



# **Llangynwyd Middle Community Council**

## **Minutes of the Remote Ordinary Meeting of Full Council Held in Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 20th September 2023 at 6.30pm**

### **Present**

Councillors: Kenneth Piper (KP) - Chairman, Colin Williams (CW), Pararajasingham Sasiruban (PS), Harry Davies (HD), Phillippa Etherington (PE) and PCSO Gareth Stoneham (GS)

Linda Williams (LW) - Minute Taker

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Cheryl John (CJ), Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer is on a long-term absence due to extenuating circumstances at home.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None

### **3. Public Address**

None

### **4. Police Matters**

GS presented the crime statistics for February to August 2023.

There have been problems in Lletty Brongu, KP asked if patrols have been increased in the area, GS stated that there will be an increase over the next month.

KP also asked if the incidents of vandalism at Parc Tir Iarll, Llangynwyd Village Hall and on the locks for the gate at Llangynwyd Playing Fields have been reported, GS stated that although he has been informed of the vandalism in these areas, the

cases have not been officially reported, but that he has asked for the community camera to do a sweep of the village hall area.

GS advised that issues should be reported through the correct channel; the more incidents officially recorded, the more measures that can be taken.

PE asked for the legalities of Council installing a motion sensed wildlife camera in Parc Tir Iarll, GS suggested that if a camera was to be installed, signs could be erected to inform people, which could help with the prevention of crime in the area.

**Action:** Clerk to source and obtain quotations for these signs.

PE advised that tractors with trailers sometimes have difficulty travelling through Station Road, Llangynwyd, due to the obstruction parked cars create.

**Action:** GS to discuss further with PE, and to monitor the situation.

GS informed Council that the recent road traffic operation at Llangynwyd Village Hall was very successful, and that there will be more in the future at the hall.

GS advised Council that recently, much of his time has been spent dealing with a spate of shoplifting incidents in Maesteg Town Centre, but hopefully, there would be more patrols of Cwmfelin and Llangynwyd, due to additional PCSOs.

## **5. Ratification of the Minutes of the Annual Meeting Held on Wednesday, 28th June 2023**

Council read the minutes and **resolved** that they be approved.

## **6. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual Meeting Held on Wednesday, 28th June 2023**

Page 1 - Item 2 - To Receive the Chairperson's Declaration of Acceptance of Office  
KP advised that he has signed the declaration.

### **Page 2 - Item 8 - IRPW - Payments 2023/24**

CW queried the payment of the Councillor's Allowance; he was advised that it has been paid to Councillors.

**Action:** CW to check if he has received the payment.

### **Page 3 - Item 13 - To Review the Signatories for Online Banking**

CW and PE have now been added as signatories for online banking.

## **7. Ratification of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Full Council Held on Wednesday, 26th July 2023**

Council read the minutes and **resolved** that they be approved.

## **8. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Full Council Held on Wednesday, 26th July 2023**

### **Page 5 - Item 19 - Correspondence**

- Painting of Bridge by Old Tyler's Arms

Clerk has written to Bridgend County Borough Council querying the quantities and best paints to use for environmental purposes, as it is over a river. However, a written response has not been received, despite the Clerk speaking to an officer who advised her that it would not be a straightforward matter; National Resources Wales (NRW) would need to be consulted.

**Action:** Clerk to contact NRW.

- Notice of making a definitive map modification order - addition of byway open to all traffic from County Road at Brynllwarch Fawr Farm to east of railway crossing, addition of restricted byway to link to Bridleway 32 Llangynwyd Middle and upgrading of Bridleway 32 Llangynwyd Middle to a restricted byway

**Action:** KP to check with the Clerk to ensure the observations of Council have been sent, and to find out if a response has been received.

### **Page 7 - Item 21 - Any Other Business**

- Use of Llangynwyd Village Hall for Council Meetings

As agreed previously, the Chamber at Maesteg Town Council Offices is used for meetings. It is spacious with all the equipment to hold hybrid meetings under the Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021.

**Action:** CW has requested that the use of Llangynwyd Village Hall be re-considered for meetings.

- IRPW 2023/24 - senior role payment for PE

PE was thanked for all her hard work at Parc Tir Iarll, and for taking on the management responsibilities for the park.

### **Page 7 - Item 24 - Members' Reports**

- HD and PE have both checked the slate on the top left corner of the Maid of Cefn Ydfa monolith and can find no damage.

## **9. Planning**

Council considered the following application:

- Planning application consultation: P/23/457/FUL - Llangynwyd Playing Fields and Pavilion, Maesteg Road, Llangynwyd CF34 9SN - renovate and extend the existing pavilion to improve the facilities, extend the parking facilities and re-orientate the playing fields to gain a pitch and training/warm up area.

**Resolved**: no objection to this application; all Councillors are in favour of the work Llangynwyd Rangers BGCW FC is doing in the community.

