



Betws y Coed Community Council

Minutes of meeting held 8th of April 2024

Present – Ffiona Jones (Chair), Neil Pringle (Vice-Chair), Phil Roberts, Chris Jones, Sian Godbert, Bedwyr ap Gwyn, Haf Jones (Clerk)

1. Apologies – Janet Charlton, Cllr Elizabeth Roberts

2. Declaration of interest in any item on the agenda –

Item 6 Memorial Hall, Gwyl Gwrw - Bedwyr ap Gwyn

Item 7 Staffing Matters – Neil Pringle

Item 9 Urgent matters, Betws y Coed FC, condition of the field - Sian Godbert

3. Minutes of the last meeting – approved

4. Matters arising from the last meeting

Erw Hedd – tap issue reported again together with a further issue of the overflowing litter bin. Bin replaced by a smaller blue wheelie bin which will be part of the daily litter bin emptying rota.

Pont y Pair – no progress, Cllr Liz Roberts to seek update from CCBC to understand if the vegetation clearance is on the list of works for the forthcoming year.

Community Grant – Flyer prepared for marketing and together with the application form will be available during April with a closing date of 1st June.

Flood Plan – an overview of the plan, areas of the village included, roles and responsibilities of the Warden and a list of stakeholders was given by the Flood Warden. Identified need to better understand the Flood Plan and suggested as a future agenda item. Clerk to obtain a copy of the Betws y Coed Flood Plan and arrange a presentation.

Ffordd Coed Cynhelir – much upset caused to the residents as the parking tickets continued to be issued. Assurance received by Senior Management at the CCBC Parking Services that the Parking Manager had been instructed to inform the Traffic Wardens to stop issuing tickets and for all to appeal their tickets which they have done successfully. It has been established that the areas targeted are not passing places and not in CCBC ownership.

Litter Bins – the blue litter bins have now been returned in and around the village but it is apparent that they are being used for household waste/trade waste. This is being monitored by CCBC.

Dog Fouling – following numerous incidents, and the area between Station Road and Pont y Pair in particular identified, a flyer has been produced and displayed on Betws y Coed social media politely asking dog owners to practice responsible behaviour to keep the village clean. The Tourism Association have agreed to work in partnership to appeal to visitors.

Community Skips - the CCBC subsidised community skip service came to an end on 31 March.

Clerk to pursue talks with CCBC to seek an alternative service and/or advice and support. Notice explaining the situation prepared and displayed in the noticeboards and on social media.

5. Financial matters and payments – March '24 bank reconciliation and April schedule of invoices and payments due presented for scrutiny and approval. Bank reconciliation endorsed and approval made for payments. The task of production of accounts is ongoing and on track for submission to the internal auditor and in turn, Audit Wales. A letter has been prepared for engagement of internal auditor. Internet Business Banking set up and approval sought for application for a Business Debit Card. The spending limits are as per Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Approved and application form signed by the Chair and Clerk.

6. Swallow Falls/Memorial Hall/Cae Llan

Swallow Falls – now manned 5 hours per day and the wardens are busy working on aesthetic improvements around the site. Meeting held with Carneddau Fund Project Officer to progress interpretation and signage. 5838 visitors to the site during March. Routine risk assessment has identified works required which are mainly as a result of the heavy and persistent rain. Waste is now separated as per regulation and collected monthly. Workmen at the hotel site opposite have found a water tank but unsure if it's the one which supplies the kiosk as there are two on the plan. The request to understand if the Estate hold a VAT exemption certificate was met with a request for information as to why the question was being asked. Explanation provided.

Cae Llan – Designers appointed by LPfN re the planting project and the work of planting bulbs and wild flowers within the marked out area under the canopy of the

diseased Oak tree is progressing. Issue of dog fouling and sticks thrown for dogs to retrieve on the football pitch raised as an issue. No bookings received for April.

Memorial Hall – planning and research for the future of the hall engagement exercise continues. Reminder sent to contractor re the energy survey. Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu have made an additional booking to use the hall on a Wednesday evening which means that the hall/meeting room is in use every evening during the week with the exception of a Monday. Request made for consideration of installation of additional lighting at a cost of £400 – approved.

An email from the organisers of Gwyl Gwrw was circulated electronically with the meeting agenda and Bedwyr ap Gwyn left the meeting while a discussion took place re the offer of hire fee. The organisers have satisfied the conditions of the hire as set out by the Council have been met and agreed to accept the offer of £300 to hire the hall with a condition that water, electricity and gas used during the weekend will be re-charged to the organisers.

The defibrillators at the Hall and at Swallow Falls were recently checked by the Wales Ambulance Service who demonstrated the process to the Clerk. Batteries and pads were changed on the hall de-fib and pads changed at the Swallow de-fib. Both are now registered with the Wales Ambulance Service and a reminder email will be received by the Clerk when the routine checks are due or have been used in an emergency.

7. Fan y Llan and staffing matters - Fan y Llan – advert displayed and circulated. Some interest and contact received requesting further information. A meeting with CCBC Learning Disability Service has been organised to share the job description and discuss what they could possibly take on given the nature of some working on trunk road verges necessary.

CDO's & Clerk's report of works carried out during the previous month was circulated and was discussed during the budget plan item. In light of the challenging budget, it was agreed that the fixed term contract of the two CDO's would not be extended beyond end of June.

8. Budget Plan – plan was circulated with the agenda and minutes of last meeting allowing everybody sufficient opportunity to scrutinise known and anticipated expenditure and income for 2024/25. The plan highlighted the significant costly repairs and maintenance items necessary this year which will be met from the reserves held. It was further explained that 6 months running costs must be held in reserve and the budget plan was tailored accordingly. The budget will be scrutinised quarterly and adjusted as expenditure and income accounts report.

9. For information and urgent matters –

The jointly funded project between Eryri National Park Community Grant and the Community Council, E-bike charging and water refill station equipment installed.

Contact made with Eryri National Park to seek clarity of planning consent as per concerns relayed by members of the community regarding works progressing at two sites in the village. Confirmation received that these are being investigated.

Email and images received from Betws y Coed Football Club regarding waterlogging issue by the corner flag adjacent to the paved footpath and a request for some aerating work to be made out of season. Clerk to liaise with joint licensee's of Cae Llan.

10. DONM & AGM Monday 13/5/2024 7pm.