

VAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED Y FAN



Minutes of the Ordinary FULL COUNCIL Meeting of Van Community Council Thursday 20th February 2020. 6pm. Van Community Centre, Caerphilly

Present: Tony Graham (Chair), Barbara Jones (Vice Chair), Norma Graham, John Leek, Sheila Newbury, Fay Gay, Sheila Jones

Apologies: Pam Nelder

In Attendance: Marcia Jones (Clerk)
Gemma Marks, CCBC Youth Services

109. Police Matters

CO 303 Mey, Gwent Police sent her apologies

110. Residents Representations

None

111. Declarations of Interest

None

112. Presentation – CCBC Youth Service; Gemma Marks

Gemma Marks has worked for CCBC Youth Service for 20 years and is based in 'The Basement' in Blackwood which is an information and advocacy drop-in centre for young people aged 11-25 years. Gemma is also the senior youth worker at the Van Community Centre club, which operates on Wednesdays during term time from 6 pm to 8 pm. She outlined the work of the Youth Service, current delivery and future planned activities at the Van Centre.

The youth club attracts about 20 young people per week on average.

The assistance and knowledge of the of the Youth Service during the playscheme in summer 2019 was noted and discussion how this can be incorporated in future delivery of similar provision was discussed.

During her presentation, there were several interruptions due to anti-social behaviour by young people at the Community Centre and the Caretaker and Police were called. This caused a delay.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a meeting between all partners who could assist with the delivery of the Summer Scheme in 2020.

113. Minutes of the Ordinary Full Council meeting held on 16th January 2020

Minutes of the ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL meeting held on 16th January 2020 were received and AGREED as an accurate record and Chair signed to confirm.

114.Matters Arising

None

115. Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk confirmed that following the 'Notice of Vacancy' period for the seat in Lansbury ward, previously held by Plaid Cymru, a request for an election had been received by the Returning Officer. It was noted that this was requested by representatives of Plaid Cymru. Currently awaiting a timeline for the election process which will be confirmed by the Electoral Services Manager at CCBC shortly. An indication of cost for this is circa £5,000.

Cllr T Graham noted that whilst the request for an election is offered in community council rules and democratically correct, the morality of spending in the region of 20% of the annual precept of a small community council and tax payers money on this was morally questionable and was disappointed and angered by Plaid Cymru's actions. This view was endorsed by all Councillors. As a result of this, the budget for 2020-2021 will need to be revised and adjusted to meet the unexpected cost of the election

116.Finance

116.1 List of payments. Received. Payments confirmed and approved

116.2 Bank Reconciliation. Received, confirmed and approved

116.3 End of Year forecast - Received and NOTED

116.4 One Voice Wales membership – following discussion and a vote it was agreed by a majority of 4 to 3 to renew the membership with One Voice Wales at a cost of £746.

ACTION: Clerk to complete renewal form accordingly

116.5 Review of Budget 2020-2021. In light of the election due to take place in Lansbury ward, a review of the planned budget was undertaken. Cllr Leek proposed that the allocation made for Christmas lighting was postponed and revisited in future years. This was unanimously AGREED

ACTION: Clerk to record adjustments accordingly

116.6 Requests for Financial Assistance

116.6.1 Wales Air Ambulance. A donation of £200 was unanimously AGREED

ACTION: Clerk to action accordingly

117.Clerk's Report

117.1 See appendix 1 for full report

117.2 The PETRA book launch will be on 8th April at 12.15 pm at St James ICC. Cllr T Graham will attend to represent Van CC. All councillors are invited and to confirm to the Clerk if planning to attend. Cllr B Jones gave her apologies

117.3 Christmas Event. Due to the earlier decision on Christmas lighting, possible alternative options outlined in the report are not appropriate. It was AGREED to hold an event similar to last year. As Fridays are not an option at the centre it was agreed that Saturday 12th December is the preferred date

ACTION: Clerk to contact centre secretary to book

117.4 The Clerk provided recent information with regards to the summer playscheme. It was noted that Sarah Mutch has additional responsibilities and it appears she and her team will be unable to lead on the project. This is a concern to Members. Alternative options are currently under discussion between Sport Caerphilly and the Parent Network regarding hosting sessional workers. This delay and vague arrangements for the

scheme is an issue and could impact on the submission of a timely bid to the National Lottery 'Awards for All' fund as agreed to support the running costs of the project

ACTION: Clerk to arrange a meeting with all partners urgently

- 117.5 An option of providing access to supported places to residents in wards MA2 and MC polling districts to the Sport Caerphilly Summer Scheme at Caerphilly Leisure Centre was discussed. It was AGREED that this was not appropriate at the current time and residents of these areas should be made aware of the availability of the scheme at the Van Community Centre
- 117.6 Members noted update on Bonfire Night event planning meeting and some of the main issues and obstacles were discussed in more detail. Next meeting on 27th February 2020. Cllr Leek to confirm if can attend
- 117.7 Members noted the proposed 10% increase in hire charges at the Van Centre. Requested the Clerk seeks clarity if this is a rise across the board for all hirers. It was AGREED that the Clerk should request where the audited accounts for Van Centre Management Committee can be viewed. In addition, the Van Community Council AGREED to formally write to request a place of the management committee for the centre.
ACTION: Clerk to request as directed
- 117.8 Members AGREED that the draft proposals for changes to the electoral boundaries in Caerphilly were appropriate and no formal response from Van CC was required to be submitted to the Boundary Commission.

Cllr Newbury left the meeting at 7.55 pm

- 117.9 Keep Britain Tidy – Get Ready for Summer Spring Clean. It was AGREED to undertake a litter pick on Saturday 4th April at the Stretch on Lansbury Park in conjunction with the Heddlu Bach a St James Primary School
ACTION: Clerk to contact appropriate parties to arrange

118. Risk Register 2019-2020

Following the earlier interruption and delay in the meeting it was AGREED to defer this item to the next meeting

ACTION: Clerk to include on agenda for March meeting

119.Planning Applications

- 119.1 Case Ref; 20/2029/TPO. No objection
119.2 Case Ref; 20/0051/FULL. No objection
119.3 Case Ref; 20/0073/FULL. No objection

120.Councillor Surgeries

- 120.1 No attendees at the surgery on Saturday 8th March
120.2 Cllr B Jones and Gay are unable to attend the surgery in March. Cllr Leek AGREED to attend with Cllr S Jones
120.3 Cllr B Jones questioned the effectiveness of these and felt they may be alternative opportunities to engage residents to meet and discuss issues with Councillors. Alternative suggestions included using the regeneration office on Lansbury Park, attending the Fare Share food bank or a walkabout where the community could

informally talk to councillors. Following discussion, it was AGREED to continue the trial until the summer and then reassess.

121. Items for next Agenda

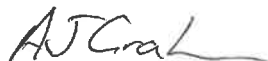
121.1 Cllr B Jones suggested that, as an alternative to the Council providing Christmas lighting, a Christmas light competition could be established that may encourage

121.2 Cllr Leek noted that large trees had fallen in the area in the recent storms. It was AGREED to investigate the NRW scheme to assist with tree planting
ACTION: Clerk to include on agenda for March meeting

122.Date of the next meeting

Thursday 19th March 2020 at 6 pm. Cllr B Jones gave her apologies

Meeting closed 8.15 pm



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Cllr T Graham
Chair – Van Community Council