**Minutes of the council meeting of Crynant Community Council held at Crynant Community Centre, Woodland Road, Crynant, SA108RF on Thursday 26th September 2024.**

**Present:** **Chair:** **Cllr. B Morris**

**Councillors:** **Cllr. A. Kingdon, Cllr. S Keir, Cllr. H Mortimer, Cllr. J Reed,**  **Cllr. S Mortimer**

**In Attendance:** **Miss G Farthing (Clerk/RFO) & 5 Members of the public**

**1224:** **To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr. S Rundle (personal commitment), Cllr C Hart (personal commitment), Cllr R Miles (work commitment) and Cllr C Wilcox (personal commitment)

**1225:**  **To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interests**

As per the register

**1226:**  **To adjourn if necessary to receive public questions or statements**

None

**1227: To approve and sign the previous Community Council Minutes**

[Minutes Council Meeting 07-24 – Crynant Community Council](https://www.crynantcommunitycouncil.org/minutes-council-meeting-07-24/)

**Resolved:** That the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting of Crynant Community Council held on Thursday 25th July 2024.

**18:40pm – Member of public joined the meeting**

**1228:** **To discuss any County Borough Council Matters**

New store opens at iconic Neath Indoor Market with another newcomer opening soon. Goblin Box stocks historical model kits with settings ranging from the Roman era up to World War Two. The new stall will also sell tools and paints needed to get started with the hobby and will be local stockists of Warlord Games.

Are proud to present Neath Port Talbot Council’s Strategic Equality Plan for 2024-2028. Their plan has been produced to reflect and deliver on their determination to promote genuine equality of opportunity, tackle discrimination and create a fairer and more equitable Neath Port Talbot.

Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre is open for business. Chef Lloyd Ryland and local multi-business entrepreneur Ryan Thomas have joined forces to upgrade the offer for visitors at Neath Port Talbot’s popular Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre.

Swansea Bay City Deal has appointed Virgin Media O2 Business to build a dedicated dark fibre network to 36 public sector sites throughout Swansea and Neath Port Talbot. The new network will improve digital connectivity across the region with local authorities, healthcare and education partners all benefiting.

Neath Port Talbot Council to Discuss Future of Indoor Leisure Services management.

The Standards Committee annual report 2023 – 2024 has been released on the Neath port talbot website.

**1229:** **To discuss any County Borough Councillor Items**

County Borough Councillor Surgeries are taking place on Tuesday 5th November at 5:30pm – 6:30pm at Crynant Community Centre previously there has been a community councillor present for any issues/ concerns to be raised with them. **Resolved:** For Cllr. H Mortimer to be in attendance.

**1230:** **To receive Police report**

[Crynant | Your Area | South Wales Police | South Wales Police (south-wales.police.uk)](https://www.south-wales.police.uk/area/your-area/south-wales/swansea-neath-port-talbot/crynant/about-us/top-reported-crimes-in-this-area)

**Resolved:** To contact PCSO Siwan to arrange a cuppa with a copper session.

**1231: To receive the Clerks report:**

1. **Matters pertaining to Finance:**
2. **Approve payment schedule**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wages | £ | As per contract for September |
| Rates | 23.00 | 01 |
| Audit | 917.85 | 01 |
| NPT Graphics | 240.55 | 01 |
| Maintenance supplies | 42.00 | 01A |
| Fuel | 125.86 | 01A |
| Cadno | 250.00 | 01A |
| Scribe Cemetery | 348.00 | 02 |

**Resolved:** That all payments above were agreed and approved.

**Ii. Bank Reconciliations for July & August (Current & Reserves)**

Bank reconciliations were provided to councillors. **Resolved:** That the bank reconciliations were agreed and approved for the current and reserves for July & August.

1. **Matters pertaining to Governance:**

**i. To review and implement the following policies: Concerns & Complaints Policy & Retention & Disposal Policy**

Policies were sent out to all councillors. **Resolved:** That the two policies concerns & complaints policy and the retention & disposal policy were agreed and approved.

**Ii. Clerks report - 18:47pm – Member of public joined the meeting**

* **Incident report** – There was an accident in the BMX Track on Tuesday 24th September where a gentleman fell off a bike and needed hospital assistance. This was classed as an accident and photos were taken of the area.
* **S106 Agreement – Glyndulais development** – The 1st payment has been paid from the developer and has now been paid to NPT Council of £14,982. They are waiting for the 2nd payment of £14,982 to be made after the 14th dwelling has been sold to release the payments. There will need to be some work on the project proposal that was configured by CCC. **Action:** For Clerk to explore to see if the funds can come earlier.
* There are two free training places on each of the six Training webinars, Council as an employer, understanding local government finance basic & advanced, Understanding the law, code of conduct & Finance and governance toolkit. **Action:** To circulate around to the Councilors.
* Clerk is working through all policies that need updating in line with the policy risk schedule and in line with new recommendations these will be brought back to full council for approval.
* Printer contract needs to be reviewed. **Action:** Will review this in Finance Committee.
* Crynant Community Association has surrendered its lease of the Community Centre. The Clerk’s recommendation is that, in line with other single-issue matters dealt with previously, the Chairperson lead a working group to consider the implications and report back to the full council. As the Centre falls under the remit of the Asset sub-Committee it should form the basis of the working group. The Chairs of the Finance and Personnel sub-Committees should be included as this will allow for an in depth understanding of the options and implications to costs and staff. In the meantime, the remaining Association Trustees have volunteered to continue their direct involvement at the Centre until the Council decides the management issue. Cllr A Kingdon asked if the council can be a Trustee. Clerk stated yes and that all issues like that would be brought back to the Council for consideration. The working group role is to understand in depth all the issues and report back to Council. It will have no decision-making powers.

