

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of meeting 8th December 2016

Present: Cllr C Woodley (Chairman): Cllr J Hartwell, Cllr M Walters, Cllr J Myring, Cllr J Brock, Cllr J Campbell, Cllr K Morgan, Cllr J Rossiter, Cllr T Penny, Cllr G Thomas,

Apologies: Cllr N Reed, Cllr D Walters, Cllr M Phillips, Cllr J Hill

Attending: PCSO, Paul Egan – One Voice Wales, Penderyn Historical Society

2016/227 – Disclosures of Personal Interest

Cllrs Woodley, Hartwell and Walters declared an interest on Item 12 on the agenda relating to a request for a grant to me made to Hirwaun Village Hall.

Cllr Brock declared an interest on Item 13 relating to the request for the refund of money paid regarding the light at Llwyn Onn, Penderyn.

2016/228 - PCSO report

The PCSO provided a report detailing the incidences of Anti-social behaviour, Burglaries/Theft and Criminal Damage in the Hirwaun and Penderyn areas. He advised that patrols were being undertaken in relation to anti-social behaviour at Hirwaun Welfare, Penmark Row and Springfield Gardens. Patrols are taking place in Penderyn in relation to the issue of buses reversing and causing damage at The Lamb, and parking issues at Penderyn Primary School. Speed traps are also in place in Penderyn to try and tackle HGV drivers speeding. In Hirwaun, patrols are being undertaken of parking spots where drivers are known to cause obstruction, speed exercises are being conducted within the village and letters are being distributed to residents of Johnsons Park regarding parking issues.

Cllr Morgan reported to the PCSO an obstruction at Llys Cynon where a car is blocking a turning point in a cul-de-sac. The PCSO is already liaising with the resident in relation to this.

2016/229 – Penderyn Historical Society

Penderyn Historical Society attended the meeting to request support from the Community Council in relation to the proposal of constructing a new

War Memorial in the village. Currently, the war memorial is situated in the Church, which has now closed so it is no longer accessible to the village. The Society put forward their view that the public should be able to visit the memorial to pay their respects. The current memorial is unable to be moved so they would like to erect a new memorial at the centre of the village opposite the school. They suggested that the memorial be made of stone from the nearby quarry, as most who died in the war would have worked there. Local residents are supportive of the project. The Historical Society asked for the Community Council's support in principle for this project, along with any help and guidance subject to planning permission, funding and consultation. The Community Council agreed to support the project in principle. CBC Cllr Thomas declined to state his support as he would be unable to attend any planning meeting in relation to this, but he offered information and advice on planning if required.

2016/230 – Paul Egan, One Voice Wales

Paul Egan attended the meeting to provide an update to Cllrs into advice previously given to the Clerk. This advice is in relation to the new regulations that the Community Council has to comply with for splitting the Community Council and Hirwaun Village Hall finances. He advised that the advice given by the Clerk to date is compulsory and must be adhered to. The Village Hall is run by a Deed of Trust which states that the trustees must be Community Councillors, and not members of the public. The Village Hall must have its own bank account and its accounts must be kept separate. It will need to administer its own affairs separate from the Council. The Council however, can make grants available to the running of the Village Hall and it was advised that the council should do this for the benefit of the Community.

Discussions then continued in relation to Cllr Geraint Evans losing his place due to non attendance. The law states that if a Cllr does not attend a Community Council meeting for 6 months they will automatically lose their place. It was raised that other Cllrs have previously been excused at the request of another Cllr at a Council meeting. Cllr Hartwell then read out a statement asking that it be placed on record that herself, and the Late Cllr Joan Higgins (Cllr Hartwell's sister) were excused from meetings due to the nature of Cllr Higgins' illness. This request was made by Cllr Hartwell to the

Chair in advance of the June 2015 meeting, on behalf of Cllr Higgins who was unable to do so herself, and also in relation to Cllr Hartwell also being excused. This request was made in advance of it being put before Council for approval.

Discussions concluded with Council agreeing that while Cllrs Hartwell and Higgins' request to be excused was made through the correct channels in advance of the meeting, it was not made clear at the meeting that this had been done. Due to this, there has been confusion in thinking that there was a precedent for Cllrs being excused by other members of the Council. It was discussed that there is no precedent for Cllrs being excused by another member of the Council and all requests to be excused must be requested via the Chair or Clerk who would then put it before full Council for approval.

2016/231 - CBC reports

A report was received from County Borough Cllr Graham Thomas that:

- The fly tipping at Unit 45 on Hirwaun Industrial Estate appears to have been cleared.
- The gas fuelled power station on Hirwaun Industrial Estate has had the decision upheld to refuse planning at the Development Control meeting with RCT. Planning has been refused subject to appeal.
- An update was provided in relation to the funding available from the Pen y Cymoedd Micro and Vision funds.

