

Cyngor Cymuned Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council

Minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 27 November 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in Tal-y-bont Memorial Hall

1. Chair's Welcome

Present: Councillors Rhian Evans (Vice-chair, in the Chair), Catrin Davies (County Councillor), Siôn Pennant, Mererid Watson, Bleddyn Huws, Nia Richards, Eryl Bray, Nest Jenkins (late).

Taking minutes: Lynwen Jones

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Ellen ap Gwynn, Elgan Evans, Enoc Jenkins

3. Declaration of Interest

Nia Richards and Catrin Davies declared an interest in the situation at Maes-y-deri (point 8 ii).

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 30 October 2023

Minutes of the previous meeting confirmed as correct with the following amendments:

5 i) a. *The post for the lamp at Cytringan had been erected, and the County Council will be responsible for repairing/reconnecting*

6. *It was unanimously agreed to relocate the sandbags*

Proposed: Catrin Davies; Seconded: Eryl Bray

5. Matters arising:

- i) Matters reported to the County Council via Clic:
 - a. Lighting by Cytringan still not connected
 - b. Salt bins: Siôn Pennant would confirm the proposed location of the new bin for Bont-goch, and would also clear a space for it.
- ii) Noticeboards: a new lock had been put on the map board which had now been removed from the wall. Nia Richards had contacted John Henry asking him to fix the new noticeboard and replace the map board on the toilet wall.
- iii) Footpath through the cemetery: a site meeting had been held with Eifion Jones on 9 November, and the following noted:
 - the land in question was about to be transferred to the County Council;
 - it was hoped that the work would be completed before the end of the financial year;
 - the location of the new handrail would need to be confirmed in relation to the path noting whether a kissing gate or gap would be better;
 - the County Council would plant a new hedge between the oak and the northern boundary as the current fence is in a poor state;
 - a decision would have to be made with regard to what should be placed on the boundary between the cemetery and the field, e.g. kissing gate
 - the land would be levelled for the path not to be on a slope.
- iv) The website: Catrin Davies had succeeded to update the website, and the updated website was viewed on the interactive screen. The Councillors' details were now current, and the minutes of the 2022 meetings were available. The email address would have to be updated, which was rather complicated. It was unanimously agreed that a page was needed for personal interests, policies, etc. The 2023 minutes would be added asap.
- v) 40 m buffer zone to the South of Tal-y-bont: it was resolved not to contact Tim Barnes

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yet in order to gather more evidence. Nia Richards had contacted Traffic Wales regarding the faulty light on the 20mya sign. The individual with whom she spoke suggested starting a campaign and asking for a Speed van in a relevant location. It was noted that this had previously been refused due to the lack of a safe place to park. Nia proposed that letters could be written to Transport companies reminding them of the speed limit once the campaign starts. Nia had also cut the overgrowth around the blue sign into the village.

- vi) Lighting the Christmas Tree, 7 December: it was agreed to change the time to 4.30 as the Cylch Meithrin service was being held later that evening. Fal Jenkins had agreed to conduct the singing. The Clerk has asked Tom Edwards to set up the light ready for the evening. Alun Davies the electrician would also need to be contacted to fix the lights on the Memorial Hall. The Clerk to ask the school to let the pupils know about the evening. Catrin Davies agreed to produce a poster. Anyone wanting to prepare food but was unable to attend would leave any food with Nia.
- vii) Banking: the mandate form will need to be re-sent
- viii) Nest Jenkins asked about planting trees in the old cemeteries (point 6). She was told that this had only been a suggestion and that nothing had been decided. It was noted that a community orchard could attract more people to the cemeteries rather than them being neglected, and that this in turn could prevent individuals from taking more stones from the walls for their personal use. Proposed to find out whether something similar had been done elsewhere.
- ix) Cwm Eleri kiosk: the Clerk had contacted â Nia Jones but had not had any reply. Nest Jenkins noted that the telephone was not connected and that there was no light in the kiosk. However, Siôn Pennant had recently heard a dialling tone. This would need to be confirmed. The Clerk to contact Nia Jones again to ask for the correct contact.

6. Section 6 – Biodiversity

Nia Richards noted that she had been unable to link with the Focus Group earlier in the month. Nothing further to report.

7. New Matters

- i) Annual grants: local organisations would have to be invited to apply for grants - notices in the noticeboards and *Papur Pawb*. Applications should include information on the environmental impacts of the organisations. Closing date 8 January, to be discussed by the Finance Committee before the next full Council meeting at the end of January.

