

ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2023 AT SARN LIFE LONG LEARNING CENTRE AND VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Councillor M Williams (Chair)

E Davies (via zoom from 6.10 pm)
R Teahan-Dyer (via zoom from 6.04 pm)
P Ford (via zoom from 6.04 pm)
E Jones (from 6.07 pm)
S Morgan
T Nicholls
T Thomas (via zoom from 6.10 pm until 6.51 pm)
L Thorne
B Tiltman (via zoom from 6.06 pm)
Y Walton-Davies (from 6.10 pm)

Clerk: Ann Harris

Minute 136/22-23 - Councillors Dan McConnell and Mark John

Note: The meeting started at 6.04 pm when the meeting was quorate.

137/22-23 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Name	Minute Number	Declaration	Speak/Vote
Emma Davies	145/22-23	Employee Awen Cultural Trust - Library Services at Sarn Centre	No/No
Yvonne Walton-Davies	142/22-23	Nominee for the Local Access Forum	No/No
Paula Ford	All relevant	All BCBC Matters	No/No
Tim Thomas	All relevant Any relevant Incl.	All BCBC Matters	No/No
Martin Williams	All relevant incl. Development Control	All BCBC Matters	No/No

138/22-23 ITEM 3 TO RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVE CONSULTANTS ON THE HYBONT PROJECT

Three representatives were invited but they were unable to attend.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to invite them to the March 2023 meeting. The Clerk was also asked to write to BCBC Leader Huw David and Chief Executive, Mark Shepherd, to express the council's disappointment at the lack of response from the BCBC consultants.

139/22-23 ITEM 4 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2023 ORDINARY MEETING

The minutes of the January 2023 Ordinary Meeting dated 9th January 2023 had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

Resolved: The council agreed to accept the minutes of the January Meeting held on 9th January 2023 as a true and accurate record and the Chair signed the minutes.

140 /22-23 ITEM 5 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE JANUARY 2023 MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting:

Minute 122/22-23 Matters Arising from the December 2022 Minutes

Climate change/Highways: the Clerk reminded Councillors Thomas and Walton-Davies that she needed photos and text to draft a letter regarding this matter as this matter was resolved on 4th July 2022.

Minute 126/22-23

The Tyn y Coed volunteer litter pickers had received their skip and had cleared an amazing amount of fly tipping in the area. There is still some left and they will request that BCBC remove it. They had written to the council to express their thanks.

Resolved: All information and action of the Clerk was noted. Councillor T Thomas would chase up his BCBC referral on the Climate change/Highways matter and take more photos to enable Councillor Walton-Davies to provide some draft notes for the Clerk to carry out the resolved action from July 2022.

141/22-23 ITEM 6 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER 2022

A crime figures graph and narrative had been circulated to Members for November 2022 and these were discussed. There was no SW Police presence at the meeting.

Resolved: It was noted that violence and sexual crime had increased in November 2022 in the Bryncoch and Bryncethin wards.

142/22-23 ITEM 7 BALLOT FOR T&CC REPRESENTATIVE ON LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Ballot papers had been received from BCBC for the election of a person to represent the T&CCs on the Bridgend Local Access Forum. Five nominations had been received and a copy of statements from three of the people nominated had been sent out with the meeting papers. The Chair asked each Member to rank the nominees in order of preference up to a maximum of 1 to 5 where 1 is the preferred person and five is the least preferred person.

Resolved: Following the voting the Clerk was asked to submit the nominees in the following order: 1 Cllr Yvonne Walton-Davies, 2 Cllr D Unwin, 3 Cllr B Doughty, 4 Cllr J Coles and 5 Cllr J Pratt.

143/22-23 ITEM 8 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY SCHEME

The Clerk had been asked to approach three local providers to see what they could offer as an activity scheme: the current provider Youthworks, BCBC/Halo Leisure and Aberkenfig Boys and Girls Club. All had been approached but only Youthworks were in a position to offer a scheme. They offered two days a week 1 in Bryncoch/Sarn and 1 in Bryncethin. The cost for 2023 will remain the same at £200 per day.

