratified and agreed to by Cllrs Beth Leach, Paula Evans, Rob Davies and Chay Binks.
- 7.3 The Chair informed the council that a request to move the monthly meeting day from Tuesday had been made by the community centre administration as they may not be able to accommodate Tuesdays in the future. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr P Evans and seconded by Cllr C Banwell to move the monthly meeting day to a Monday from September 2024. It was **RESOLVED** and agreed by council that the council should meet on Mondays from September 2024.
- 7.4 The Chair informed council that MST sport are in the process of adding Marianne Jones' name to the Roll of Honour Board.
- 7.5. The Chair informed council that processes for replacing Marianne Jones on the council is underway. The final date by which an election can be called will be Friday 15<sup>th</sup> from this date adverts will be placed on council social media sites and notice boards for interested residents to apply by email for coopting on to the community council.

## 8. CLERK'S REPORT

- 8.1 The Clerk informed the council that a request has been made by residents in Coed-y-Cwm for planters and hanging flower baskets to be erected in the area. The Clerk went onto inform council that she has made enquiries with the company who provides the planters for Ynysybwl and has been informed that it is too late to provide these for 2024 and that if council agrees to this it is better to plan for 2025. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr G. Haines and seconded by Cllr E. Wigfall that a review should be undertaken of the planting in Ynysybwl to determine the comparable provision for Coed-y-Cwm and a breakdown of costs will be presented at the council meeting in September. It was **RESOLVED** by council to agree to this proposal.
- 8.2 The Clerk informed council that RCT have a new policy for festive lighting and in the future the council will be required to provide RCT with a list of all festive lighting used. **It was PROPOSED** that the Clerk will provide RCT with a list of the festive lighting used in the area in time for the Christmas period.
- 8.3 The Clerk informed council that now that the Microsoft Business facility is now available to council it is possible to use the Teams and recording facilities - **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr G. Haines and seconded by Cllr E Wigfall to record meetings and to post them on the council Website starting September 2024. This was **RESOLVED** and accepted by council.
- 8.4 The Clerk explained to council that the current banking system whereby only £1000 is held in the Treasurers account is problematic when trying to organise the payment of her salary. The result is that three months in a row the salary has not been paid due to insufficient funds. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr C. Banwell and seconded by Cllr P. Evans that the Clerk contact the bank to increase the reserve in the Treasurers account to £2000 and that the salary payment for July be paid prior to the Clerk's annual leave to avoid a missed payment. This

- was **RESOLVED** and agreed to by council.
- 8.5 The Clerk asked the council if it is possible to purchase the Clerk's Manual from the SLCC for the sum of about £55. It was **RESOLVED** and agreed to by council.
- 8.6 The Clerk informed council that the Microsoft subscription was now paid by BACS from the Treasurers account – **NOTED**
- 8.7 The Clerk explained to council that the internet provision is very slow - **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr C. Binks and seconded by Cllr E. Wigfall that in the first instance the internet provider be contacted to review the service. It was **RESOLVED** and accepted by council.

## 9.0 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk read out a letter from resident Emma Dyer requesting funding to pay for the cost of a bus to organise a bus trip to Tenby/Folly Farm for residents of any age. Emma explained that the motivation for doing this is to change and enhance the profile of the community centre in Ynysybwl where Emma volunteers. The trip will be open to everyone in the area on a first come /first served basis. A risk assessment will be undertaken. The funding requested is for £750. Cllr C. Evans was supported by other councillors when he highlighted his concerns about cost to participants for entry to Folly Farm as this might exclude some residents. And, about the length of the trip for driving to Tenby – he suggested a more local trip might be better. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr C. Evans and seconded by Cllr C. Banwell to support the payment of up to £750 for the coach hire, with the amendment that the trip does not include a destination where an additional cost is incurred. The council would like a report about the trip. This was **RESOLVED** and agreed to by council – carried by Cllrs Davies, Leach, Evans and Banwell.

## 10. TO CONSIDER THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The planning application # 23/0958/10 the building for 20 residential homes on a greenfield site in Coed-y-Cwm has been discussed previously in the meeting.
- 10.2 The planning application # 24/0641/10 the change of a residential property to a care home for children. Cllr Leach explained that residents near this house have asked her for more information regarding the changes to the property. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr Leach and seconded by Cllr P Evans **and RESOLVED** by council that the Clerk write to the planning department in RCT requesting more information about the change in use of this property.

## 11. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Cllr P. Evans provided council with the Borough Councillors report. This included an update on the closure of the doctor's surgery, the next meeting is scheduled for the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024 where more information will be sought about the provision of satellite services to the area, and this will be reported back to council.

Cllr P. Evans also informed council that they had a meeting on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July about the Development of the reservoir and stated that the plans so far appear more positive.

The final element of the report was about the plans for the Eisteddfod. It has been announced that Taff Street will be closed during the Eisteddfod. Planning for public transport is still underway, but bus services will be enhanced with the cost remaining at £1pp.

## 12. TO ACCEPT ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

**It was PROPOSED** and **RESOLVED** by council to accept the accounts for payment as accurate.

## 13. TO CONSIDER ITEMS BROUGHT TO THE AGENDA BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

- 13.1 Cllr G. Haines explained to council the process for re-examining an item within the six month period. The issue is the closure of the office. Four councillors have written to the Clerk confirming their objection to closing the office and this allows council to re-examine the item. Cllr Leach stated that it is important that the council look at utilisation of the office and how

it could be used for surgeries etc. This was supported by Cllr C. Evans.

**It was PROPOSED** by Cllr G. Haines and seconded by Cllr P. Evans that the community council continue to lease the office. The item was **RESOLVED** and it was carried by Cllrs C. Evans, Wigfall, Leach, Banwell, Davies and Binks.

13.2 **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr Leach that the council to consider funding to the sum of £6000 an investment in outdoor play equipment for the Green Park on Crawshay Road. The park is an important green space playing area for children and the recent removal and vandalism of children's play equipment is unacceptable. Cllr Leach ask that the council not forget this important children's area but she understands that the cost of equipment is very high. **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr P Evans and seconded by Cllr G Haines that in the first instance the Clerk should write to Lisa Austin in RCT to request help with this item and that the issue be followed up once more information is available.

13.3 **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr Leach that the council repair and maintain the important notice board at the entrance to the Lady Windsor Trail. This would involve appointing a craft person to install a display in the notice board with information about the trail and its significance to the local area. Cllr Leach is requesting a sum of £1000 be assigned to support this proposal. It was **RESOLVED** by council to support this initiative to the sum of £1000.

13.4 **It was PROPOSED** by Cllr R. Davies that the council elect a Minor Authority Governor to the Board of Governors of Ysgol Awel. Cllr E. Wigfall was nominated as Minor Authority Governor to Ysgol Anwel on behalf the community council. This was **RESOLVED** and agreed to by council.

#### **14. COMMUNITY COUNCIL MAINTAINED DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE**

Cllr G. Haines reported to council that there are no current issues with the community council maintained defibrillators.

#### **15. NEXT MEETING**

**It was PROPOSED** and agreed by council that the meeting of the Ynysybwl & Coed-y-Cwm Community Council be convened on Monday September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024.

The meeting was suspended at 20.58pm.