

# CLYDACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**The meeting convened online via Zoom Conference software at 7-00 p.m. present:**

Cllrs. M Bailey (Chair), G Ffrancon (Vice Chair), P Blunn, D Snell, F Wagstaff, M Bowmer, A Jenkins, H Davies, S Weller, I Whitehurst, G Lawrence, and W Morgan

**208/2020:** In addition, the meeting was attended by Sally-Anne Rees the Local Area Co-ordinator, County Councillor Gordon Walker and Roger Ll. Smith.

**209/2020: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received from Cllrs G Richards and R Jenkins

**210/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Declarations would be made as and when necessary during the meeting.

**211/2020: TEN MINUTE PERIOD FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COUNCIL** Sally-Anne introduced herself to the meeting and explained what her function was as local area co-ordinator. She covers Clydach and liaises with Groups in the area though obviously this is very much curtailed now as the Groups can only meet virtually. She asked that if anyone knows of any such groups then she would appreciate her contact details being passed on.

**212/2020: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020 & MATTERS ARISING:**

The minutes of the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were unanimously approved subject to correcting the spelling of Dafydd in the first item.

**213/2020: COVID-19 UPDATE**

The latest Covid figures are encouraging and the roll out of the vaccine will hopefully mean the current lockdown will be the last. The current restrictions will be reviewed at the end of the month and if the figures continue to fall there might be a start in the relaxation of the rules in stages. Council has been approached by one of the Hall users about opening the Hall but under the current regulations and unless the use is covered by one of very few exceptions then the Hall can only be opened if requested by a Welsh Government Minister or the Local Authority.

**214/2020: UPDATE ON COEDGWILYM PARK**

Completion of the lease has stalled over the location of the proposed Pavilion. Gordon Walker told the meeting that he had been in the park and had asked 94 people he met of whom 91 indicated a preference for the location in the approved planning application. This is the opposite of Council's own research when we carried out an online survey. Council has been unable to agree a compromise with the Friends of the Park. After further discussion it was clear that Council wished to move forward with the completion of the leases and will undertake a further survey asking the specific question relating to the pavilion. Council will accept the majority view and would hope that other interested parties would also do so. Cllr Whitehurst suggested undertaking a feasibility study to see if a standalone toilet might be installed near the car park if the original pavilion location were to be the preferred choice.

**215/2020 TO DISCUSS THE RETURN OF THE FORGE FACH PARK TO FORGE FACH.**

The park at Forge Fach is not being kept open as it should be under the terms of the lease to Forge Fach . The park is more important than ever under the current lockdown. Promises have been made and broken. Council agreed to raise the matter with City and County of Swansea who are the landlords to remind Walsingham of their obligations. Council has invested a considerable amount of money in the park on equipment, maintenance, insurance and certification and its extremely disappointing to learn that the facility is being denied to the Community.

**216/2020 SETTING UP COUNCIL WELLBEING OBJECTIVES**

This matter was carried forward to the February meeting.

**217/2020 REVISION OF WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS**

This matter was carried forward to the February meeting.

**218/2020 TO APPOINT A CHAIRPERSON FOR THE HR COMMITTEE**

Nobody put their name forward to take over the role. The current vice chair is Cllr Bowmer, and she will chair meetings unless and until there is a volunteer.

**219/2020 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Facilities and Events Committee**

1. Trees and selection boxes have been distributed. Cllr Bowmer will make up hampers for the staff.
2. The Clerk reported that the audit of the Annual Return had been completed. There are 2 very minor comments one a missing N/A under the Trust Accounts section (Council has never had such an account) and the other relating to the budgets prepared to help Councillors decide on the following years precept. The final Annual Return was formally approved and has been uploaded to the Council website.
3. Councillor Bowmer will purchase some more selection boxes and a sum of £100 was authorised.
4. The recommendations of the committee for grants from the Community Fund were approved and the Clerk will notify the recipients.

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## Planning Committee

1. Clydach Refinery – Internal alterations to existing storage building
2. 146 Pontardawe Road, Clydach – Granny Annex (disabled)
3. 13 Vardre Road, Clydach – Extension to existing outbuilding seating area.

The committee had no issues with any of these applications.

Parking at the Globe Cinema development has been moved forward and a solution found that would minimise the loss of spaces to the Community and it was hoped that any such agreement would be included in the title conditions to guarantee the spaces would not be lost if ownership were to change in the future.

**Audit Committee** - (all invoices for payment are scrutinised by the Audit committee prior to presentation to full council)

	Amount	
1. Wages	£ 3,044.75	
2. Tax & NIC	£ 640.80	
3. New Inn	£ 72.00	Vulnerable meals
4. Refund to M Bowmer	£ 78.00	Hampers
5. Refund to M Bowmer	£ 106.21	Paint
6. Welsh Audit Office	£ 331.65	
7. Valley Engraving	£ 48.00	Vol vouchers
8. Go Daddy	£ 669.29	Website

**£ 4,990.70**

## **220/2020: CORRESPONDENCE: -**

1. Council has received an email from Cymru Hearts about defibrillators advising that there is a £200 grant available. Council has purchased machines in the past from another organisation and may wish to do so again to fill gaps in area coverage.
2. All the successful Community Fund recipients have thanked Council both by email and on our Facebook page. In connection with the payments Gordon Walker suggested to Council that the Clerk should contact the Canal & River Trust about the state of the area in front of the Hebron Road site.
3. We have had an email and the Clerk has spoken to the local area manager for the upcoming Census on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021. They are keen for us to help make the Community aware of the Census through Council's website and social media and there are templates available to assist. This years Census is to be a more online but obviously there are still plenty of people who do not have access to the internet. The Clerk has circulated the Census handbook, perhaps if there is time it could be included in the next Community magazine.

**221/2020 STAFF AND MEMBERS TRAINING: –** Training has been suspended during the epidemic, but basic training is available on the One Voice Wales website and the Clerk will circulate details to all Councillors. There are online training sessions available and Councillors are encouraged to check the email and book those that interest them with the Clerk.

**222/2020 NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the full Council will be held at 7.00 pm. on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 preceded as usual by the Planning Committee and Audit Committee at 6.30 pm. Facilities and Events is due to meet on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

*The above minutes are approved as a true record*

*Signed Chair Community Council: .....*

*Date: .....*