8. Correspondence

The Clerk had circulated all relevant electronic correspondence to the Councillors during the month. The following correspondence was particularly noted:

- i. Application form for burial ground grants: will need to be filled when the work has been done.
- ii. Emails from two local residents:
Two messages had been received voicing concerns about the possibility that an individual jailed for the sexual assault of a female would be coming to live in Maes-y-deri. The locals had started a petition, and this was shown to the Council to be noted. This will be returned for the residents to collect more names.
The Community Council has no power to make or change such decisions. However, Nia Richards noted that it was the Council's duty to Support local people in matters that cause concern.

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Catrin Davies proposed asking Barcud, the organisation responsible for arranging tenancies on Maes-y-deri estate, whether a sufficient risk assessment had been carried out, and would it be possible to see a copy.

It was noted that many young people and children live in the area and feel safe walking about, but the situation could impact negatively on this. Nia Richards asked whether the prospective neighbours on either side of the address had a right to know the risks.

Resolved:

- note the residents' concerns and the petition;
 - send a message to Barcud, copying in Llŷr Hughes, stating that the local residents are very worried about the situation and that a petition and related correspondence had been received, and also asking whether a risk assessment has been carried out that considers the view of the community;
 - respond to both messages noting that the Community Council has no power or influence in this matter, but that the concerns have been noted and that the Council will correspond with Barcud stating those concerns, and suggest that as many of the residents as possible also contact Barcud directly.
- iii. Messages from Audit Wales noting that the 2019-20, 2020-21 a 2021-22 Audits have been completed. The Clerk to publicly display the relevant information for the relevant period.

9. Planning

There were no planning applications to be considered

10. Financial matters:

- i) Financial report: Nia Richards had completed a bank reconciliation at the start of the month and had note that the accounts were correct to the end of October.

The Council's current financial position:

The clerk had circulated the Council's financial position as at 31/10/2023 prior to the meeting, as follows:

Current account: £16,925.05

Deposit account: £4,828.55

Tabernacle account: £4,453.33

There was £2,754.32 in the Cae Bach fund (in the current account + £104.50 cash).

- ii) Income:

James Memorials, inscription £115.00

- iii) Invoices payable:

a. Nia Richards, Cwtsh Cynnes costs £14.55

b. Clerk's wages, Oct.-Dec. 2023 £950.08 (+ £237.60 income tax to HMRC)

c. Aberlock, work on the map board £80.00

d. Ellen ap Gwynn, Cwtsh Cynnes costs £16.98

e. Nest Jenkins, two wreaths £40.00

f. Dafydd Williams, grass/hedge cutting £3,710.00

It was agreed unanimously to pay the above.

11. Playgrounds

- i) Fundraising campaign: a successful *Quiz, Cheese and More* evening was held on 23 November, raising £509.30, plus a contribution of £50 from Nick and Karin Hughes and £20 from Julie Bray. AberOpera will hold an evening on 15 February, free of charge other than a

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small fee for the accompanist. A clothes sale will be held in the spring. Although the minutes of the last Playground Sub-committee note that the meeting on Monday 4 December will be held in the White Lion, the meeting was reminded that the Community Council, including all its official sub-committees, are not allowed to hold meetings in a pub. It was noted that Ellen ap Gwynn was willing to for a meeting to be held at her house. The Clerk to confirm this before calling the meeting. The Clerk had requested a quotation from PlayQuest, but they had replied that they would not be quoting for the work. The Clerk will continue to look for a third quote.

ii) Monthly reports:

The November checks had not been carried out before the meeting.

November – Nia Richards; December – Eryl Bray; January – Bleddyn Huws.

12. Any Other Business

- i. Eryl Bray asked whether it would be possible to buy one red and one white wreath for Remembrance Sunday. Nest Jenkins replied that one wreath commemorates the First World War and the other the Second World War, and that it had been agreed that both would be the same.
- ii. Eryl Bray noted that someone had been working on an old car outside Salon Leri and that there was oil on the ground. Catrin Davies replied that this had been reported and that the car had now been removed.
- iii. Nest Jenkins noted that building rubble was being dumped illegally by Fron-las quarry, with the pile very high by now. She agreed to supply the registration number of the vehicle in question – to be reported via Clic.
- iv. Rhian Evans asked the Clerk to prepare a short report for *Papur Pawb* by the end of the week.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 29 January 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in Tal-y-bont Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 10:00 p.m.

Signed: _____

Date: _____