

Cyngor Cymuned Betws y Coed Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on 13th November 2023

Present – Ffiona Jones (Chair) Neil Pringle (Vice-Chair) Bedwyr ap Gwyn, Chris Jones, Janet Charlton, Catherine Williams, Phil Roberts, Sian Godbert, Cllr Elizabeth Roberts, Haf Jones (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies** – None
- 2. Welcome & Introductions** – The Chair welcomed everybody. This was Sian Godbert's first meeting and everybody introduced themselves.
- 3. Declaration of interest in any item on the agenda** – Sian Godbert declared an interest in item 7 on the agenda.
- 4. Community Development Officers' report** - overview of the October work circulated electronically with agenda. UKSPF application outcome still awaited.
- 5. Minutes of October Mtg** - resolved that minutes were a true record of the meeting.

6. Matters arising from the minutes:-

Pont y Pair footbridge – without the detail of costs associated and certainty that the concept is deliverable, that funds would be available together with the future responsibilities of maintenance to the Community Council, the Councillors resolved to shelve the project for the time being.

Affordable Housing, Pentre Du – apparent from planning application at item 8 that the project is progressing. Cllr Roberts suggested inviting Grwp Cynefin to a future meeting to provide an update – Spring 2024, Clerk to arrange.

Pont y Pair vegetation – no progress. Clerk to write to CADW & CCBC Structures dept relaying Cllrs continued concerns and to ask if there is a condition report for the bridge available.

Fan y Llan – awaiting UKSPF application outcome.

Betws y Coed FC – item 7 on the agenda

Station rd coach drop off pick up – no response from SNP. Clerk to arrange site visit with SNP and contact visiting Coach Tour companies.

Asbestos Survey – no response from two contractors approached. Clerk to further pursue

Ultimate outdoors – hoarding replaced

Sappers Bridge – CCBC's arranged engagement event on the 27th October 1-7pm at the Church Hall at which project designs was to be displayed for observation purposes was postponed. New date Friday 17th November, 1-6pm, same venue.

Lengthy parking on double yellow lines – no response from CCBC Enforcement; issues continue.

Trees, Cae Llan – CCBC Tree Officer reports that the crown lifting work on the trees which run parallel to the A5 is out for quotes.

HR – no response from the contact provided, Neil Pringle to arrange contact for a HR Services Company via CVSC.

Erw Hedd – no updates since site visit of Spring 2022. Clerk to seek update.

UKSPF – Monies ring fenced for Town & Community Councils. Estimates for works received. Awaiting receipt of application form.

- 7. Betws y Coed FC** - Sian Godbert provided an overview of the situation. Clubhouse suffered a series of burst pipes late December 2022 which caused substantial damage to the building interior. This has resulted in the clubhouse being unusable. Club officials continue to pursue the matter with the insurance company but there is a significant shortfall between the cost of works required and the insurance settlement. Cllrs provided information re potential funders and assistance to negotiate with the insurance company.
- 8. Planning NP4/11/398A Grwp Cynefin, Pentre Du** – Cllrs were supportive of the amended application.
- 9. Memorial Hall** – steady stream of bookings but in order to meet costs, more use and in turn hire fees are required for income. Replacement boiler works and upgrading of electrical works to emergency lighting recently completed at a combined cost of £4967. Utility costs are currently £530 per month. Issue with the water meter continues. Crest have shown an interest in repair and re-use of the surplus furniture and will visit in the coming fortnight. Application to UKSPF Voluntary Fund has been successful. Clerk to arrange an external condition survey, energy survey and an independent engagement exercise to understand community needs and wishes for the future of the hall.
- 10. Swallow Falls** – Although the Falls are open to visitors, the kiosk will be unmanned until Easter 2024. The site is inspected twice weekly to check alarms, cameras etc leaves are cleared to alleviate potential hazards. A recent visit was made by the Land Agent for Ancaster Estates who endorsed the concept of enhancing the visitor experience at the Falls by way of sympathetic interpretation, in keeping with the site. Replacement of the safety barriers, perimeter fencing together with upgrading of the kiosk is required and will be costed with a view to carry out the works during the winter season. The stalling of the work at the Swallow Falls Hotel was raised, the mutual benefit to visitors to the attraction and to business and vice-versa. Neil Pringle volunteered as member to support the Clerk with site matters.
- 11. Cae Llan** – CCBC Tree Officer reports that sadly, the Oak tree at the TIC end of the field is badly damaged by disease. Nant Conwy Tree Services have been instructed to remove only the branches that could be dangerous to users of the field. When this work is completed, the tree will be surrounded by a fence within which wildflowers and bulbs will be and some interpretation displayed. Cllrs asked whether the uplighters which surround the base of tree could be utilised again. Clerk to explore. Information was received that the CCBC Local Places for Nature Team had submitted an application to Welsh Government to approve the concept of developing the perimeter areas by way of a planting scheme. The quote for the work of raising the height of the fencing behind the goalposts is still outstanding. It was resolved to seek three quotes. Chris Jones was appointed as member to support the Clerk with site matters.
- 12. Financial Matters** – a full report of income and expenditure for October was made available and the invoices requiring payment were listed and approved for payment. HSBC have approved the mandate and updating of signatories.

The Clerk sought Cllrs approval to explore electronic banking and to put in place a process for approval of payments. Phil Roberts and Sian Godbert were appointed as members of the Finance Committee.

13. For Information –

Sappers Bridge – Engagement event, Friday 17th November, 1-6pm at the Church Hall.

Festive Lights – NMWTRA licence received, awaiting CCBC Street Lighting licence which allow the installation of festive lights on street-lighting poles. Clerk to arrange a Christmas Tree for Pentre Du.

PCSO Report – received. 1 x Dog out of control – Ogwen Valley 04/10/2023 17:05hrs, no owner identified; 1 x Shoplifting, Holyhead Road 24/10/2023 11:05hrs, suspect was not known. No further lines of enquiry. 1 x Theft of cooking oil – Holyhead Road 31/10/2023 06:00hrs, believed to be linked to a series of incidents across the North West. 1 x ASB – Off Road Bikes, Bridleway between Llyn Crafnant and Capel Curig 13/10/2023 14:00.

CVSC 3rd Sector Conference – Clerk attended and reported that it was an informative event with much support available.

14 A.O.B

Cllr Roberts wished to see the return of cuppa with the copper which was popular during the Warm Hub project, Winter 2023 at the Church Hall. Clerk has not received information regarding funding for Winter 2024 Warm Hubs.

Ffiona Jones enquired about progress with the rebuilding of the website. Clerk reported that it was work in progress.

A black Ford Fiesta has been parked on the roadside on Holyhead rd for some considerable time. Clerk to inform Police.

Date of next meeting Monday 11th of December 7pm

Signed.....Date.....