

Hirwaun and Penderyn Community Council

Agreed Minutes of meeting 8th September 2016

Present: Cllr C Woodley (Chairman): Cllr J Hartwell, Cllr M Walters, Cllr J Rossiter, Cllr J Myring, Cllr J Hill, Cllr G Thomas,

Apologies: Cllr D Walters, Cllr M Phillips, Cllr J Brock, Cllr G Evans, Cllr J Campbell, Cllr N Reed,

Excused: Cllr K Morgan,

No declaration of interests

The Chairman started by welcoming Cllr J Myring and PCSO Chris Loveridge to their first Community Council meeting.

2016/158 – PCSO report

The PCSO provided a report advising that on issues arising in the Hirwaun and Penderyn areas. These included instances of antisocial behaviour, theft, burglary and criminal damage.

Patrols are taking place at Pandy Place, Penmark Row and Springfield Gardens to monitor antisocial behaviour.

There are issues relating to parking generally, and HGV lorries speeding in Penderyn.

The PCSO will be attending Hirwaun Primary School in the next few weeks to speak to the children about appropriate behaviour and road safety.

The following issues were reported to the PCSO:

- Cllr Hartwell said that there was an issue in relation to cars parking on the pavement at the bottom of Harris Street, by the tanning shop.
- Cllr Rossiter said that there is an issue with commuter parking at Rhigos Road on the corners of the junction, blocking the road. There is also a similar issue at Hirwaun roundabout with cars parking on the grass verge by the old Health Centre. The PCSO confirmed that he is taking the number plate details in this instance to raise the issue with the car owners, who will be booked if the problem continues.

Cllr Rossiter also advised that there is an issue with the lorries travelling to the forestry at the Foel Road where a lorry clipped the bridge there.

- Cllr M Walters advised that there are issues with parking at Station Road with cars parking on the bend, blocking the junction.
- In his absence, Cllr Campbell provided a written report about parking at the top end of Penderyn, opposite the Lamb Hotel, where cars are parking with 2 wheels on the pavement. This has caused a couple of near misses with oncoming traffic where pedestrians have had to walk onto the road to pass. There is also an issue where these cars are blocking the view at the junction from Cwm Cadlan. It was also reported that there is a trailer parked across from the Lamb causing a problem as it is only visible when you are turning into the junction travelling to Beacons Park. There have been a number of near misses of people almost driving into it and having to swerve into oncoming traffic to miss it.
- In her absence, Cllr Brock provided a written report also outlining the issues regarding parking on the pavement in the area around the Lamb Hotel.

2016/159- CBC reports

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

- An update was provided on the issues at Penderyn Quarry in relation to the emissions of dust from the road stone coating plant chimney. It has been advised by Environmental Services that further testing had been carried out since the breach and any previous potential non compliance has been rectified and the enforcement notice withdrawn. The installation will remain designated as high risk for a period of 12 months and improvement measures for the control of emissions have been put in place.
- School Bus Service reversing into Lamb Road – This will continue to be monitored now that the new term has commenced. The PCSO will also monitor this issue and patrol the area.
- Penderyn/Glynneath bus connection – The connectivity between Hirwaun and Penderyn will be considered the next time that the services are reviewed.

- Tower Colliery – They will be winding up operations in March 2017, with a period of restoration over 2 years after this. All dust and noise levels are within permitted levels. Cllr Hartwell added that Tower plan to leave the Nant y Bwlch stream at its current path.

The following were reported to CBC'S:

To Cllr Graham Thomas

- The Clerk raised the issues brought to the PCSO's attention by Cllrs Campbell and Brock's written report. It was also raised following an email from a resident that there is an issue with the lighting on Church Road. **Action 1**- Clerk to provide this information to Cllr Thomas.

To Cllr Karen Morgan

- Cllr Thomas raised the issue of potholes at Caswell Close. **Action 2** – In Cllr Morgan's absence, the Clerk to also report this to RCT.
- An update is required on the right of way at Bethel Chapel. **Action 3** – Clerk to request from RCT Rights of Way.

2016/160- Minutes of Previous Meetings.

The minutes of the meeting of 14th July subject to a minor change, were proposed to be true and accurate by Cllr M Walters and seconded by Cllr J Hartwell and agreed nem com.

Matters arising from the previous meeting:

2016/161 – Hirwaun Industrial Estate

RCT have asked for more information as to which unit it is exactly. This has been requested from Jon Rossiter who has not yet provided a response.

Action 4 – Cllr Rossiter to advise the Clerk of the Unit number of the factory affected.

2016/162 – Flower Baskets

The Clerk confirmed that a replacement basket had now been purchased.

2016/163 – Rubbish outside the Catholic Church

The rubbish has now been removed.

