

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of Meeting 14th September 2017

Present: Cllr C Woodley (Chairman): Cllr M Walters, Cllr J Hartwell, Cllr T Penny, Cllr J Campbell, Cllr D Evans, Cllr J Brock,

Attending: CBC Graham Thomas, PCSO

Apologies: Cllr C Chandler, Cllr J Myring, Cllr C Matsell, CBC Karen Morgan

2017/141 - Disclosures of Personal Interest

Cllr M Walters disclosed a personal interest in Agenda item 11 in relation to the grant application for Hirwaun Village Hall, and Planning Application number 7.

Cllr Colin Woodley disclosed a personal interest in Agenda item 9 relating to an application for Community Councillor.

Cllr Jennifer Hartwell disclosed a personal interest in Agenda item 11 in relation to the grant application for Hirwaun Village Hall.

2017/142 - PCSO report

The PCSO provided a written 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 and Tramway. Patrols are taking place in Penderyn in relation to parking issues at Penderyn Primary School. Speed traps are continuing in Penderyn and numerous individuals have been caught speeding in the area. In Hirwaun, patrols are continuing where drivers are known to cause obstruction, along with speed scoping exercises. Patrols have also taken place by Community Enforcement Officers outside the chip shop and at the top junction in relation to parking issues. Operations have also been ongoing with regards to Off Road Bikes throughout Trecynon, Penywaun and Hirwaun. There have also been recent complaints regarding litter outside the library from takeaways. Issues in relation to anti social behaviour are continuing at Springfield Gardens.

Finally, the PCSO advised that if you receive a phonecall from someone claiming to be HMRC, do not call them back. This is a scam that has been happening over Hirwaun, Rhigos and Penderyn.

Reports to the PCSO included speeding issues in Penderyn, and anti social behaviour at Springfield Gardens.

2017/143 - CBC reports

CBC Graham Thomas provided the following written report:

- i) **Capel Soar Bus Shelter** - Following complaints that the shelter does not provide protection from wind and rain it has been agreed to replace the shelter and modify the footpath arrangement to accommodate a shelter with partial front panels to allow for entry and protection against wind and rain. There will be around an eight week lead in time to allow for design, procurement and installation. The existing shelter will be used elsewhere in less open conditions. N. B.! Report Tony Richardson enquiring where does Community Council want to re-site the existing shelter. E.g. at the community centre bus stop .ii) **Top Llwyn Onn Corner** - While the new arrangement/consensus for parking is working well, an issue has been raised regarding traffic progress from Bryn Onnen into Llwyn Onn. Parking on the driver's left immediately after negotiating the corner is causing larger vehicles to mount the newly aligned footpath on the opposite newly repaired corner. This has been raised with RCT and initial response is for this to be addressed through PCSO and PACT meetings to arrive at further consensus as this is a situation that will be present at many locations and estates throughout RCT. iii) **A465 Dualling.(Croesbychan)** - Recent consultation concluded on 8th September. I have sent a response questioning the need for four roundabouts in a relatively small area at the proposed Croesbychan junction. Concern has been raised at the amount of land under compulsory purchase and comparisons made with the single raised Hirwaun Junction that serves Hirwaun; Rhigos and Penderyn together with through traffic. An engineering solution is required that has less of an impact at the Croesbychan location. iv) **Aberdare link road to Croesbychan** - Following representations I have sent a communication to RCT requesting that the link road is constructed during the A465 dualling timetable to minimise disruption to the community affected by the improvements and facilitate a joined up approach by RCT and the Welsh Government. RCT have, in turn written to the Welsh Government supporting that principle. v) **Seat at Dolgynog Play Area** - Following complaints that the seat had not been replaced at the new Dolgynog play area I placed a request for the same and the seat has now been replaced.

vi) Waste bin at Capel Soar Bus Stop - Complaint has been made about the poor condition of the waste bin that is currently held together by wire. I have requested that this is removed and that a new bin be installed. **vii) Arcway** - I have previously requested that sections be improved and have been recently informed by the National Parks Warden that a successful bid to ROWIP grant has been made to secure £7500 to employ contractors to carry out improvement works on the Arcway. The work will commence in the autumn of this year following the completion of flailing the Arcway's hedges. **viii) Grass Cutting Chapel Road** – Following complaints that the grass had not been cut at Chapel Road at the rear of Dolgynnog my request to attend this area has been carried out and the grass has been cut. I have further requested that grass cutting on the footpath between Woodland Park and Llwyn Onn is attended in addition to the single cut by National Parks. **ix) Centenary Fields** - I have raised the issue, with Corporate Estates regarding the length of time it is taking to achieve a resolution of this community council request that includes Yr Eithin and included the cabinet member. Parks and Countryside have raised no objection. **X) Additional item** re communication from RCT to Community Councils and Schools re "Safe Route to skills bid".