Resolved: Following a discussion on the Youthworks scheme the Clerk was asked to book Youthworks for the school holiday periods in 2023 on a Tuesday in Bryncoch/Sarn and a

Thursday in Bryncethin as there is a scheme in CCYD on a Monday so moving dates would give a better offer to the children in the area.

144/22-23 ITEM 9 COMMUNITY GARDENS

Unfortunately the Community Gardens Committee have not been able to meet with their Members to discuss the Council's correspondence in time to respond to this meeting. They are meeting on 22nd February and will respond after that date.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk would write to the Chair of the Community Gardens Committee to ask for a response before the March Ordinary Council meeting. The Clerk was asked to add the Community Gardens to the March agenda for discussion.

145/22-23 ITEM 10 LIBRARY SERVICES

The Clerk had been tasked with obtaining a response from both Awen Cultural Trust and BCBC on their meetings. Awen Cultural Trust did not respond to the request. BCBC responded saying their recollection was that the Community Council would inform them of their position following their precept meeting. This was discussed.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to request a meeting with Cabinet Member, Rhys Goode, to discuss this further.

146/22-23 ITEM 11 GRASS CUTTING SCHEDULE

A map and details of the grass cutting and footpath cutting schedule had been sent to all Members with their papers.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that Councillor Shaun Morgan would carry out the following - check the land ownership of all the grass cutting areas ie private, BCBC, V2C and check that all footpath cutting is to Rights of Way comparing to the electronic Rights of Way map. This would enable the council to pull together a schedule of grass cutting/footpath work for the future.

147/22-23 ITEM 12 DRAFT BIODIVERSITY REPORT

The Clerk had drafted an up-to-date biodiversity report and a copy had been included in the meeting papers. This was discussed.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to approve the draft and publish it on the council's website following one amendment to the report where it says there's a lack of expertise within the Community Council to identify best practice. It was also agreed to include an agenda item in April 2023 on how the council can improve its biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty.

148/22-23 ITEM 13 T&CC GRANT FUNDING

The Clerk had obtained one quotation for a MUGA and another site visit was planned for the following week from another supplier. She reported back on a conversation that she'd had with the Open Spaces Officer at BCBC on the likelihood of one been given approval for the areas identified, to manage Councilors' expectations. The officer had suggested the Clerk seek advice from the Planning Department and this had been done, but no reply has been received to date.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk were noted.

149/22-23 ITEM 14 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS INCLUDING FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Payments

Authorisation was requested for the January 2023 payments of £2,123.72. The balance carried forward to February 2023 was £73,608.94

2. Income

There was £193.19 income in the month from the Swansea Building Society.

3. 2021/2022 Audit

No conclusion had been received to date, but the Audit Wales office have asked for further information.

4. RCT Pension Fund

Correspondence had been received from the pension fund informing the Community Council that the current employers' contribution will reduce every year for the next 3 years up to 2026.

5. Finance Committee Recommendations

12th October 2022:

- There were no potential risks identified in the review of the budget.
- The Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for full council to consider their priorities for inclusion in the precept budget for 2023/24.
- It was agreed to recommend to full council that the Chair and Clerk go through the Finance & Governance Toolkit together to ensure that all mandatory duties are being carried out by the council.

30th November 2022:

- There were no potential risks identified in the review of the budget.
- A precept budget for 2023/2024 of £75,957 was drafted and would be presented to full council at its December Precept meeting for discussion and consideration.

Resolved: The payments for authorisation for January 2023 were accepted and authorized. The income was accepted along with the information regarding the RCT Pension Fund and 2021/22 audit. All Finance Committee recommendations were accepted by full council.

150/22-23 ITEM 15 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had nothing to report this month.

Resolved: The information was noted.

151/22-23 ITEM 16 MEMBERS/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Paula Ford is dealing with an issue regarding the turning area at the top of Heol Canola.