## **10. Finance and Accounts**

Members were sent the following documents prior to the meeting:

- Excel spreadsheets with full details of all transactions between 01/04/2023 and 31/08/2023
- Unity Trust Bank statements for July and August 2023; there have been no NatWest transactions since 29th December 2021

### **Unity Trust Bank Balance**

Opening on 01/07/2023: £94,209.13

Closing on 31/08/2023: £85,435.09

### **NatWest Bank Balance**

Opening on 01/07/2023: £5,000.00

Closing on 31/08/2023: £5,000.00

Council **resolved** that the excel spreadsheets be approved.

## **11. Parc Tir Iarll**

- Trimming Back Overhanging Tree - Rear of Cwrt y Fedwen  
PE to check which tree needs trimming and will report back to Council at October Meeting.
- Wobbly Bench

**Actions**: Park Warden to be asked to cordon off the bench for the time being, and Clerk to contact the Local Authority for quotations to move the bench closer to the path.

## **12. Correspondence**

- Meeting/Observations Regarding Emerging Proposals for Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park

Some Councillors received an email from a member of the public opposing the proposal and asking for their views on the turbines. KP, PE and CW to attend the consultation event at the Sports and Social Club, Bridgend Road, Maesteg on Thursday, 21st September 2023.

**Action:** Members to report back to Council at the next meeting so that a response can be formulated.

- Approval for Clerk to consider and sign the necessary documents for Clyde & Co; a law firm acting on behalf of Council's insurer (Zurich) on a case

It was **resolved** that the Clerk be given permission to sign the claim form to assist with the recoupment of money owed.

- Co-option of a Councillor - Kyle Duggan (KD)

It was **resolved** that KD be co-opted as a Councillor.

**Action:** Clerk to remind KD that monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month.

- Meeting with Llangynwyd Rangers BGCW FC - planned work at Llangynwyd Playing Fields

Council **resolved** that a meeting should go ahead to discuss the plans, and to explore how both organisations can work together to enhance the lives of people living in Llangynwyd Middle.

**Action:** Clerk to contact the club to make the necessary arrangements for a meeting.

## **13. Any Other Business**

- Purchase of a New Bar for the Chain of Office with the Chairman's Name on it for 2023/24

**Resolved:** that a new bar be purchased at a cost of £94.82 (excluding VAT and carriage) from Vaughtons.

- Reimbursement for Cost of Printer Ink for Park Warden

**Resolved:** that this be rejected, as in future, time sheets should be obtained from the Clerk.

## **14. Clerk's Report**

- Although Council accepted David Price's quotation for resurfacing Footpath 20 in the park through the Cwm Taf Nature Network, Bridgend County Borough Council would not have been able to pay him for the work, as he was not registered under the Construction Industry Scheme; another firm approved by the Authority did the work in the end

PE stated that she was not happy with the resurfacing of the footpath, as the wooden edging was damaged because of the work completed. She felt the work was substandard, and that any future work should be completed by an alternative company.

**Action:** PE to report back to Council at the next meeting if any further work is needed.

- Abandoned Caravan on Heol yr Ysgol has been removed by Bridgend County Borough Council
- Flooding issue outside the old Calfaria Chapel in Cwmfelin has been rectified by Bridgend County Borough Council; the drop kerb outside the property was made higher
- It was reported to Council that there are painted civil engineering signs along both pavements from the bottom of Prospect Place up to Llan Square; Bridgend County Borough Council's response is:

"In regard to the markings as part of the recent resurfacing, we do not remove them after any such works throughout the County Borough.

As explained previously they will fade over time, and the Authority does not have the resources to remove such markings due to the aesthetic concerns of the public.

The markings do not cause any safety issues, and as such no works are planned to remove them."

- It was reported to Council that the Welsh translation on the 'Prospect Place' sign is incorrect; Bridgend County Borough Council's response is:

"It should be noted that the two signs either side of the highway have been replaced at differing times. The sign on the south side was replaced in Circa 2009 and at this time the Welsh translation was added to the existing English only street name. The translation was included as "Maes Hyfryd". In 2019, following an inspection it was noted that the English only plate had become dislodged/removed from the North side of the junction. The sign was replaced in line with the 2009 sign, with the slight variation that the Welsh translation was placed first, in accordance with current guidance.

We understand that this translation has been questioned and it is suggested that it is incorrect. As stated above the new sign has literally followed the sign installed in 2009, to which I am not aware of any issue being raised with its translation, until we have upgraded the English only sign that was present up until 2019. Currently the Highways Department, as do other teams within Bridgend County Borough Council, make use of the Welsh Government framework for Welsh translation contractors which provides a list of approved translators where there is a need for Welsh translation. In this regard we have spoken to one such contractor in regard to the specific translation here. It should also be noted, and was explained by the translator that the translation of street name signs is a complicated matter and in many cases a literal translation would not apply. For example the translator has suggested that this translation could be correct if the meaning of 'prospect' is considered to be 'a place which affords an extensive view', which is an appropriate meaning. The translator also went onto state that as a Welsh speaker the Welsh translation of the sign would not be considered by them to be incorrect/out of context, however they do understand that there may be other views on this.

As such it is not the current intention to amend the sign and translation introduced in 2009."

#### **15. Chairman's Report**

None

#### **16. Members' Reports**

CW asked if the recruitment of new councillors could be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **17. Date of Next meeting**

Wednesday, 11th October 2023.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....