In relation to the Capel Soar bus shelter, discussions took place on the most suitable location to move the existing shelter to.

Cllr Thomas also raised the Safe Routes in Communities Scheme. **Action 1** – Executive Officer to circulate this to Cllrs and to put it on to next month's agenda for discussion.

The following issues were raised with Cllr Thomas:

- Cllr Brock advised that there is still an issue with the address at 3 Pontpren with ambulances and deliveries continuing to go to the wrong address. Cllr Thomas will report this to the appropriate channels. The dog waste bin by the school and chicanes in Penderyn were also discussed.
- Cllr Campbell raised the issue of speeding coming in to the village from the Beacons and asked for a traffic survey to be carried out.

In her absence, CBC Karen Morgan provided the following written report:

- **Centenary Fields** – The file for the Cefndon Field has been passed to the Head of Leisure, it will probably need to go to Cabinet for decision making. Will continue to follow up.
- **Complaints received about motorbikes on Tramway**, the barrier gate is not being locked. Countryside officers are looking into the situation regarding the previous keyholders.

- **Requested “Slow down – Children Playing” signs** for Fairview, Springfield & Ger-y-Mynydd. Unfortunately the Council do not provide these signs.
- **Cynon Terrace** – The wattage in the streetlamps is being increased. Still waiting for authorisation from the Director regarding switching on the middle streetlamp throughout the night.
- **Heads of the Valley dualling.** I have received a standard response to issues I raised at the exhibitions so I have asked for a more specific response as follows:
 - i) lack of noise barriers alongside Denbeigh Court and Riverside/Oakbrook, please will you confirm whether they will be in place if as your reply indicates noise barriers will be erected where properties are close to the road, they were not evident at the exhibition,
 - ii) a request for traffic monitoring data to measure the impact on Brecon Road, Rhigos Road, and Merthyr Road and Swansea Road as a result of losing the Trewaun roundabout and local traffic using the 2 access points as opposed to 3.
 - iii) clarification on progress made on the issue of the Tower Surface Mine not wishing to reinstate the Nant -y- Bwlch stream.
- **Liaised with PCSO about concerns raised regarding cyclists** who are leaving their cars on the bend between the Village Hall and the Rugby Club and also complaints about cars parked at the junction of Station Road/Johns Lane causing access difficulties.
- **Awaiting a site meeting to look at improving the brook** area between Langland Close and Manchester Place.
- **Attended a meeting with residents of Rhigos Road and RCT Traffic Officer**, the residents reiterated the problems with speeding vehicles and also questioned the percentile figures which they believe were affected by the vehicles slowing down at the junctions and garage. The Traffic Officer is looking to put additional measures in such as road signs and markings for the brow of the hill.
- **Requested repainting of road markings** at the junction of High Street/Brecon Road (Hirwaun Stores) following a road traffic collision.
- **Former Nursery Site** – Site clearance has commenced and should take around 2 weeks, W.D.Lewis are the contractors. They ensured that immediate residents were informed and were mindful of busy times such as start and end of school. I have also asked them to ensure the school sign in the stone wall on High St is preserved.
- **I note that the planning application by the Coop** to extend the opening and closing times is on Councils agenda for this evening. The closing date passed a few weeks ago. I, and many residents, made representations objecting to the proposal because of the detrimental impact on existing and proposed housing. As a result the Coop has withdrawn the application.
- **As part of the planning process the Coop** is required to make a contribution towards infrastructure. This will be around £61k but unfortunately most of this

goes to the RCT budget for major infrastructures. However a payment of around £9k will be made to the Community Council to be spent on local infrastructure (there may also be a possibility of match-funding). I have invited suggestions from residents as to where this money should be spent. Suggestions to date include: Public toilets at Welfare Ground; one way system Harris St and High St; upgrade play parks; speed bumps Swansea Rd and Maescynon, Merthyr Rd, Davies Row and Harris St; Bus shelter opposite Greenwood Drive; improvements to prevent parking at Post Office junction; pedestrian safety improvements by Hirwaun Store; working CCTV cameras; pedestrian crossings by High St shops and bottom of Harris St; More dropped kerbs; Christmas tree and lights!

2017/144 - Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of 13th July 2017 were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr Walters and seconded by Cllr Hartwell and agreed nem com.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2017/145 – RCT Traffic Management

The Executive Officer confirmed that she had contacted RCT confirming the points discussed in our last meeting but no response has been received.