2016/164 – Issue regarding trees at The Pines

The Clerk advised that the resident has been informed that the trees are on private land. The resident has confirmed that there appears to be an order on the retention of the trees on the A465 dualling plans. The Community Council noted this and commented that the trees may be felled with the widening of the road.

2016/165 - Construction of supported living facility comprising of 6 apartments and associated support staff accommodation - Land adjacent to Rosswood, John Street, Hirwaun

This matter is ongoing. **Action 5** – Cllr Morgan to report back to council.

2016/166 – Tower Colliery Operations

The Clerk has now been provided with the details of the Chair of Hirwaun Tower Fund. **Action 6** – Clerk to contact them to advise that RCT are funding the upgrade of the local playgrounds.

2016/167 – Noticeboard at The Lamb

The Landlord has advised that will now be undertaking the repairs himself. **Action 7** – Cllrs Woodley and Rossiter to speak with him about the grant offered for repair.

2016/168 – Centenary Fields Nomination

The Clerk contacted RCT to ask if they are the landowner so that we can get permission o take this forward. **Action 8** – Clerk to take this forward.

2016/169 – Fencing at Tower Road

The Clerk has contacted RCT to ask that the fencing be improved.

2016/170 – Overgrown path at St John's Lane to the Lamb

The Clerk has contacted RCT to ask that this be cut back.

2016/171 – Poem about Dog Mess

The Clerk has forwarded this on to RCT. The Clerk is due to speak with RCT about this issue.

2016/172 – Road Surface at The Pandy

Cllr Rossiter advised that this continues to be a problem. The Clerk advised that RCT Homes (now Trivallis) had been contacted stating that they have a duty of care to their residents to repair the road. RCT Homes have again referred the matter to RCT. The Clerk advised that there is no scope for taking this further as the road is unadopted and both RCT and RCT Homes are denying liability and not accepting responsibility for it.

2016/173 - Planning Applications

1. Mynydd Bwylfa Wind Farm Sub Station – planning application withdrawn.
2. Nantmoel Farm, Keepers Lane – Conversion of Barn into 2 holiday cottages with adjoining bike storage, parking facilities together with external works and works to access.
3. Planning application – Change of house types from 2 detached to a pair of semi detached houses on plots 7&8 Elm Grove, Hirwaun.
4. Hirwaun Power – application to make a non material change to the development consent order. – Deadline for response 25th September but I am on leave that week so will need a response by Monday 12th September. Cllrs have already had the information for this.
5. Proposed extension over existing garage and new front porch – 19a Brecon Road, Hirwaun

Community Councillors reports:

2016/174 – Cllr Rossiter informed the meeting that:

There are issues with parking in the village.

2016/175 – Cllr Hill informed the meeting that:

Cllr Hill raised the issue of dust at Penderyn Quarry.

2016/176 – Cllr Hartwell informed the meeting that:

- Hirwaun Clock needs clearing of weeds, re pointing and the time being set correctly. **Action 9** – Clerk to contact RCT to ask that this be done.
- Rubbish has been dumped at the side of the carpet shop. **Action 10** – Clerk to report this to RCT.
- The road by the Co-Op, along to the Handyman and Cynon Tce has a large number of pot holes. **Action 11** – Clerk to report to RCT.

2016/177 – Cllr M Walters informed the meeting that:

- There is an issue with dog mess outside the church on Station Road, and throughout the village in general.

2016/178 – Cllr C Woodley informed the meeting that:

- The Church in Penderyn has been closed by the Church in Wales. It will fall into disrepair. Does anyone have any ideas as to how this can be saved? There are not enough volunteers to keep the upkeep going. The Church itself has significant historical purposes. It is one of the oldest buildings in the valley and is currently in a reasonable condition. **Cllr Woodley asks if anyone within the public knows of any way of saving this Church.**

2016/179 – In his absence, Cllr J Campbell provided a written report advising that:

- There is an issue at Bryn Onnen where the residents at 28-31 are experiencing bad flooding in their back gardens when it rains, caused by an overflow at the rear of their properties. **Action 12** – Clerk to report this to RCT.

2016/180 – In her absence, Cllr J Brock provided a written report advising that:

- There is an issue regarding the amount of growth coming into the gully from underneath the fences.

2016/181 – Community Councillor Vacancy

One application has been received for the vacancy in Hirwaun Ward. It was put forward to accept this application by Cllr M Walters, seconded by Cllr Jon Rossiter and agreed unanimously.