A report was received from County Borough Cllr Karen Morgan that:

- Ferraris site – The burning of waste continues and Environmental Health has served notices on nuisance smoke which has been breached on 2 occasions. HSE has issued enforcement on site in relation to site security and staff training on safety issues. They are still waiting for the requested documentary evidence on waste transfer and legal notices are being issued in relation to this also.
- Work has started on the pavement at Penyard Road.
- Overgrowth has been requested to be cut back on Penderyn Road.

- Excess rubble has been dumped in the lane at Brecon Road/Glannant Street.
- An application has been made by The Glancynon for a late licence and a licence for music. Residents concerns in relation to this have been forwarded to the Licensing Department at RCT.

The following were reported to CBC'S:

To Cllr Graham Thomas:

- Cllr Brock reported that there is an issue in Llwyn Onn where the garage was to be pulled down and made into a parking area. The road isn't wide enough for 2 way traffic if this is done.

To Cllr Karen Morgan:

- Cllr Walters reported the issue of overhanging trees.
- Cllr Hartwell reported that the pavement on Tramway needs to be de-mossed. An update was also requested in relation to the footpath/right of way at Bethel House. Cllr Morgan advised that they are awaiting the timescale for public consultation.
- Cllr Myring reported that there is litter at the river by the land at Merthyr Road.
- Cllr Penny advised that Mount Pleasant Chapel on Harris Street is in a bad state of repair. Children are now entering the building and there is an issue with the roof being in a dangerous condition.

2016/232 - Minutes of Previous Meetings.

The minutes of the meeting of 10th November were, subject to some amendments which were agreed on the night, were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Hartwell and seconded by Cllr Myring and agreed nem com.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2016/233 – Centenary Fields Nomination

The Clerk advised that this matter is ongoing. **Action 1** – Clerk to continue with the process to nominate the Cefndon and Yr Eithin as part of the

Centenary Fields initiative to protect open spaces as memorials to the First World War.

2016/234 – Community Council website

The Clerk confirmed that this is up and running again. It was requested that it be updated with more information about current Community Council initiatives. It was agreed by some Cllrs that the website is difficult to navigate, and the Clerk advised that it can be difficult to update. It was suggested that when the domain is up for renewal it be put on the agenda to discuss changing the website to a different format. **Action 2** – Clerk to find out when the website is due for renewal and to put this issue onto the agenda a few months before.

2016/235 - Bus shelters

The Clerk confirmed that we have received the invoice for payment and they are due to be installed. The bus shelter by the Prince of Wales will be paid for by the Community Council and the bus shelter by the fire station will be paid for by RCT.

2016/236 - CCTV

The Clerk advised that this is ongoing. **Action 3** – The Clerk to continue to look into funding options for this.

2015/237 - Community Youth Representative

The Clerk advised that this is yet to be put on the website. **Action 4** – Clerk to update the Community Council website with this information.

2016/238 – Christmas Painting Competition

The Clerk advised that the Community Council's first Christmas Painting Competition was well received within the schools. Independent judges have judged the competition and winners agreed. Winning entries are being displayed at Hirwaun Library and the six prizes of a £10 gift voucher have been distributed to the winners.

2016/239 - Planning Applications

1. Proposed residential development, with new local convenience store, car parking and access (Revised Plans) – Former Hirwaun Nursery School, Hirwaun. The Clerk advised that superseded plans had been received regarding the houses/layout. This application was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Morgan would seek clarification on the matter. Cllrs wish for improved access to the footpath, being opened up for access by residents.
Action 5 – Cllr Morgan to seek clarification on this.
2. Construction of an agricultural building for storage of winter fodder and machinery owned for use on management of own land – Cwm Cadlan, Penderyn. No comment.
3. Discharge of conditions in relation to drainage, materials, footway/crossover details, traffic management, contamination – Land opposite 4 Bute Place, Penderyn. **Action 6** – Clerk to seek more information on this and forward it to Cllrs.
4. Change of use and minor changes of the building – 1a Station Road, Hirwaun. No comment.

Community Councillors reports:

2016/240– Cllr J Myring informed the meeting that:

- A resident had asked about the licence extension at The Glancynon.

2016/241 – Cllr J Campbell informed the meeting that:

- There is a continuing issue with flooding at Bryn Onnen. Overgrowth at the drainage ditch has recently been cleared at the Community Council's request but the problem is persisting as the ditch needs to be dredged. **Action 7** – Clerk to ask RCT to carry out these works.

2016/242 – Cllr T Penny informed the meeting that:

- There appears to be an issue in relation to a garage being built over the main manhole cover for drainage at Springfield Gardens. This appears to be the barrier to the whole site having the road adopted by RCT. Cllr Penny has a number of historical information/documents in relation to this. **Action 8** – Cllr Morgan to look into this further.