**Resolved:** To set up a working group as proposed.

**1232: To receive a report from any member concerning meetings at which they represented the Council**

Cllr Kingdon attended a school governors AGM meeting and has decided to become a Community Governor. There will be one space available for the minor authority representative for a community councillor. Will receive this invitation from the school.

Cllr Reed had been in contact with County Borough Councillor Harris regarding Cefn Coed Colliery. Cllr Reed presented councillors with information. Cefn Coed Colliery needs funding, there are still items in there, but the deterioration is on the building not the items. There was a break-in, but nothing was taken. Cllr H Mortimer stated that there is funding out there for Cefn Coed as herself and Clerk had attended a grant funding day, and no one was there from NPT to represent Cefn Coed Colliery. **Resolved:** To invite Cllr Hunt & Cllr Harris to the next council meeting to discuss further about Cefn Coed Colliery.

Cllr Keir attended a GCRE site visit, where it was stated that they are looking for major funding. There are trains up there already. Cllr S Mortimer asked if GCRE are concerned Siemens are not making any trains. Cllr Keir stated that he is concerned about the volume of traffic that will run through the village.

**1233:** **To receive a report from the Sexton**

Sexton gave a report stating that they had saved £3,000 in Maes yr Hendre. There are also new regulations that have come in and will be working through them. There is still the Ash Dieback and will need help from the Clerk to look at a new notice board for the Cemetery.

**1234:** **Matters pertaining to Asset, Amenity & Environment sub committee**

[Asset, Amenities & Environment Committee – Crynant Community Council](https://www.crynantcommunitycouncil.org/amenities-asset-environment/)

The biodiversity plan is being worked on. Welsh water has finished doing the repair work to the sewer. There are some items that are still awaiting to be taken from there. There have been a few lovely verbal comments from the community about the area where the trees have been removed at the back of the car park and are very grateful. The stumps will need to be removed next. **Resolved:** That the minutes were a true and accurate record of the committee meeting of Asset, Amenities & Environment held on Thursday 19th September 2024.

**1235: To approve a working party for Remembrance Sunday arrangements**

**Resolved:** To set up a working group and send out to councillors an expression of interest.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1236: To receive the Clerks report on Correspondence** | |  |
| THE MAYOR OF NEATH PORT TALBOT’S ARMED FORCES FESTIVAL 2024 | Friday 25th October at 7.00 pm we are holding a Concert and Festival of Remembrance in the Princess Royal Theatre, Port Talbot. Tickets for the Concert are available from the Box Office on 01639 763214 or can be purchased online at [www.npttheatres.co.uk/princessroyal](http://www.npttheatres.co.uk/princessroyal).  Priced at £10 for adults or £8 for concessions (under 16, over 60, groups of 8 or more, Armed Forces Veterans, Armed Forces Reservists, Armed Forces Cadets and serving Armed Forces personnel).  On Saturday 26th October at 10.45 am, we will be holding an Armed Forces Roadshow and Flag  Raising Ceremony in the Aberafan Shopping Centre, which will include a dedication of the Royal British Legion’s Garden of Remembrance and the launch of their poppy appeal, which is all open to the public. | Cllr Keir would attend the raising ceremony on the Saturday on the council’s behalf. |
| Heartbeat Trust Uk | Critical bleed control kit initiative West Glamorgan 2024. The principal aim is to equip public locations with readily accessible bleed control kits that are both effective and simple to use. This is in response to not only the increasing concern from knife crimes, but also to other incidents of catastrophic bleeds arising from a wide range of causes including road collisions, impalement, industrial accidents, dog bites and more. New legislation is proposed that will require greater consideration of public safety, including bleed control kits at all public venues. At present, there is no comprehensive provision within Wales. | It was agreed by full council to obtain three kits but would send over to discuss in the Asset, Amenities and environment committee to see if three were needed and a raising bed. |
| One Voice Wales | Neath Port Talbot Area Committee Meeting on 25 SEPTEMBER 2024, 7pm at Resolven Community Hall | Noted |

**1237: Any other business**

Cllr A Kingdon stated that the second set of Tennis Lessons that Ffrindau Creunant had arranged were cancelled due to weather conditions.

**Meeting closed at 19:31pm**