

Cyngor Cymuned Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council

Minutes of the monthly meeting held on Monday 29 April 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in Tal-y-bont Memorial Hall

1. Chair's Welcome

Present: Councillors Ellen ap Gwynn (Chair), Nest Jenkins, Mererid Watson, Catrin Davies (County Councillors), Nia Richards, Eryl Bray, Siôn Pennant, Bleddyn Huws, Elgan Evans (remotely initially), Enoc Jenkins (late)

Taking minutes: Lynwen Jones

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Councillor Rhian Evans (Vice-chair)

3. Declaration of Interest

No declaration of interest was made.

4. Confirmation of Minute of Previous Meeting held on 25 March 2024

Minutes of the previous meeting confirmed as correct, with the following amendments: *delete point 5 i) c. (reference to potholes in road between Glanrafon and Cae'r Arglwyddes) as it is unlikely that any work will be carried out.*

Proposed: Bleddyn Huws; Seconded: Catrin Davies

5. Matters arising:

- i) Matters reported through Clic to the County Council:
 - a. Road between Pensarn and Gwarcwm Uchaf: need to check whether work has been completed
 - b. Road between Penpompren Geifr and top of Cwm Tŷ Nant: nothing to report
 - c. Road between Bwlch y Garreg and Gorwelion: some potholes had been filled.
- ii) Cwm Eleri kiosk: an agreement had been received confirming that the Council now owned the kiosk. BT would not be demanding payment. It had been agreed in a previous meeting that the defibrillator at Tŷ Twt would be relocated to the kiosk. Mererid Watson and Siôn Pennant had agreed to install. Following a discussion, it was proposed to place a notice in the noticeboards noting the location of each defibrillator. It was further proposed to buy another defibrillator rather than relocate a current one – Mererid to look into this. Siôn Pennant noted that the telephone had been removed from the red kiosk in Bont-goch without prior notice. Proposed to make enquiries regarding adopting this kiosk too.
- iii) First Aid Course: nothing to report. Proposed to formally contact the individual in question to arrange a date.
- iv) Policies: Proposed that the Clerk make enquiries regarding which policies are required by community councils. To be left on the table.

6. Section 6 – Biodiversity

Nia Richards gave the following report with regard to water data on the Tal-y-bont rivers: The Rivers' Trust had been supplying Tal-y-bont Local Flood Group with data for the past three years. This had shown 93 instances of Unauthorised Overflows in 2021 (total of 1,774 hours), 109 instances in 2022 (total of 2,064 hours) and 2 instances in 2023 (total of 31 hours). The Floodies had questioned this data, and Welsh water had replied by stating that the data had not been formatted very well. The also noted a long period of problems with the Equipment, which had

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been rectified in February 2024, and that Welsh Water was now seeing correct data coming through. This meant that data for previous years could have been too high or too low when reporting instances of Unauthorised Overflows.

Welsh Water data for the past few years was therefore not verifiable, and was different from that provided to the Floodies in a meeting held in 2023. The group remained in contact with Welsh Water.

On the positive side, only very low levels of Chemicals had been reported in the water over the past year since the start of the weekly testing.

7. New matters

- i) Appointing an Internal Auditor: The Chair had contacted Mr Bryn Smith, a retired auditor, who had agreed to accept the post. It was unanimously agreed to appoint Bryn Smith as Internal Auditor. Proposed: Enoc Jenkins; Seconded: Catrin Davies
It was resolved to officially thank Mr Ieuan Morgan for all his work auditing the council's accounts over the years.
- ii) 2023-24 accounts: the Clerk detailed the annual return, copies of which had been distributed prior to the meeting, and it was unanimously decided to accept the return. Proposed: Eryl Bray; Seconded: Bleddyn Huws
- iii) Reconfiguration of community councils:
According to the report, the three Community councils in the north of the county would be merged to form a new community council, Ceulanamaesmawr Council, with 7 councillors – 4 for the current Ceulanamaesmawr area, 2 for the Llancynfelyn area and 1 for the Ysgubor y Coed area. A lively discussion ensued, with many points raised against the proposed arrangements, e.g. geographical size of new council; lack of councillors; increase in councillors' workload. Resolved that each Councillor write individual letters to the Boundaries Commission stating the concerns discussed. The Clerk to correspond on behalf of the Council as a whole.

8. Correspondence

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

One Voice Wales

- i) Training on governance finance – free places, 2 & 29 May and 26 June, 6.30-8pm.