2016/243 – Cllr J Hartwell informed the meeting that:

- There are a number of lights out in Hirwaun. **Action 9** – Cllr Hartwell to provide the lamppost numbers to the Clerk who will report the issue to RCT.
- A resident has requested a zebra crossing at the top of Harris Street, by the Prince of Wales where there is a restricted view of the road. **Action 10** – Clerk to request to RCT that a pelican crossing be installed.

2016/244 – Community Council Precept for 2017

It was advised that the Finance Committee had met to discuss the Community Council Precept for 2017. The budget was reviewed and it is proposed that the Precept remains the same with no increase for 2017. It was proposed that this be agreed by Cllr Penny and seconded by Cllr Rossiter and agreed nem con. **Action 11** – The Clerk to advise RCT that there will be no increase to the Precept for 2017.

2016/245 – Grant Application – Hirwaun Village Hall

Cllrs Woodley, Hartwell and Walters left the room at this point as they are Village Hall trustees. Cllr Brock then acted as Chair in their absence. The Clerk advised that despite the Village Hall takings being transferred to the new Village Hall bank account there is not enough in the account to cover the invoice that the Community Council will be raising with the Village Hall where the Village Hall will have to reimburse the Community Council for the bills paid by the Council since the accounts were split this April. The Clerk requested on behalf of the Village Hall Committee that a grant of £2,000 be made to the Village Hall to cover the shortfall and to provide the

Village Hall with a float to pay any further bills. This request was discussed by Cllrs. It was proposed that the grant be approved by Cllr Morgan and seconded by Cllr Myring, and agreed nem con.

2016/246 – Refund of money paid in relation to the light at Llwyn Onn

Cllr Woodley read out the legal advice provided by One Voice Wales' Solicitors in relation to the legalities of the request for the money to be reimbursed to Cllr Brock who originally donated 50% of the funds towards RCT installing the lights. It has been advised that the Community Council does not have the power to refund the money and the law in relation to this was advised of.

Cllr Brock then left the room while Cllrs discussed this advice. Cllr Morgan accepted that the law prevents the Community Council from repaying the money to Cllr Brock but proposed that Penderyn Cllrs should make suggestions on how an equivalent sum of money be spent on something else for the benefit of Penderyn.

Concerns were raised that there would be prior favour to another matter. The proposed War Memorial and turning point were already being discussed for possible funding for Penderyn and any suggestions have to be taken on individual merit.

2016/247 – Proposed turning point at Penderyn

It was proposed by Cllr Campbell that this matter be deferred as there is currently limited information on the project at this point. It was suggested that the Community Council may wish to contribute to the actual construction of the project, rather than the plans, thus ensuring that any funding directly benefit the community. Cllr Woodley recommended that Cllrs go and look at the proposed area for the turning point which is currently heavily used for parking at the livestock market, and stated that any development would impact heavily on this. There is already an existing turning circle behind The Lamb which is currently used by service buses which are the same size as the school buses. It is more a case that drivers do not wish to use the existing turning point. A better use of money would be to improve the existing turning circle. **Action 12** – This matter was delegated to Cllr Campbell who will take this issue forward.

2016/248 - Proposed funding for additional speed indicator devices in Hirwaun

It was discussed that we need to await the data from the existing speed indicator device before we can decide if we need additional ones. The Clerk advised that RCT had confirmed that they will provide costings of the different types of devices available. **Action 13** - The Clerk to invite a Traffic Officer to attend a future meeting to advise Council of the pros and cons of each device, along with the cost of each, and advice on general traffic calming measures.

2016/249 - Clerk's report

The Clerk recited the bills paid for the month which included.

Hirwaun Village Hall – invoices

SET Office Supplies - £6.26

RCT CBC - £36.78

SWALEC - £303.09

Community Council- invoices

BT - £62.33

MP Garden Services - £240

Toshiba - £16.37

RCT CBC - £2,606.76

Daisy Communications £74.88

No consultations were received.

The council had received the following correspondence:

1. Vikki Howells AM - Letter to Ken Skate and his response regarding the dualling of the A465.

2. Letter from Welsh Government in relation to the fence at Tower Road. **Action 14** – Clerk to provide the additional information requested.

The Clerk also advised that:

1. Our Community Council credit card has now been set up.
2. An update was provided on the amendment to the bank account signatories.
3. Casual Vacancy – The Clerk advised that a notice is being displayed saying that the Community Council may advertise the vacancy for co-option. There will be no call for election due to it being within 6 months of the May elections. The Clerk suggested that there is no point in advertising the vacancy now as it is so close to the election, and to leave the position vacant until the May elections. Cllrs agreed to this suggestion.

2016/250 - Urgent items at the Chair's discretion

None

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.