2017/146 – Bethel House Right of Way

The Executive Officer advised that an email has been sent to RCT asking them to provide the Community Council with the results of the survey before a decision is made. No response has been received.

2017/147 – Planning application – Bute Place, Penderyn Road

The Executive Officer confirmed an email has been sent to RCT asking that the right of way be maintained.

2017/148 – Community Council Website

The Executive Officer confirmed that the website has been updated.

2017/149 – Hirwaun and Penderyn in Bloom 2018

The Executive Officer advised that this new competition was launched at the Community Council Garden Show and posters are being displayed within both villages.

2017/150 – Tree Charter

The Executive Officer advised that the signature packs have been returned to The Woodland Trust. We are the Charter Branch with the most signatures at 939. Letters of

thanks have been received from the Woodland Trust and copies have been sent out to those involved. The Executive Officer has also applied for the Community Council to receive a Legacy Tree and plaque to mark our involvement in this initiative and we have been accepted for this. Rather than having to decide whether to plant this in Hirwaun or Penderyn it was suggested that we purchase a second tree, and plant one in each village. **Action 2** – Executive Officer to purchase a second tree and plaque.

2017/151 – Dementia Friends

The Executive Officer confirmed that she has met with the Alzheimer's Society to organise more Dementia Friends sessions which will be opened up to local businesses and Community Groups. Information has also been received about HPCC setting up a Steering Group with local interested businesses with a view to Hirwaun & Penderyn receiving Dementia Friendly status.

2017/152 - Planning Applications

1. Proposed single storey extension – Loring Bungalow, John's Lane, Hirwaun
2. Construction of a three bedroom detached dormer bungalow and detached garage together with external works – Land adjacent and NW of Bute Place, Penderyn Rd, Hirwaun
3. Variation of condition 16 of previously approved planning application to extend the permitted opening hours of the retail unit – Former Hirwaun Nursery School, Brecon Road
4. Proposed sun room domestic extension together with kitchen extension to guest house – Fifth Avenue Guest House, Fifth Avenue, Hirwaun Industrial Estate
5. Non material changes to the Hirwaun Generating Station order - Hirwaun Power Station
6. Amended application – Construction of new escape ramp and refuge area, revision to parking area and outbuildings. Change of use, incorporation of area grass bank into garden – 25 Ger Y Mynydd, Hirwaun
7. Single storey side extension and demolition of garage – 75 Maescynon, Hirwaun
8. Dropped kerb for vehicle crossover and off street parking – Sancroft, 12 Rhigos Road, Hirwaun

9. 3 Town Houses on parking area of Glancynon Inn plus external works and access – Amended plans

Community Councillors reports:

2017/153 – Cllr Penny advised the meeting that:

- She has contacted Persimmon Homes in relation to blocked drains and a damaged fence at Springfield Gardens
- Raised concerns about antisocial behaviour at the Barn Dance.

2017/154 - Cllr Brock asked that Penderyn Community Centre be considered for a grant. The Executive Officer advised of the process for doing this, and that it would be added to next month's agenda once the supporting documents have been received.

2017/155 – Cllr Campbell provided a report updating Cllrs on the progress of the new War Memorial for Penderyn and their request for financial assistance with this. The Executive Officer advised of the process for doing this, and that it would be added to next month's agenda once the supporting documents have been received.

Antisocial behaviour at Springfield Gardens was also discussed, along with an email from a resident in relation to speeding issues at Penderyn. He concluded by providing an update on the fibre optic broadband in the village and thanking everyone in the village and the Community Council for their support in working together to get this done.

2017/156 – Cllr Hartwell updated Cllrs on the success of this year's Garden Show and thanked everyone who helped make the day a success. She advised that a letter of thanks from the Community Council is being published in the next issue of The Crucible.

There is an issue of rubbish being dumped on the old Ferraris site, along with trees blocking the pathway along Tramway.

Cllr Danny Evans left the meeting at 7.40pm.

2017/157 – In her absence, Cllr Myring provided a written report in relation to flytipping on the piece of land next to Deb's Newsagents.

2017/158 – Community Council Vacancies

Cllr Woodley left the meeting whilst this item was discussed and Cllr Hartwell took over as Chair.

The Executive Officer advised that there are 4 vacancies on the Community Council, 3 for Hirwaun Ward and 1 for Penderyn Ward. Four applications have been received but 1 was received after the deadline for applications.

It was proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Brock and agreed nem con to consider the late application.

All four applications were considered in relation to their application letter and which ward they wished to represent, and were agreed as follows:

- Andrew Phillips – Hirwaun Ward – Proposed to accept by Cllr Walters, seconded by Cllr Campbell and agreed nem con.
- Margaret Amos – Penderyn Ward – Proposed to accept by Cllr Brock, seconded by Cllr Campbell and agreed nem con.
- Ceri Woodley – Hirwaun Ward – Proposed to accept Cllr Campbell, seconded Cllr Penny and agreed nem con.
- Morien Morgan – Hirwaun Ward – Proposed to accept Cllr Penny, seconded Cllr Campbell and agreed nem con.

Action 3 – Executive Officer to inform the applicant of their success and to arrange to sign the necessary documentation.

2017/159– Community Council Christmas Lighting

The Executive Officer provided a detailed updated on the new process implemented by RCT in relation to the Community Council Christmas lights. A set application process has been put in place which we must follow before any lighting can be installed. This application requires detailed information in relation to insurance, risk assessments, contractor's qualifications and membership of related bodies. A non metered agreement with Western Power also needs to be in place before the application can be submitted to RCT. The Executive Officer has been working with Centregreat and Western Power over the summer to gather this information. Once it has been collated, the RCT application process will take 8 weeks. The Executive Officer advised that if, for any reason, RCT refuses our application, there is a risk that there will be no Christmas lighting in the village this year. The Executive Officer is gathering as much information as possible to try to ensure that this does not happen. **Action 4** – Executive Officer to report back at next month's meeting.

2017/160 – Grant application for Hirwaun Village Hall

Due to the disclosures of personal interests by the Trustees of the Village Hall there was not a quorum of Cllrs to discuss this application. **Action 5** – Executive Officer to add it to next month’s agenda.

2017/161 – Reports from Subcommittees

The Executive Officer provided a report on behalf of the Finance Committee. An update was provided on the advice given by One Voice Wales in relation to VAT following the splitting of the Community Council and Village Hall accounts. The budget for the Hirwaun Village Improvements committee was also confirmed.

2017/162 – Executive Officer’s report

The Executive Officer recited the bills paid for the month which included:

August

Credit Card - £8.71

Daisy Communications - £74.88

Hirwaun Handyman - £30.00

Clerk’s expenses - £30.14

September

Hirwaun and District Garden Society - £336

BT - £57.53

SET Office Supplies - £158.16

Toshiba - £25.87

Daisy Communications - £74.88

The following Consultations were received:

1. Electoral Reform – **Action 6** – Cllrs to submit their responses to the Executive Officer who will collate a response.
2. Welsh Government White Paper – Services Fit for the Future – **Action 7** - Cllrs to submit their responses to the Executive Officer who will collate a response.

The council had received the following correspondence:

1. Natural Resources Wales have been in touch in relation to Enviroparks and a planning application that has been put in. NRW are keen to liaise with the Community Council and engage with the local community.
2. One Voice Wales Conference – **Action 8** – Executive Office to attend.
3. One Voice Wales training schedule – **Action 9** – Executive Officer to circulate to Cllrs
4. Community Council Bank account – The Executive Oficer provided an update on the new Money Laundering Regulations and documentation that

Cllrs are required to complete. **Action 10** – Cllrs to return forms to the Executive Officer.

5. One Voice Wales Area Committee meeting
6. #TalkWales – **Action 11** – Executive Officer to circulate to Cllrs

Other matters:

- Capel Soar bus shelter – It was agreed that this should be relocated to opposite Penderyn Community Centre.
- Inter-Community Council Walking Festival – May 2018 – The Executive Officer provided an update on a Walking Festival being organised by other RCT Community Councils. It was agreed that HPCC would be involved in this if a local walking group would lead a community walk on behalf of the Community Council. **Action 12** – Executive Officer to take this forward.
- Wellbeing of Future Generations Act – An update was provided in relation to the Community Council's obligations under this act.
- Bee Friendly Scheme – The Executive Officer provided an update on this scheme. **Action 13** – Executive Officer to circulate information to Cllrs and add to next month's agenda for discussion.

2017/163 - Community Council Audit

The Executive Officer advised that a letter has been received from the Auditors in relation to the External Audit. This was discussed by Cllrs, and it was proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Walrers and agreed nem con to agree to the external auditor's amendments. The audit was re-approved by full council and re-certified by the Chair and Executive Officer.

2017/164 - Urgent items at the Chair's discretion

Cllr Campbell raised the issue of Cllrs attending events where Cllrs could not be easily identified and asked if they could have some form of identification. **Action 14** – Executive Officer to source lanyards and identity badges for Cllrs.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.