9. Financial matters:

- i) Financial report: a suitable account had been opened for the Cae Bach Fund, and all monies in the fund had been transferred from the current account, including two previously agreed contributions of £1,000 by the Community Council. The Clerk had distributed details prior to the meeting, and it was noted that the Council's situation as at 28/04/2024 was as follows:
Current account: £2,510.62
Deposit account: £4,875.70
Tabernacle account: £4,496.45
Cae Bach account: £11,582.72
- ii) Precept: the County Council had sent confirmation that the first tranche of the precept, £5,333.34, would be paid into the current account on 30 April.
- iii) Income:
HMRC, VAT repayment 2023-24 £344.61
Clothes sales and gifts (Cae Bach) £275.90

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Gift, Helen Palmer (Cae Bach)	£20
James Memorials, grave 25(23)	£110
C.T. Evans, grave 27(3)	£200

iv) Invoices payable:

a. Mererid Watson, repayment for defibrillator battery	£234.00
b. Zurich Municipal, insurance	£1,285.16
c. Nia Richards, Cwtsh Cynnes costs	£7.80
d. Lynwen Jones, repayment for new flag	£14.99

Unanimously resolved to pay the above. Proposed: Siôn Pennant; Seconded: Enoc Jenkins

10. Playgrounds

i) Cae Bach fundraising campaign:

The Chair summarised the last meeting of the Playgrounds Committee held on 17 April, as follows:

Two new quotes had been received from Proludic (~£170k) and Sutcliffe Play (~£99k). The quotes would need to be considered as they involved different elements. A survey was needed to decide what to do with regard to drainage, and the committee would be asking for advice from Alun and Einion Cwm-slaid, and Iwan Jones. The clothes sale had made a profit of over £1,000, on the day and subsequently. Future events: plant sale to be held in the Memorial Hall on 4 May; ball race to be held on the day of Tal-y-bont Show; 200 Club to be launched on the day of the Show, with tickets to be on sale for a month and the winners to be chosen at the monthly full Council meetings; another Bingo evening to be held on 24 May – Wainwrights had pledged to sponsor the evening (£180) and contribute a further £2,500 to the fund. Catrin Davies had visited the school to consult with the children regarding what they would like in the new playground.

ii) Monthly reports: nothing to report.

11. Planning

Application A240260, Coed Pistyll-goch, Bont-goch. No objection was made to the application, and it was resolved to respond accordingly.

12. Any Other Business

i) Fly tipping near Fron-las Quarry: the rubble tipped was being used to build a huge wall at the roadside. Catrin Davies had reported the building of an unauthorised structure to the County Council. The complaint had been forwarded to the planning department. Resolved to report this through Clic, noting concerns for the safety of the structure.

Eryl Bray left the meeting at 9.20 p.m.

ii) The Cemetery: the Chair summarised the Cemetery Committee meeting held on 24 April 2024, as follows:

a) the new footpath had been completed, and mesh would be placed on the surface once the grass had regrown. The Committee had proposed that a layer of chippings on the surface of the section through the cemetery, as suggested by Eifion Jones. It was also proposed to hold a joint ceremony with Llancynfelyn Council to officially open the path.

b) Other work: The bench had been erected, the lower fence had been repaired and the poles for the new handrail ordered. Members of the Committee had met with John Henry Jones and Arwyn Griffiths in the cemetery to ensure the digger would still be able to access all areas following the work. The Committee had proposed resurfacing the path leading from the main gate; quotes would be needed for this work. Enoc had noted that he and

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Elgan Evans would be able to level the land along the lower edge of the new section and reseed it. Elgan agreed to this.

c) Ellen ap Gwynn, Nia Richards and the Clerk had spent an afternoon in the cemetery noting the details on the gravestones in order to update the records.

d) Nest Jenkins had proposed a stone be laid in the lower corner of the cemetery to note the unmarked graves.

All the Committee's proposals were approved.

iii) Bleddyn Huws inquired about the meeting to discuss the Tal-y-bont public toilets. The Clerk noted that she had contacted the relevant department to arrange a meeting and was awaiting a reply.

iv) Mains leak in front of the chapel and Tŷ Gwyn.

v) Many potholes remained in the road up to Cwm Tŷ Nant.

13. Date of next meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on 20 May 2024 at 7 o'r goch in Tal-y-bont Memorial Hall. The next monthly meeting of the Council will follow immediately after.

The meeting closed at 10:20 p.m.

Signed: _____

Date: _____