

CYNGOR CYMUNED
YNYSYBWL & COED-Y-CWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF YNYSYBWL & COED-Y-CWM COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD AT YNYSYBWL COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2024 @ 18:45PM
CLERK ANNEMARIE BEVAN EDWARDS

PRESENT: Chair Cllr A Ellis

Councillors Mrs E Leach, Mr Elliot Wigfall, Mr Barri Williams, Mr Gus Haines,
Mr Robert Davies, Chay Binks, Paula Evans

Mrs E Leach and Mrs P Evans declared and have previously signed personal interest disclosure as members/volunteers of the Gwl Festival Group.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Evans (due to illness), Cllr C Banwell (personal reasons), Cllr M Jones (due to illness).

3. PUBLIC BREAK

There was no public break at this extraordinary meeting of the Ynysybwl & Coed-y-Cwm community council.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Cllr Ellis explained that this extraordinary meeting had been convened to discuss and decide on the application for funding for the Gwyl Festival 2024, the application has been made by The Ynysybwl Enterprise Programme Ltd (YEP), working group.

Cllr Ellis pointed out that contrary to opinion the community council does not have a Community Facility Programme.

There followed a substantial and lengthy discussion / debate by council members about the community council funding history for the Gwyl Festival, some of these issues are highlighted below:

- the benefits and contraindications of supporting the Gwyl festival for the community council- this included accountability for public funds, future financial insecurity for all communities, political motivation
- financial sustainability for providing future festivals, council members would like to see festival fund itself in the future by seeking other income streams, such as grants and increasing the cost for vendors, and possibly asking for a % of taking from vendors
- local and wider community engagement and reviews, it was asked if it could be determined what the ratio in attendance figures is from local and non-local attendees
- attendance figures from previous years
- admission fees for adults and children – it is understood that admission fees are to be increased this year for adults while the age for admission for children has been raised
- it was pointed out that the festival's success can be determined by the weather and if there are adverse weather conditions the festival is likely to be at risk financially – it was queried whether it would be advisable to insured against such an event. It was suggested that the festival has to be a "not for profit" event.

- it was proffered by some councillors that the festival is good for the community, while others felt it was a drinking event and that the funding could be used to support those people in need
- financial accounts from previous years and for projection were shared with council by YEP, these were very detailed and YEP was commended by council for this. It was pointed out that the festival has a surplus of £6k from last year's festival
- some councillors felt that the working group from YEP who organise the Gwyl festival should develop a future proofing plan for funding the festival, where funding streams are independent of the community council. It was pointed out that historically, the agreement was that this would happen and the funding from the community council would decrease by increments annually
- it was highlighted that the other community-based events the council funds are not one-off events, for example Butcher's Paddling Pool, these long-term events require increasing funds to ensure survival.
- It was however, outlined by some councillors that what the festival organising committee do should be entirely up to them
- there was a discussion about the community council current bank balances and it was explained and reinforced by the Chair that £25k of these funds are for community based, long term projects, discussion about allocation of this money is on the agenda for council in March 2024
- it was also explained that income from the windfarms is a fixed amount, set in deed and cannot be increased
- with regard to vendor who attend the Gwyl Festival it was reported that because the festival is provided on a Bank Holiday weekend it is challenging to secure vendors, it was explained that vendors fees are non-refundable

Following this detailed and lengthy debate it was **RESOLVED**

- **The Ynysybwl & Coed-y-Cwm Community Council will provide a one-off payment this year of £10 000.00 (TEN THOUSAND POUNDS) exactly.**
- **The Ynysybwl Enterprise Programme, working group are invited to apply for funding next year if required, but this is not guaranteed.**
- **The Ynysybwl & Coed-y-Cwm Community Council require that any future application for funding be presented to the council in September/early October, this is to ensure applications for funding can be assessed prior to budget and precept development.**
- **The Ynysybwl & Coed-y-Cwm Community Council request of list of vendors and costings they wish the council to pay for, this will ensure accurate accounting of monies and retrieval of VAT payments.**

Council members felt it is important to acknowledge the work undertaken by the community council to convene a meeting within a week of the application.

It is also important to recognise the work undertaken to secure a positive decision so quickly.

5. TO ACCEPT PAYMENT FOR ACCOUNTS

An application was made from Enthusiasm Events Cardiff for payment in advance of the festival for a sum of £453. **It was RESOLVED** to decline this payment and this should be communicated to the Gwyl Festival working party.

6. NEXT MEETING It was RESOLVED that there was no need to convene a further meeting of the Community Council Meeting on this matter.