

Cyngor Cymuned Onllwyn Community Council

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on Monday 8th July 2024 held at Dove Workshop, Banwen.

Present:

Cllr Lee Reynolds, Cllr Ruth Stone, Cllr Emlyn Griffiths, Cllr Steve Thomas, Cllr Angie Thompson, Cllr Gareth Llewellyn, Cllr Sonia Coy, Cllr Dean Cawsey.

Apologies:

Cllr Andrew Jones

Meeting commenced at 1900 hours.

1. a. Resolved to move meeting commencement time to 1830 hours from next and all future meetings.

b. Brought to the attention of the Community Council that the fence around the field leased to a tenant is not being kept in a good condition. Resolved that the Clerk is to contact the lease holder and request that it is brought back into a condition as per the terms of their contract.

Discussed about increasing the number of Community Councillors, 3 previous notice of interests received. Resolved that the Clerk is to contact all three and to gain a response from them as to whether they are still interested so that a meeting invitation can be sent to attend on 9th September 2024 at 1800 hours.

c. Contact made by Cheryl Hughes in relation to the top fence at the cemetery leaning. Clerk had visited area and checked and confirmed that repair work is required. Council suggested use of Spick and Span in Seven Sisters or Ben Cross. Resolved for Clerk to make contact and organise work.

Contact from Darren Fowles requesting to build a garage adjacent to another. Community Council decision at this time is that they are considering their management of land and resolved that the Clerk will respond to him.

2. Minutes of meeting held on 10th June 2024 confirmed as correct and signed.
3. a. Clerk has spoken to Ben Cross in relation to work at Moorlands who was under the impression of just cutting of the metal work to remove. It has been explained that the park and all fixtures require removing and he will re-evaluate his quote to the Community Council.

b. Councillor Dean Cawsey mentioned that GCRE were holding an open meeting at the Onllwyn Welfare hall on 17th July 2024 between 1400 hours and 1900 hours

which may be worth attending and then information can be reported back to the Community Council and a decision made as to whether a separate meeting with GCRE is required.

c. Councillor Dean Cawsey spoke about the pre-booking of burial plots, he is having regular contact from Tom Carroll who is wishing to book around 6 plots. Tom has said that cost is not an issue. Clerk mentioned that generally plots are no longer booked and at Dyffryn Cemetery haven't been since 2009. This is due to errors in the past however it is suggested about mapping and digitising the grave site. The question was raised as to how to deal with previous burial plot booking requests.

Resolved for Clerk to contact Tom and explain that the Community Council will look into his request. Also that the Clerk will see what part of Scribe can assist with maintaining the records of the burial site. And at a future date the Community Council to review the pricing structure in line with other local burial areas.

d. The wall at Roman Road near the sign is broken. Councillor Lee Reynolds ^{REYNOLDS} ~~Bowlands~~ SC will liaise with Lewis (ex ranger) to attend the site. The stone is still in place at the rear of the wall and see what work can be carried out to repair.

e. Remainder of allowance forms taken by Councillors to complete and return.

4. Bank account balances read out, approved payments list for July signed and agreed.
5. Planning application for amendment to previous agreement for Nant Helen site. Paperwork taken to meeting, no objections raised at this time.
6. No reports from outside bodies.
7. No reports on Policing Matters.
8. Awaiting meeting with Lianne at Dove centre. Clerk has contacted Neath Port Talbot Council to ask about self locking doors on building and is awaiting a reply. Also to look into coin operated closure to assist in cost.
9. Land rental invoices, resolved to send out as per current pricing structure. Councillors Angie Thompson and Gareth Llewellyn declared an interest in this section. Suggestion for agreements to be checked for land designation and ascertain that current situation is correct and update any map records. Previously mentioned that a 5 year review period is in contracts where Councillor Gareth Llewellyn mentioned open ended contracts and this will be checked again. Consideration of bringing contracts up to date and also to look at any

insurances that should be in place by lease holders. Look at creating a policy document.

10. Clerk updated Council that he had raised with Neath Port Talbot Council the grass cutting and maintenance at the Burial site was not to a good standard and is awaiting a response.
11. Councillor Gareth Llewellyn updated the Council that Sheila had chosen a memorial bench for the late Clerk. No words to be inscribed had been decided upon as yet. Suggestion it may go around the pond area but not yet decided. Used Spick and Span (Mark Davies) to install.
12. Councillor Ruth Stone explained that during the last council meeting a suggestion had been made in relation to the playpark area by the Dove Centre needed work. A suggestion had been made to approach the Maesgwyn Windfarm and produce an application for funding for work to be carried out. She explained that a successful meeting had been held with Paul Hinder and to take this matter forward a request was made to the community council for a sum of £6000 be agreed, this sum would allow the Community Council to put an application in to the minor benefits grant for £14000. It was resolved that the £6000 would be granted from Council funds.

She further explained that Paul had been in attendance at the area with Sutcliffe play park company, taking photographs and measurements to come up with a plan/design. She is also attending Maes Marchog school and along with Councillor Angie Thompson will be obtaining information as to what the local children want from a play park in the area. All this information will be collated together to form an application to take to the December 2024 windfarm panel meeting and if all agreed a new play park could be installed by next spring. She mentioned that some of the existing equipment would remain and that the school are going to create some logos and board for display as part of a project. All existing drainage and trees in the area do not need any work.

Councillor Sonia Coy also mentioned the Butterfly park alongside and that some people have been planting their own things however it is starting to take shape as a wild area after its year.

A suggested timeline for work is: Meeting in December with panel. If agreed 7 weeks to manufacture play equipment then to install in February/March 2025 ready for Spring/Summer opening.

13. Councillor Lee ~~Rowland~~ ^{REYNOLDS} mentioned that approximately 10 years ago an application and local use record was conducted to ascertain the use of a footpath from the bottom end of the old Onllwyn Inn up to the old colliery. It was

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found that over 60 persons had used it on a regular basis. Resolved for the Clerk to contact the Rights of Way officer at Neath Port Talbot Council and see what if any actions had been taken and report back.

14. Grounds maintenance. General consensus by Community Council that the area is not being maintained as would be liked. It is known and agreed that the new park and skateboard park grass is being cut by the Rugby club. Currently 21 hours of work had been completed to date at a cost of £50 per hour (£1050).

It was decided a plan is needed to look into the area, the Woodland Walk and pond needs some work. It is felt that paying Neath Port Talbot Council is not getting value and it may be prudent to have a few contractors doing what the Community Council want giving a personal touch. Clerk has been tasked with contacting Peter Thomas in relation to the Burial site to ascertain what work he could do to maintain that area and report back. It is felt that if the Community Council do not keep an eye on things, all the good work that has been done previously will be lost.

Community Council have requested a list of current spending and precep dates, to be brought to next meeting.

15. Resolved.

16. None.

17. Councillor Ruth Stone mentioned that the net in the MUGA had been removed and wondered if the wire supporting was still in place. The net may not be useable any longer as it was placed in the corner of the park area. It was resolved that a new net be purchased and fitted.

Councillor Steve Thomas updated the Community Council that the work had begun that day on replacing the floor of the community hall in Pantyffordd.

Meeting concluded at 2100 hours.

Next meeting: Monday 9th September 2024.

Signed:  _____

Dated: 9/9/2024

