Minutes of the Meeting of Crynant Community Council, held at Crynant Community Centre, Woodland Road, Crynant at 6:30 pm on Thursday 23rd February 2023.

**Present:** Chairman Cllr. Sean Keir; Cllr. Barry Michael; Cllr. Bethan Morris; Cllr. Allen Kingdon

Heidi Mortimer & Michaela Chaplin

**971: To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr. Brian Lewis (Holiday); Cllr. Stephen Rundle (Holiday); Cllr. Colin Bevan (work commitment) & Cllr. Roger Miles (work commitment)

**972: To receive Declarations of Personal/Prejudicial Interest**

No declarations received

**973: To adjourn if necessary to receive public questions or statements**

No public questions or statements

**974: To approve and sign the previous Community Council Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** That the previous meeting minutes be signed as true and accurate

**975: County Borough Council matters**

HM advised that at the liaison forum meeting budget proposals for the County Borough had been discussed.

NPTCBC had received grant funding from the levelling up fund, the projects were in Ystradfellte and Margarm Park.

HM had Spoken to Sarahjayne Clements, Community Heritage Officer NPT to discuss proposals for a temporary war Memorial at St. Margaret's church, Cefn Coed potentially moving memorial garden to the car park where it could be tended by the Friends of Cefn Coed and a request to fund a feasibility/consultant study for welfare hall.

HM advised that the biodiversity team would still like to place swift boxes onto the Community Centre but it would not be happening in this financial year.

**976: County Borough Councillor items**

Email received from Cllr. Hunt 15th February noted a correction to previously published advice NPTCBC Director of finance grant available every 2 years not 3 years as previously recorded.

Following the liaison forum meeting, A shared Community Charter agreement which sets out how The Community and Town Councils of Neath Port Talbot and Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council will work together for the benefit of local communities, was sent to all attendees. ACTION: Meeting invitation request to be sent to both ward Councillors.

**977 To receive Police report:**

Council were advised that the Community Officers shift patterns were altering which should improve routine attendance in Crynant, except when there is an emergency elsewhere.

The National database recorded six offences for Crynant: Violence and sexual offences x3 public order x2 anti social behaviour x 1

Cuppa with copper sessions at the Community Centre would be starting next week and would happen on a monthly basis in future.

**978: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which they represented the Council:**

Cllr Keir reported on a public meeting he attended along with HM hosted by the Global Centre of Rail Excellence (GCRE). The centre has inherited a number of financial issues but is supported by the Sennydd. The intended outcome will hopefully include multiple small high skilled companies and a hotel. Cllr Keir was assured that NPT would be considering the uplift in traffic through the valley.

HM attended the Town and Community Council liaison forum meeting..

**979: Planning Application Number: P2023/0132 Sparkles Solutions Main Road Crynant SA10 8PF Proposed Development: Retention of change of use to office, internal and external storage (including commercial waste)and laundry facility used in association with property cleaning and maintenance business together with construction of new means of enclosure to north east and north west boundary and forward of the east facing elevation of the building.**

Additional paperwork was available at the meeting, regarding this retrospective planning request for change of use. It was RESOLVED: To support the application as it would improve considerably the visual impact at the site.

**980: To receive the Clerk’s report, to include: Incident Reports (a) Meadow Lane; Bank Reconciliation and Payment Authorisation; Councillor vacancies and training**.

Report received regarding a potential hazard at the toddler park entrance, remedial action had been undertaken and it was agreed that until the ground had dried significantly the gate would remain locked.

Cllr. Kingdon reported on his site visit to Meadow lane, confirming damage to the lane at the bottom due to a heavy vehicle accessing the rear of one of the properties. Cllr. Keir confirmed that the regular private vehicle traffic and the water draining from the garages and paths onto the lane was causing damage.

The bank balances and payment schedule were received. RESOLVED: To accept the reconciliation and authorise payments a per schedule.

HM advised formal notice of Community Councillor vacancies had been posted.

It was agreed to review training requirement and provide a policy for adoption in order to facilitate the signing up to the civility and respect charter.

HM advised that a potential candidate to fill the vacant post of Clerk had been identified. It was agreed to re-advertise the role of Clerk.

**981: To receive Community Association report**.

HM reported on the new activities now underway to support the Community as a result of two successful grant applications.

**982: Policies and Training.**

It was agreed that all Councillors should undertake training and to understand the requirement it would be mandatory to complete the training needs survey. Cllr. Keir suggested that any Councillor who had not submitted the training survey by May 2023 should resign.

Cllr. Barry Michael provided Council with the current schedule of burial fees. It was agreed that policy should be written to ensure review of fees and charges undertaken annually. ACTION HM to request the current level of burial fees charged by NPTCBC and other Community Council's.

**983: To discuss presentations received on the proposed Hirfyndyd Renewable Energy Park.**

Cllr. Keir requested that it be minuted that the image on the front of the 'Say No To The Hirfynyydd Renewable Energy Park' leaflet was inaccurate and misleading. Whilst the Community Council could not stop the image of the Hare being used, the inference that the view would be ruined is incorrect. It is also important that the Council's stance be neutral until it is formally consulted and the image may be misconstrued as being active action of support. This is not the case.

Following the presentation received it had been agreed that the Members of the opposition group would send in a summary document of their presentation for the record. This had not been received. ACTION HM to contact the secretary of the Group..

**984: Correspondence: (a) Annual Membership of One Voice Wales, (b) One voice Wales are committee meeting. (c) Planning Aid - online event, National forest liaison - online event:**

(a) RESOLVED: To renew Membership of One Voice Wales.

(b) Due to work comitments there would be no representation at the area committee meeting. ACTION apologies to be sent

(c) HM to attend the planning aid online event.

**985: Any other business**

There was no further business. Meeting closed 7.40pm

Payments Schedule February 2023

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Description | Amount | Project Authorised by |
| 02-1 | Wages | £2835 | 01 as per contract |
| 02-1 | Barclays Bank | £18.85 | 01 - Monthly Bank Charges |
|  |  |  |  |
| 02-02 | Wages | £3360 | 01- as per contract |
| 02-02 | Barclays Bank | £14.90 | 01 - monthly bank charges |
| 02-02 | PTP Preserved Timber Products | £80.00 | 03 - hedging stakes |
| 02-02 | Total Gym Solutions | £431.89 | 08 - (a) Gym Service |
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Project codes

01 Community Council

01A Council - Grounds maint.

01B Council - Cemetery

02 Forest Walks

03 Volunteers

04 Outdoor Gym

05 Pump Track

06 Playground

07 Association (a) Food poverty (b) Community Fridge (c)

08 Maintenance (a) Centre (b) Grounds