

Cyngor Cymuned Cwmllynfell Community Council



26 Ffordd Yr Hebog, Parc Derwen, Coity, Bridgend, CF35 6DH

☎ 07714 788429

E.bost/E.mail: cwmllynfellcc@gmail.com

<http://www.cwmllynfell.cc>

Minutes of the General Meeting of Cwmllynfell Community Council held Hybrid from Rhiwfawr Community Hall on Thursday 15th June 2023 6.30pm

Minutes

Cllr Mat Scarll (Chairman)

Cllr Martin Evans

Cllr Helen Williams

Cllr Cathy James

Cllr Delyth Thomas

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Hugh Jones (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Derryl Watkins

Cllr Louise Salmon

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr C James declared an interest in item 6 as she is a member of the Planning Committee, Cllr James left the room whilst this item was discussed

Cllr D Thomas declared an interest in item 5a ii as she is a Community Council appointed governor to the school. Cllr Thomas left the room whilst this item was discussed.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on [18 May 2023](#)

The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 May 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Matters arising:

Cwmllynfell Skate Park – The Clerk advised that the litter had been collected on a weekly basis and any litter was also collected. She advised that the situation would continue to be monitored and encouraged Members to report any issues to her. She further advised that she had been in touch with NPTCBC and whilst they had been cleaning and maintaining the park for quite some time, it was not their duty to do so and new staff on duty meant that the current arrangement had come to an end.

5. Financial Matters

a. Grant Funding Applications

i. Wales Air Ambulance

1

Sarah Daniel – Clerk to Council

Members: Cllr M Scarll, Cllr H Jones, Cllr M Evans, Cllr D Thomas, Cllr C James, Cllr D Watkins, Cllr L Salmon, Cllr H Williams

Members discussed the above application and agreed that whilst this is a worthwhile cause, the application was not in line with the grant policy – namely contribution towards lease and fuel of vehicles. Members agreed to award the requested £250 but outside of the grant policy and as a charitable donation. Members agreed it would be good to donate to a different and worthwhile cause each year.

ii. YGG Cwmllynfell –

Members considered the application and agreed that an additional defibrillator in the village would be advantageous and as outlined in the application would save valuable minutes in retrieving one from the nearby hall or chemist if one was needed at the school. Members however sought clarification as to where the potential defibrillator would be housed and if it would be accessible to the community 24/7, or if it would be stored in the school.

The clerk agreed to clarify the situation.

Members **agreed** that if it was to be housed internally and there was no requirement for an external cabinet, then the Community Council will award the funding for the defibrillator only. If it were to be housed externally, with a requirement for a heated Cabinet, then the Community Council would also fund this on the understanding that the defibrillator is made available to the public
24/7

b. Payment of Accounts – June 2023

Sarah Daniel	Salary	681.56
HMRC	Income Tax	156.41
NEST	Pension	54.74
O2	Mobile Phone	32.70
Norman Davies	Internal Audit	120.00
Glantawe	Hanging baskets	675.00
Cllr H Jones	Back Payment for Christmas sweets	128.16
Wales Air Ambulance	Grant application	250.00
YGG Cwmllynfell	Grant Application	1109.00

c. Internal Audit Report

The clerk advised of the internal audit report received back from the internal auditor, she advised that one recommendation was returned which is to add a separate column to the accounting spreadsheet so the amount of VAT per invoice is displayed, rather than a cumulative total claimed back each year.

The clerk advised that she had already gone back and added this for the previous financial year and had implemented it for the new financial year also.

RESOLVED: Members acknowledged the report

d. [Annual Return 2022-23](#)

The Clerk presented the annual return for Members information that detailed the annual accounts and the Internal audit report. She advised that the information would be submitted to the Wales Audit Office following approval at Council

RESOLVED: Members approved the report

6. Planning Matters

[P2023/0217](#)

Site Location: EAST PIT SURFACE MINE, TAIRGWAITH, AMMANFORD NEATH

Proposal: Section 73 application to vary condition No. 86 pursuant of planning permission ref. P2018/0636 (leisure development) to allow an extension of time for submission of reserved matters by a further 36 months until 31st March 2026.

RESOLVED: Members did not wish to submit any comments/ objections

7. Reports

a. [Annual Report 2022-23](#)

The clerk presented the annual report for approval. Members commented that the content clearly demonstrated the Council's achievements for the year and should be published on the Council's website. One Member offered to translate the document before publication.