2016/182 – SLCC Membership

The Clerk outlined the benefits of SLCC membership. The SLCC no longer has a Trade Union aspect for Clerks, with a new Trade Union ALCC if Clerks wish to join this. The Community Council have been given 6 months free membership of the SLCC. The Clerk's advice is that the Community Council should join once the free membership expires. The Clerk had had a look on what they have to offer and there is a wealth of information and stock documents available that will be invaluable to the Community Council. It was agreed that this would be reviewed in 4 months time, before the free membership expires, where the Clerk will report back again on how this membership was used. It was discussed that the Council should support the Clerk's recommendation to join at this point if it is still deemed that the Clerk recommend's that we join

2016/183 – Community Council Photocopier

The Clerk advised on the repeated issues and repairs in relation to the photocopier over the summer. There are more efficient models available and this model has now been discontinued. The Clerk requests authority to look into the cost of upgrading the photocopier. **Action 13** – Clerk to investigate the cost.

2016/184 - Clerk's report

The Clerk recited the bills paid for the month.

The council had received the following correspondence:

1. Planning Policy Wales Questionnaire – **Action 14** – Cllr Hill to complete.
2. Request for donation from Marie Curie. – Noted.
3. Anonymous letter – re fly tipping – Noted.

4. Email from National Library of Wales asking if we would like to participate in the UK Web Archive by archiving our website. **Action 15** – Yes, once the website is up and running again.
5. Save the date - Sustaining Welsh Communities event, Cwmbran – 26th September
6. Next Area Committee meeting – 12th October 2016 7pm, Bedwas. **Action 16** – Cllrs J Hartwell and M Walters to attend.
7. Email from resident of Rhigos Road asking if we know when the speed camera is being put back – **Action 17** – Clerk to contact RCT.
8. Be a Councillor Workshop run by Welsh Government.
9. Funding request from Xmas around the Clock – Grant application proposed by Cllr J Rossiter, seconded by Cllr J Hill and approved unanimously.
10. An update was provided on the Heads of the Valley Dualling. Draft orders and land purchase is set to commence early 2017, with construction starting on 2019. This project has not been affected by the Brexit vote as it is a Private Public Financed project and not European Funded. It is still a high priority for the Welsh Government.
11. Cynon Valley Launch Forum – Cllr Woodley to attend.

The Clerk also advised that:

1. Youth Councillors initiative – Up to 2 youth councillors between the age of 16 and 25 can sit on the council. They would not have a vote but would be able to give their opinion based on what young people want. It was agreed to take this forward. **Action 18** Clerk to contact local schools and colleges to advertise the Youth Councillor positions and start the application process.
2. There is still a fault with the website updating – The Clerk has arranged for the person who set up the website for us to come in to have a look at it. The fault is still ongoing while we try to rectify it.
3. Grant applications – The Clerk requested a list of funding ideas for Community Council. If we have a list ready so we can apply when funding comes up as the timescales are too short to try and get ideas afterwards, and we are, missing out on funding. The Clerk requested that Cllrs have a think what projects they would like to take forward and report back at the next meeting. The Chairman added that all funding ideas for the community can be considered as even if the

Community Council was not eligible as we could supply the relevant groups with the information or help set one up. At this meeting, ideas that were put forward included: The play area at Yr Eithin, Penderyn, the play area at the Cefndon playing fields, the Church in Penderyn. **Action 19** – Cllrs to report back to the Clerk with more project ideas. **This is also open to the general public/community groups to put ideas forward.**

4. Dementia Friends Training for Cllrs and Staff – The Clerk provided an update on this free training available through Interlink, which will enable the Community Council/Village Hall to say that they are Dementia Friendly. This is a UK wide initiative currently going on at the moment. The only cost would be the hire of the Village Hall. Cllrs agreed to take this forward. **Action 20** – Clerk to arrange this.
5. Flu mythbusting session by Interlink in conjunction with local GP services – The only cost to this is the hire of the Village Hall and the Community Council agreed to take this forward. **Action 21** – Clerk to take this forward.
6. Open Day on Saturday –Cllrs Woodley, Hartwell and M Walters declared an interest at this point and abstained from voting. The Clerk advised that we have been unable to secure a donation for cakes for the open day. We have a stock of teas and coffees etc, and have been able to secure some excellent raffle prizes. The Clerk asked if the Community Council would consider donating £50 for the purchase of cakes to sell on the day. It was agreed that the Community Council would donate £50 to the Village Hall Open Day.
7. Paths for People – Leaflets for Cllrs.
8. HPCC bank account – The Clerk provided an update in the banking issues relating to the Community Council.
9. The boiler at the hall has now been installed for a year and is due to its service and gas safety certificate in October. The Council agreed for the contractor who installed the boiler to complete this.
10. The Village Flower baskets will need to come down shortly. The Council agreed for the current contractor to continue with the baskets for next year.

11. The Clerk asked the Council that for the sake of efficiency and to avoid extra work for the Clerk and cost to the council, that if a Cllr says that they will do something, then please do so as it takes unnecessary time for the Clerk to chase and the minutes are getting increasingly longer with items that are being carried over.

2016/185 - Urgent items at the Chair's discretion

None

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.