

# Cyngor Cymuned Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council

## Minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 22 May 2023 at 7.30pm in Tal-y-bont Memorial Hall

### Present:

Ellen ap Gwynn (Chair), Nia Richards, Catrin Davies (County Councillor), Bleddyn Huws, Siôn Pennant, Eryl Bray, Nest Jenkins, Mererid Watson, Enoc Jenkins, Elgan Evans

### 1. Declaration of Interest

No one had any interest to declare

### 2. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting, 24 April 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as correct.

Proposed: Mererid Watson; Seconded: Eryl Bray

### 3. Matters arising:

#### a) Issues reported via Clic to the County Council

Catrin Davies had made further enquiries regarding Maes y Dogn but had not received any further information.

It was noted that the hedges near y Berllan and along Cwm Eleri were overgrown and becoming a risk. **Action** – the clerk to request that the relevant landowners cut the hedges as soon as possible after the nesting season.

#### b) New notice boards: a quote for £120 + VAT had been received from John Henry Jones but nothing yet from Terry Williams. If no other quote is received by the end of the week, it was agreed that JHJ should be asked to proceed with the work. Nia Richards had all the appropriate measurements for the Tal-y-bont notice board, and agreed to meet whoever would be doing the work to explain what is required. She noted that it may be necessary to move whatever is there to make room for the new notice board – this could lead to an increase in the cost

**Action** – the clerk to follow up

#### c) Work in the cemetery: no quote had been received from Terry Williams yet. John Henry Jones was keen to provide a quote for this work as well.

**Action** – the clerk to arrange to meet JHJ to explain the work required

#### d) Website: Siôn Pennant had succeeded to gain access. The website would need to be updated as soon as possible.

### 4. Section 6 – Biodiversity

It was noted that Nia Richards' article published in the May edition of *Papur Pawb* has received a very positive response, and that Llangynfelyn Council had contacted her to discuss the matter. It was noted that the Council's action plan would have to be published on the website. Elgan Evans noted that the Tal-y-bont Show Committee had approved the competition 'The Best Garden for Wildlife' and was keen for more details. It was agreed that the boundaries for the competition would be the Community Council area, and that the Council would offer a cash prize of £20 to be divided: 1<sup>st</sup> – £10; 2<sup>nd</sup> – £6; 3<sup>rd</sup> – £4.

**Action** – the clerk to pass on the details to Siwan Evans

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## 5. New matters

The Boundary Commission: The Clerk had forwarded notes from the meeting held on 9 May to the Councillors in advance. The Chairman had attended the meeting and proceeded to provide the Councillors with a summary. She had noted the concern expressed regarding not being able to hold meetings in Welsh if it were necessary to merge with another Council but had been informed that this would be a matter for individual Councils.

The Chairman summarized as follows:

- There are currently 51 Community Councils, varying in size;
- In the new system, rural councils should consist of no fewer than 800 electors, (It was noted that Ceulanamaesmawr has around 790 electors), with no fewer than 400 electors in community wards;
- Urban communities will have 1 councillor per 600 electors;

The timetable will be as follows:

- Step 1: consultation between 9 May 2023 and 3 July 2023;
- Step 2: publication of draft proposals, to be followed by a further consultation period of eight weeks;
- Step 3: drawing up of final recommendations to be submitted to the Welsh Government by summer 2024;
- Step 4: WG order in relation to the recommendations;
- Step 5: new system will come into force in the next elections.

The Chairman proposed writing to the Commissioner making a case for preserving the *status quo* regarding CMM. Nest Jenkins presented a map showing the current boundaries of CMM Council.

## 6. Correspondence

The Clerk had forwarded all relevant electronic correspondence to the Councillors during the month.

### One Voice Wales:

- Request for proposals for the 2023 General Meeting at the end of September: no one was interested in attending to the meeting;
- Save the date for the Innovative Practice Conference in the Royal Welsh Show grounds on 5 July;
- The new Model Standing Orders: the Chair proposed that she and the Clerk study these in order to prepare Standing Orders for CMM, presenting a draft at the next meeting.