RESOLVED: TO approve the annual report for publication

b. [Training Plan 2023-24](#)

The clerk presented the Training plan to Members and encouraged any Member who wished to take up any training opportunities to contact her.

RESOLVED: To approve and publish the Training plan

c. **Cemetery Fees and [Policy Review](#)**

The clerk advised that following some research the fees that the Community Council charge are still very low and in some cases over 100% lower than neighbouring Authorities. This was at the same time that complaints are being received in relation to the standard and frequency of the grass cutting at the cemetery. She advised that if we are to invest in the cemetery, the fees need to be reviewed to cover those costs.

Members agreed with the comments and stated that the Cemetery was not looking great and could do with more cuts to a higher standard.

The Clerk advised that whilst the grass cutting contract was due to be renewed in March 2024, and whilst the cheapest quote is usually accepted to ensure value for money, this was not always the case as the cheapest quote, did not always mean the best quality.

Members discussed the fees and agreed to standardise them to bring them in line with other Local Authority charges. They asked that any funds brought in from the cemetery be ringfenced and invested back.

Members reviewed the policy and were content with it, the clerk advised this could be re-sent to the Cemetery clerk once the fees had been reviewed.

RESOLVED: To review the fees and bring a report back to the next meeting of Council

d. Rhiwfawr Playing field fence quotes

Members had requested the clerk seek quotes to replace the large fence that goes around the field in Rhiwfawr, including the gates. The clerk advised that it had been a struggle to get the 3 quotes usually obtained for the works as she had not heard back from a number of companies and with one agreeing to quote but not sending any figures through. She had therefore had one quote returned.

Members reviewed the quote and agreed that whilst it was a lot of money, it did seem reasonable for the amount of work involved. The clerk advised that whilst it was a lot of money, the quote had been broken down into three parts so we could opt to do it in stages so we wouldn't have to take a financial hit all in one year.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to undertake the yellow area marked out on the map

e. Member Vacancy

The clerk reminded Members that there were 3 vacancies for the Cwmllynfell Ward. She had received one expression of interest from former Member Mrs Helen Lewis.

RESOLVED: To Co-opt Mrs Helen Lewis on to the Community Council for the ward of Cwmllynfell

f. Cwmllynfell Hall

The Chairman advised that he recently accepted an invitation to attend Cwmllynfell Hall for a look around and a meeting with the Chairperson and Hall Manager. He advised he was very impressed with their facilities and was pleased to see the amount of events held there, all of which were warmly received by the Community.

He advised that he was keen to build relations between both Rhiwfawr Community Hall and Cwmllynfell Hall and would be attending both halls as a representative of the Community Council whenever possible and extended this invite to all Members of the Community Council.

He further added that both halls are feeling financial pressure with the rising cost of energy. He appealed to Members to consider this and perhaps at a future meeting the Council can reconsider how we award funding to the Community Halls. He appreciated that the funding awarded previously would not be achievable but asked Members to think about the way in which it is awarded as currently both halls have to apply for a grant in relation to a project they are looking to undertake, whereas the halls sometimes may need support in covering general costs such as heat, lighting etc.

The clerk advised that the Community Council do have a line in the budget where money can be awarded to the halls without the requirement of them applying for grant

funding if Members did wish to consider this option. She advised that the Cwmllynfell Hall had undertaken research which had not been verified and advised that the research found that Community Councils award 10% of the Council's overall budget to Community Halls. The clerk further added that the sum awarded to Community Halls in the previous financial year was just over 10% awarded through the Grant Funding Budget allocation. She advised that as it was mid-year the budget already set for the year, if Members did wish to change the way in which it awarded halls, the funds would need to come from within the current budget and she suggested this come from the Grand Funding Budget in the first instance.

Members agreed to consider this and the clerk would add to the agenda for a future meeting.

g. Borough Member report

The Borough Member referred to the de-registration of common land in relation to East Pit and advised that the issue would not be resolved any time soon.

8. Date and Time of next meeting

Thursday 20th July 2023 – 6.30PM Brynlllynfell Chapel Vestry

9. Urgent Business

Please advise Chair and clerk of urgent business 24 hours prior to the meeting