

CYNGOR CYMUNED TAWE UCHAF COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held on Thursday 20th May 2021

Present: Councillors Stephen Davies (Chairman) Susan Pyart, Huw Williams, Arlene Jones, Selwyn Fyfield, County Councillor David Thomas

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chairman expressed concern at the very poor weather conditions and hoped that all connections would prevail during the meeting;

The Chairman thanked Councillor Susan Pyart for standing in at the last minute at the April meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence** were accepted from Councillors Auriol Graham, Alun Thomas, Gail Hopkins-Williams, Ann Watkins, Clare Parker (Key Worker) Carol Williams (No access)
2. **Declaration of Interest** – None submitted
3. **Police Matters** – The Police have responded to the Council’s enquiry regarding road safety on the junction of the A4067 and A4221 near Abercrave. The Council was advised to redirect the enquiry to Jo Lancey at PCC. The Clerk to write to Jo Lancey.
4. **Finance**
 - a) **Income/Expenditure Report** – The report had been circulated. The Clerk summarised the report. The Council approved the report
 - b) **Budget Report** – The Budget report had been circulated. The Clerk summarised the report. The Council approved the report.
 - c) **Insurance Renewal** – The Council approved the Insurance renewal with Came and Co. The renewal premium had increased to £889.46. The increased premium was noted. The Clerk was asked to undertake a further review during the year.
 - d) **May Payment Schedule** – The May payment schedule was approved.
 - e) **Internal Audit Report** – The internal audit report had been circulated. There were no matters raised. The Council approved the Internal Audit Report
 - f) **Audit Annual Return 2020/21** – The Council approved the Annual Return. The Clerk will arrange signing by the Chairman
5. **Planing**
 - a) **Back Cottage, Cefnbyrle** – Ground Floor rear extension. The Council had no comments to make in the proposal.
 - b) **Cefnwaunynog Farm, Coelbren** – Conversion of attached outbuilding to holiday let. The Council had no comments to make on the proposal.
 - c) **Glynllech Uchaf Glastir Woodland** – The Council had no comments to make on the scheme.
6. **Footpath/Playgrounds**
 - a) **New Playground Signs** – New playground signs had been ordered. Three new general playground signs to replace the current signs that had faded badly. In addition 12 new No Smoking signs had been ordered to comply with legislation made by the WG.
 - b) **Caehopkin Playground Painting** – The Clerk had sourced the metal paint with the Crown Decorating Centre at Llansamlet. The Clerk would have to pay for the materials. The Clerk requested that he be reimbursed the costs at the next meeting. The Council approved the request.
7. **Correspondence**
 - a) **Regenerating Welsh Towns and Communities** – OVW have sent information of an on-line event on the latest thinking concerning how towns and communities can take positive steps to ensure future sustainability and success for a post Covid 19 future. The Council agreed that it would be useful for a small group of Councillors to join the event. The event date is

the 23rd June from 10am to 3pm. The cost of the event is £50 per delegate. The Council agreed to set aside a sum of £250.00 for some Councillors and the Clerk to attend. The Clerk to circulate Councillors for expressions of interest.

- b) **Hope House** – A request for a donation was submitted by Hope House. The Council felt that the donation budget was already well subscribed supporting local organisation regrettably could not support. The Clerk will respond accordingly.
 - c) **Fay Jones MP** – The MP had written to the Council apologising it had not been possible, due to Covid 19 restrictions, to make a visit to meet the Council. In the meantime the MP asked to be kept up to date on any issues. The Council agreed to raise once again the issue of speeding on the A4067 from Ynyswen to Craig y Nos, the increased risk to road safety and the Council's desire to have fixed speed cameras on the stretch of road. It was further agreed to send a similar update to the new AM and the regional AM's.
 - d) **EU Settlement Scheme** – A communication received on the EU settlement scheme. EU citizens are required to apply for settled status in the UK by 30th June 2021.
- 8. County Council Report** – County Councillor David Thomas provided the following update. Recent press reports on Covid-19 looked encouraging. PCC was working on plans to try and restore a normal service over the coming weeks. However, the test track and trace teams were monitoring the Indian variant. In the meantime the business critical areas of Adult and Children's Social services remained one of the priorities.
- GCRE – To date there is no information on the likely date for the planning committee to consider the GCRE proposal. If a Councillor wanted to address the Committee should contact the planning officer as soon as possible.
- Heol Eglwys Coelbren – An order has been created to undertake pothole repairs at Heol Eglwys, Coelbren.
- Temporary Road Closure – A temporary road closure order is in place at Heol y Gwyddau on the 28th May to allow Openreach to undertake work.
- A4221 Coelbren Link Road – Resurfacing work on the A4221 has been completed. Some complaints had been made on the type of material used.
- Penycae Parking on Pavement In response to a question he advised that vehicles parked on a pavement causing obstruction should be reported to the Police. An enquiry could also be addressed to Jo Lancey at PCC for help and advice.
- 9. **Casual Vacancy Penycae Coelbren** – No expressions of interest received. A further message to be shared on social media to try and create interest.
 - 10. **Climate Emergency** – The Council agreed to establish a sub-committee to consider a Community action plan. Nominations to the Sub-Committee will be considered at the next meeting.
 - 11. **Annual Report** – The Council will be required to prepare an Annual Report for circulation in May 2022. The report will be a public record of the Council's business and functions in the current financial year.
 - 12. **Councillor Training** – The Council supported and identified a need for training. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries with Planning Aid Wales on their training packages and report to the next meeting.
 - 13. **Minutes 15th April, 2021** – The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th April 2021 were signed as a true record.
 - 14. **Matters Arising** – No matters arising.
 - 15. **Any Urgent Matters** – No matters raised.
 - 16. **Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 17th June 2021**

The Chairman thanked members attending for their patience due to the extremely rough weather, however, any disruption to connection was kept to a minimum.