

CLYDACH COMMUNITY COUNCIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Community Council Extraordinary Meeting held on 20th August 2021

These are draft Minutes and are subject to amendment when they are listed for approval at the next monthly Council meeting.

The meeting convened online via Zoom Conference software at 6-30 p.m. present:

Cllrs. M Bailey (Chair), G Ffrancon (Vice Chair), S Weller, M Bowmer, M Cherrington, S Cherrington, R Phillips, P Blunn and W Morgan

An Extraordinary meeting was called to discuss the purchasing of 15 lampposts along High St and Hebron Road. The proposal was to purchase 15 lampposts, on the condition that funding could be granted from the Mynydd Y Gwair Community Fund for 50% of the costs.

Stress Tests

Council discussed the existing lampposts along high street that have failed stress tests and were no longer able to support hanging baskets. The Local Authority is not looking to replace these as whilst they are fit for their purpose (lighting the highway) they are not strong enough to hang baskets. The Local Authority are meeting their statutory obligation by providing lighting and anything above this need would not be their responsibility.

Watering

Currently, and for the past three years, watering has been done by Councillors on a rota basis. With the council's truck being returned in Sept 2021, there will be no vehicle to use for watering of flowers. If hanging baskets are on lampposts, the local authority is willing to water them. The cost for watering is within the price the Community Council pays the local authority for the hanging baskets.

Christmas Lights

With new lampposts, a fitting would be included on the top so that Christmas lights could be installed. The lights are installed by Centregreat each Christmas, removed, stored and PAT tested each year.

Banners

Each Lamppost would be able to house narrow tourism banners which the Community Council could use to promote the village, events or important dates throughout the year.

Questions:

Cllrs asked about the Council's financial position and questioned whether the funds should be kept for future projects. The Chair said that a significant amount had been set aside within the budget for the takeover of Coed Gwilym Park. Now that this is not going ahead, funds could be diverted for lights if that is the favoured choice of council.

A question was asked about maintenance of the lights themselves. The Chair has had a discussion with the lighting dept of Swansea Council. They would maintain the lighting and electrics, although any fault with the Christmas lights connection would likely be down to the Community Council to arrange repair of.

A question was asked about just having baskets on railings in the village. The Chair said that if the decision was not to install lampposts, then this would be the only feasible option. Council may choose to do railings as well as baskets. There was some concern last year regarding the flowers on the railings by Spar blocking the view of traffic so the Local Authority may in the future decide not to put on some railings.

A question was asked about whether Swansea would replace these lampposts in the near future. The Chair had asked this but was told by the lighting dept that they are fully fit for their statutory purpose so there were no plans to replace them.

A vote was held on the above proposal. The vote was 8 in favour with 1 abstention. The proposal was carried.

The next stage would be to carry out some community consultation and apply for a grant from the Mynydd Y Gwair fund.

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The meeting closed at 6.45 pm

The above minutes are approved as a true record

Signed Chair Community Council:

Date: