

ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 22nd MAY 2023 AT SARN LIFE LONG LEARNING CENTRE AND VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

Councillors:	M John (Chair) E Davies (zoom) P Ford (zoom) D McConnell S Morgan T Nicholls T Thomas* B Tiltman Y Walton-Davies
Apologies:	Councillors R Teahan-Dyer & E Jones
Clerk:	Ann Harris
Public:	One Member of the Public in attendance

Minute No: 1/23-24

2/23-24 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Name	Minute Number	Declaration	Speak/Vote
Emma Davies	7/23-24	Employee Awen Cultural Trust - Library Services at Sarn Centre	No/No
Paula Ford	All relevant	All BCBC Matters	No/No
Mark John	6/23-24	Tenant - Community Gardens	No/No
Tim Thomas	All relevant	All BCBC Matters	No/No
Martin Williams	All relevant	All BCBC Matters	No/No

3/23-24 ITEM 3 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2023 ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 2023 meeting had been distributed with the meeting papers.

Resolved: The council agreed to accept the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 24th April 2023 as a true and accurate record and the Chair signed the minutes

4/23-24 ITEM 4 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE APRIL 2023 ORDINARY MEETING

Minute 174/22-23 Consider Matters Arising from the March 2023 Ordinary Meeting

T&CC Funding Application:

The Clerk updated Members regarding further delays at BCBC for consideration of successful applications. The applications are now due to be made at the June Cabinet Meeting.

Bench Jubilee Crescent:

To date the Clerk had not found anyone interested in quoting with a view to carrying out the required work.

King's Coronation:

Councillor John had presented the Children of Bryncethin Primary School with their water bottles on 5th May 2023.

Remembrance Bench:

The Clerk informed Members that the bench in memory of Logan Mwangi would be quietly installed

on the Cymdda in the next few days.

Replacement Bin Wigan Terrace:

Councillor John had queried the response given to the Clerk's request for a replacement bin at this location. The reasons given were that the bin had been misused by a member of the public putting significant amounts of cat litter in it, causing manual handling issues for staff as the bin was too heavy to empty.

Minute 183 Members/Ward Reports

There was no further update on the broken fence referral made to BCBC for the fencing off Heol Canola.

Minute 185 Correspondence

The Clerk informed Members that a Notice of Vacancy has been published on the Library noticeboard and on the Council's website. The closing date was today and no requests had been received for an election, so the council can now start the co-option process.

Minute 187 Items for the May 2023 Ordinary Meeting

Due to the length of the May agendas the Annual Report had not been included on the agenda. This would be included on a future agenda.

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

5/23-24 ITEM 5 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR APRIL 2023

The crime figures for April 2023 had been distributed with the meeting papers. There were no SW Police present at the meeting.

Resolved: The crime figures were discussed and noted.

Note: Councillor M John did not take part in item 6

6/23-24 ITEM 6 COMMUNITY GARDENS UPDATE

The Clerk informed Members that feedback had not yet been received from the solicitor.

Resolved: The information given by the Clerk was noted.

Note: Councillor Emma Davies did not take part in the discussion regarding the Library Services and left the meeting.

7/23-24 **ITEM 7 SARN LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT AND AGREEMENT**

The Annual Report received from Awen Cultural Trust had been circulated with the meeting papers.

In addition, a draft Partnership Agreement between Awen Cultural Trust and St Brides Minor Community Council had been circulated with the meeting papers, and this was discussed.

Resolved: The Annual Report was noted. The Clerk was asked to request that Awen Cultural Trust make the following changes to the agreement:

- Point 2 - to include St Brides Minor Community Council's base as c/o Sarn Lifelong Learning Centre, Merfield Close, Sarn.
- Point 3 - to change the agreement review date to October 2023 from December 2023.
- Point 5.4 - to read 'to visibly recognize the partnership at the venue and within all relevant marketing and promotional resources including joint branding.

8/23-24 **ITEM 8 LAND OWNERSHIP MAINTENANCE**

A list of areas of land ownership which the Community Council is querying was discussed, these included grass cutting, fence and tree maintenance etc. All were discussed in detail.

Resolved: It was agreed that the Clerk was asked to write to the management company who own land the Community Council currently cuts to confirm ownership and to ask for a contribution towards the costs in the future. The Clerk was also asked to investigate adverse possession of one of the areas and to contact Western Power about trees with ash dieback that are growing amongst power lines. Some queries would need to be made with the Corporate Landlord at BCBC and footpath maintenance at Heol Laethog was queried.

9/23-24 **ITEM 9 BIODIVERSITY SUGGESTIONS**

All Members have been asked to consider biodiversity suggestions which the Community Council could follow up.

Resolved: Suggestions were made including the common rewilding up to junction 36, future grass cutting including No Mow May, bird and bat boxes and to include biodiversity regularly on the Community Council's agenda.

Note: Councillor Yvonne Walton-Davies left the meeting at 7.23 pm and returned at 7.25 pm)

10/23-24 **ITEM 10 REMEMBRANCE**

Councillor Tim Thomas reminded Members of the deaths which had occurred on the by-pass over recent years. He said that despite these very sad events, there had been no improvements made regarding road safety; the bypass even has a Rights of Way footpath that runs across it.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that Councillor Tim Thomas would provide the Clerk with draft text to include in a letter that the Clerk would write on behalf of the Community Council to BCBC.

11/23-24 **DRAFT ALLOWANCES POLICY UPDATE**

An updated allowances policy had been drafted by the Clerk to reflect the latest changes from the IRPW.

Resolved: The updated allowances policy was accepted and adopted.

12/23-24 **ITEM 12 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS**

- 1.The Clerk requested authority to make the payments listed for April 2023 totaling £22,885.96.
- 2.The precept for 2023/24 of £61,957.00 had been received.

Resolved: The information was noted. Authority was given to make the payments listed totalling £22,885.96.

13/23-24 **ITEM 13 CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair informed Members about his visit to Bryncethin Primary School to present the Coronation Water bottles. He said the school and pupils were delighted with the gifts.

He had also attended a site visit to look at V2C grass cutting.

Resolved: The Chair gave his apologies for the June 2023 meeting.

14/23-24 **ITEM 14 MEMBERS/WARD REPORTS**

Councillor Mark John said that there have been on-going discussions about the fires being lit on a regular basis at Jubilee Crescent. He gave an update on PACT meetings and the number of V2C grass cuts are carried out each year.

Councillor Paula Ford had attended an event at Bryngarw Park which Vaughan Gething had Attended. She gave an update on the Heol Canola turning point bollards.

Note: Councillor Mark John left the meeting at 7.47 pm and returned at 8.04 pm.

Councillor Tim Thomas gave an update on a recent Hybont meeting. There had been outstandingly attended with very good speakers in attendance. Councillor Yvonne Walton-Davies had also attended and agreed with Councillor Thomas. It was noted that the consultation ends on 25th May. A petition from Dr Paul Davies would be submitted to BCBC for comments.

A massive outbreak of rates at Tyn y Coed had been referred to BCBC.

Resolved: All information was noted.

15/23-24 ITEM 15 CLERK'S REPORT

Whitsun Children's Activity Scheme

A poster has been published on our website and on the Library noticeboard.

Sarn Library Media Release

Awen Cultural Trust had asked the Community Council for a quote and to attend a photo opportunity in relation to their media press release.

Update Regarding Sarn Centre Association

A transfer date of 1st June has been set for the Centre's Management to return to BCBC. Booking will continue to be made through the Librarian, repairs will be handled by facilities helpdesk at BCBC and any management issues are now being handled by a BCBC Officer. All fire weekly/monthly safety procedures will be carried out by a BCBC operative and the cleaning staff will be part of a TUPE transfer.

Training

Councillor Mark John had attended a OVW training course.

Resolved: The information was noted. Councillor Martin Williams had provided the quote and Councillor Mark John had attended the photo opportunity. The Clerk was asked to publish both on the council's website.

16/23-24 ITEM 16 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been forwarded by email to Members. With the Chair's permission some

additional correspondence had been included in the papers as they had been received after the papers had been distributed.

The Clerk highlighted some items:

- One Voice Wales - revised Model Standing Orders
- Gallagher - annual cyber insurance and general insurance due 1st June 2023
- V2C - request ref. planters Jubilee Crescent and Queen's Avenue
- One Voice Wales - motions for the 2023 AGM
- SSAFA - financial request
- Sarn Centre - Management update
- Councillor Elaine Jones - resignation as Councillor due to personal reasons

Resolved: The items of correspondence were noted. It was agreed to include Revised Standing Orders, Motions for the 2023 OVW AGM and V2Cs request on the June agenda. The Clerk was asked to defer the financial request to the November 2023 meeting. The Clerk was asked to purchase flowers to present to Councillor Elaine Jones and the Chair would write a letter thanking her for her work as a Councillor over many years. The Chair and Clerk would visit Councillor Jones to present the flowers and letter to her.

Note: Councillor B Tiltman chaired item 17 on the agenda.

17/23-24 ITEM 17 PLANNING MATTERS

With the Chair's permission to include an additional email from Planning Aid Wales were included in the papers as they had been received after the papers had been distributed.

5 planning request had been sent out in the month and 3 decisions and 0 appeals. 2 emails from Planning Aid Wales had been circulated for information.

A pre-application for land adjacent to the A4065 Bryncethin was discussed.

- **Resolved:** The Clerk was asked to object to P/23/218/FUL on the following grounds and to ask for a representative of the Community Council to speak at the Planning Committee:
- Concerns regarding the planned location due to its proximity to residential properties.
- Concerns that accurate traffic surveys have not been carried out as the suggested volume of traffic is questionable as the traffic survey was carried out during covid when there was less traffic on the roads.
- The road network is insufficient to deal with the additional traffic.
- That consideration has not been given to the close proximity of other existing businesses such as Guardian Gas and a Brewery. Whilst the safety of the plant itself appears to have been partly addressed by the developer the impact of fire or explosion at neighbouring properties on the hydrogen plant has not.
- Insufficient water supply for the plant (Dwr Cymru Welsh Water consultation response).

- LDP shows the solar farm area as an area for sport and leisure. As such this development is contrary to the LDP.
- This area of land needs to be protected for future use.

18/23-24 ITEM 18 ITEMS FOR THE JUNE 2023 ORDINARY MEETING

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

- **Request from V2C ref. Planters**
- **Revised Model Standing Orders**
- **Motions for the OVW AGM**
- **Quiet Lanes**
- **Coity Wallia Conservators Funding**
- **Welcome Signs**

The next meeting of the St Brides Minor Community Council will take place on Monday 12th June 2023 at Sarn Life Long Learning Centre and via zoom at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

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Chair of Council

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12th June 2023