Councillor Yvonne Walton-Davies had attended a Bridgend Nature Recovery Plan meeting which has now been renamed Bridgend Biodiversity Plan. It was an interesting and worthwhile meeting.

Councillor Emma Davies is working with V2C on a skip amnesty scheme in the lead up to Easter which involves the Repair Café to see if items can be saved and recycled or repaired. She informed Members of an Easter event being held in Bryncethin Memorial Hall to get children involved in increasing planting and they are making seed bombs. It was suggested that the Community Council could identify no mow area and plant wildflower seeds.

Councillor Elaine Jones asked if Sarn Centre is still under the Sarn Association ownership or has it been taken over by Social Services as the Credit Union didn't appear to be open as often as it used to be?

Resolved: All information was noted. The Clerk was asked to find out about no mow areas and to write to the Credit Union to find out the opening hours following the post-covid re-opening.

152/22-23 ITEM 17 CLERK'S REPORT

King's Coronation: This takes place on 6th May 2023 and there are many commemorative items on sale.

Bench Jubilee Cresent: BCBC has granted permission for the Community Council to replace the bench and it has been ordered. As the existing bench is set into concrete a mini digger has been ordered to remove and dispose of the old bench.

Signage: The signage for the benches has arrived and will be fixed on the recently installed benches and any future ones.

Jubilee Planting: The Clerk has continued to seek permission to plant a tree in each ward with no success from the Dunraven Estate so has tried to identify land that BCBC manages instead and is awaiting a response.

Land either side of the top of Queen's Avenue: This is BCBC land which the Community Council has partially maintained via gate and fence repairs and hedge cutting; work has also been carried out in the cemetery in the past.

Grit Bin Davies Avenue: The Clerk has continued to pursue a grit bin for this area since December from BCBC.

Chair's Chain of Office: The Clerk obtained two price options and gave the details. There are not enough tabs to engrave all previous Chairs unless the backs are used. This was discussed and a vote was taken. Councillor Bernard Tiltman voted engraving the backs of the tabs with the names of past Chairs. All others present voted in favour of engraving and using the backs of the tabs too.

April and May Meetings: Due to the many bank holidays in April and May the dates of the meetings need to change.

T&CC Forum Meetings: The Community Council's representative Councillor Yvonne Walton-Davies was asked to raise the 20mph speed limit changes at the next Forum meeting.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to draw together a list of commemorative items and include them as an agenda item in March for consideration. The Clerk was asked to include land ownership/maintenance on the April agenda. The Clerk was asked to arrange for machine engraving up to the present date and revisit at the next Chair change. It was unanimously agreed that the April meeting would be held on 24th April and the May meeting on 22nd May.

153/22-23 ITEM 18 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk drew Members attention to the following items of correspondence; some items had been received as an additional paper, with the Chair's approval, as they'd been received since the papers for the meeting were circulated:

- Porthcawl Town Council - request for information on whether the Community Council runs an Employee Support Programme and Pension Scheme
- Maesteg Town Council - request for information regarding Clerk, RFO and Deputy Clerk pay scales
- Ronald McDonald House Charities - financial request
- Tyn y Coed Litter Pickers - thank you for skip.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to defer the financial request to the March 2023 meeting.

NOTE: Councillor Martin Williams did not take part in the next item. Councillor Elaine Jones chaired this item.

154/22-23 ITEM 19 PLANNING MATTERS

1 planning application had been received, no decisions and no appeals; one email from Planning Aid Wales had also been received along with a pre-planning consultation for a proposed base station installation upgrade.

Resolved: No objections were made to any of the applications. The Planning Aid Wales information was noted and the Clerk was asked to book Councillor Yvonne Walton-Davies onto the Planning Aid Wales course on 15th February 2023.

155/22-23 ITEM 20 ITEMS FOR THE MARCH 2023 ORDINARY MEETING

The agenda would be kept open for any other items that may arise during the month.

The next meeting of the St Brides Minor Community Council will take place on Monday 13th March 2023 at 6.00 pm at Sarn Centre and/or via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 7.26 pm

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Chair of Council

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13th March 2023