### Other correspondence

- Hywel Dda: additional dates for the consultations – Catrin Davies had already attended two of the meetings;
- County Council: details of the precept – the first payment had been received;
- Dave Geddes: had spoken to Catrin Davies about seeing dogs on the road without leads almost causing an accident. It was suggested that this should be highlighted in *Papur Pawb*, on *Clonc*, and on the Maes-y-deri Facebook page;
- NHS Wales: Eluned Morgan's visit to Ysbyty Bro Ddyfi on 25 May – Eryl Bray would try to attend;
- County Council: Ceredigion Local Housing Strategy, amended – it was suggested that the Councillors read the document carefully, to be discussed at the next meeting;
- SSAFA: request for funding – to be included on the agenda of the next Finance Committee;
- Linda Denton: thanks for the invitation to give a presentation to the Council – she would

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provide a date in due course;

- Golwg Cyf: Cynnal y Cardi celebration and awards ceremony on 14 June – there would be no representation from CMM.

### 7. Planning

No applications received.

### 8. Financial matters:

- i) The Council's financial position  
Current account: £7,208.03 (with cheques worth £772.83 not yet cashed)  
Deposit account: £4,788.94  
Tabernacle Account: £5,520.30
- ii) The Clerk had not yet claimed the VAT refund of £1,351.13 – this will need to be done as soon as possible
- iii) Approximately half of the grant of £500 for 'Cwtsh Cynnes' had been spent so far. The sessions would cease over the summer, but it was noted that those attending were very keen for them to continue in September. The Chairman extended her thanks to Trish, Jenny, Fal, Eileen and everyone else who had helped.
- iv) Income: £265 via James Memorials in relation to the burials of Mrs Eluned Evans (2022) and Mr Dewi Evans;
- v) Invoices payable:  
TME Electrical Contracting Ltd. (Christmas star 2022) – £840.00  
Clerk's expenses (folders and stamps) – £37.27  
It was agreed that the above costs should be paid.

### 10. The Playgrounds

- i) The Committee meeting held on 16 May was discussed. It was noted that it would be necessary to draw up a completed plan in order to request quotes from three companies. The work would have to be done piecemeal as money was received. It was unanimously agreed that the relevant quotations should be requested.  
Mererid Watson noted that Barclays still offers matching funding for projects, provided that a representative can attend.  
Catrin Davies inquired about asking for the help of local residents, and it was noted that it would be possible to co-opt members of the public to the committee. It was agreed that an invitation should be extended to prospective members after confirming the Standing Orders at the next meeting.
- ii) It was noted that there were traces of a fire in Cae Bach, but that this had not caused damage to any equipment. It was also noted that parts of the climbing wall were dangerous, but Enoc had addressed this by the time of the meeting.  
It was noted that some bolt caps were missing from some of the equipment at Bont-goch, but that this posed no danger.
- iii) June Rota – Siôn Pennant and Eryl Bray

### 11. Any Other Business

- i) Nia Richards noted that a family from Tre Taliesin had bought three plots in the cemetery but had not been told exactly where they were. It was noted that two of these could be Row 26, plots 12 and 13.

**Action** – call a meeting of the sub-committee; make inquiries and pass the relevant

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*information on to the family*

- ii) Inquiries were made as to Dafydd Williams' schedule regarding the maintenance contract, and also which hedges were included in the contract

**Action** – *the Clerk to inquire about the contract details and schedule*

- iii) Elgan Evans noted that two cattle grids needed cleaning, one at Bwlch y Garreg and the other at Blaenceulan. He also noted that there were two large potholes in the road between Penbontbrengeifr and Tŷ Nant. Catrin Davies to report this on Clic.
- iv) Nia Richards noted that the grass behind 11-14 Maes-y-deri needed cutting. Catrin Davies stated that this is the responsibility of Barcud.
- v) She also asked what NRW's plans were in relation to the weir on the Leri river. This had already been discussed by the Flood Group. She noted that the channel has become deeper, and that water is now falling rather than flowing in from the Ceulan.

### **12. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 26 June.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm