

ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL



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

PRESENT:

Councillors:

M John (Chair)

I Curzon

E Davies (zoom)

Y Walton-Davies

R Teahan-Dyer (zoom)

P Ford zoom (from 6.24 pm to 7.09 pm)

D McConnell

S Morgan

T Nicholls

T Thomas (zoom)

B Tiltman

J Williams (zoom)

M Williams

Apologies:

None

Clerk:

Ann Harris

Public:

None

Minute No: 93/23-24

94/23-24 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Name	Minute Number	Declaration	Speak/Vote
Emma Davies	104 & 107/23-24	Employee Awen Cultural Trust - Library Services at Sarn Centre	No/No
Yvonne W-Davies		Member Coity Higher Community Council	No/No
Mark John	All relevant 102/23-24 98,100,101,104 &108/23-24	All BCBC Matters including Development Control Ynysawdre CC Tenant Community Garden	No/No No/No No/No
Terry Nicholls	102/23-24 101/23-24	Ynysawdre CC Bridgend Carers	No/No No/No
Tim Thomas	All relevant 102/23-24	All BCBC Matters Ynysawdre CC	No/No No/No
Martin Williams	All relevant	All BCBC Matters Vice-Chair Coity Higher Community Council	No/No No/No

95/23-24 ITEM 3 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2023 MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the October 2023 Ordinary meeting had been distributed with the Meeting papers.

Resolved: The Minutes were accepted and approved as being a true and accurate record and the Chair signed the minutes.

96/23-24 ITEM 4 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE OCTOBER 2023 MEETING

Minute 81/23-24 Consider Matters Arising from the September 2023 Meeting

BCBC Funding: Councillors M John and T Thomas said they are going to do a leaflet drop regarding the consultation on the MUGA and have some plans available for viewing and discussion at the library before the end of November. The Clerk would gather any feedback that came in via the council's email.

Aberkenfig Boys and Girls Club: Councillor T Thomas had spoken to the Club regarding a financial request, but nothing had been received. He had no further updates.

Land at Vale View: The Clerk had offered Pier Management £1 to purchase this land and the company wanted £10,000. The Clerk had asked them to respond to the council's original request which was to contribute towards the maintenance of the land and they said they'd reply in due

course.

Minute 83/23-24 Quiet Lanes Scheme

The Clerk reminded Councillor Walton-Davies that she had not received the information on roads that would benefit from the scheme.

Councillor M Williams said he'd requested a question to be asked at BCBC's next full council in November about the scheme.

Minute 85/23-24 Recommendations by the Finance Committee

The Clerk confirmed that the British Legion 'Tommy' Silhouette had been granted permission by BCBC and was installed in the cemetery just in time for Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday.

Minute 89/23-24 Clerk's Report

Christmas 2023: the Clerk confirmed that the Christmas light switch on has been arranged for Sarn/Bryncoch and Bryncethin on 24th November; the tree will be manually switched on at Bryncethin. In addition, she confirmed that the additional columns to be adapted for use in 2024 in Bryncethin will be adapted in early December 2023 in readiness for this purpose.

An attempt was made by Centre Great the previous week to install the tree at Sarn Centre which had failed. It came to light that there has never been a tree pit constructed at this site and that the tree is placed into a dugout hole and filled with postcrete then removed and backfilled following use. The Clerk requested permission to have a pit properly constructed subject to permission being granted by BCBC.

Roll of Honour: At the council's request the Clerk had spoken to the Day Centre management to request that they remove the curtain that they've fixed to the Roll of Honour board. The reasons for doing that were explained to the Clerk and the Manager agreed to remove the staples from the board and look at placing Velcro on the top and onto the curtain so that it does not affect the board and can be removed when the room is not in use by the Day Centre.

Resolved: The information and action of the Clerk was noted and approved. It was unanimously agreed that the council would not offer more than £1 for the land at Vale View. Councillor Walton-Davies thanked the Clerk for the reminder and would forward the road information asap. It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should seek BCBC's permission to construct a Christmas tree pit at Sarn Centre and arrange for the work to be carried out in time for 24th November. Borough Councillors M John and T Thomas were asked to expedite the request for permission to Mark Shepherd at BCBC.

97/23-24 ITEM 5 TO RECEIVE THE CRIME FIGURES FOR OCTOBER 2023

There were no members of SW Police present at the meeting. The crime figures for October had been included in the papers for the meeting, it was noted that the figures seem to have settled down.

Resolved: The information and comments were noted.

Note: Councillor M John as a tenant of the Community Gardens left the meeting at 6.30 pm for item 6 and Councillor B Tiltman Chaired this item of the meeting.

98/23-24 ITEM 6 COMMUNITY GARDENS UPDATE

An on-line meeting had been held with the council's solicitor, which had been attended by the Vice-Chair of Council, the previous Chair of Council and the Clerk.

Councillor B Tiltman gave an update on the outcome of the advice from the solicitor regarding a lack of lease on the land which is registered to BCBC and used by the Community Gardens, this was discussed.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the solicitor should be instructed to contact BCBC to discuss the matter on the council's behalf. On the solicitor's advice the site meeting and funding recently requested by the Community Gardens would not be granted at this time.

99/23-24 ITEM 7 D-DAY 80th ANNIVERSARY 2024

Information on lighting a beacon on 6th June 2024 had been circulated with the meeting papers and this was discussed.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should register the council's interest in lighting a beacon, but that the purchase of a beacon would be put on hold until the New Year when this would be discussed further.

100/23-24 ITEM 8 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCLUSION IN THE DRAFT PRECEPT BUDGET FOR 2024/25

Councillors had been asked to bring ideas to the meeting for possible inclusion in the draft precept budget for 2024/25.

The MUGA, which is a large project, would continue to be included in the budget, other ideas were: 3 Community Defibrillators, 3 benches, 3 three tier planters, solar lighting columns at Rowan's Lane, speed activated signs before and after the bend near Bryncethin Fawr Farm, Ogmore Terrace, the a pedestrian refuge in the road at the same site, 3 noticeboards and 3 youth shelters.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for these items for consideration when setting the precept budget 24/25.

101/23-24 ITEM 9 DEFERRED FINANCIAL REQUESTS MARCH TO NOVEMBER 2023

The Clerk had prepared a list of deferred financial requests which had been included in the meeting papers. These included Bryncethin Community Centre and RFC, Wales Air Ambulance, Bridgend Carers Centre, Heol y Mynydd Community Gardens and SSFA. A proposal was made and seconded to defer Wales Air Ambulance, Bridgend Carers Centre and SSFA until the March 2024 meeting. It was noted that the Heol y Mynydd Community Gardens request had been addressed in item 6 above. The request from Bryncethin Community Centre was discussed.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed to donate £350 to Bryncethin Community Centre for the purchase of selection boxes for the Christmas event.

102/23-24 ITEM 10 NOTICEBOARDS

The Clerk had prepared a document showing photos, details and prices for noticeboards from several companies and these were discussed. The Clerk had hoped to include details and prices for the same ones as Ynysawdre CC are currently using with a view to a possible future merger keeping the noticeboard uniform, but that information had not been received.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the council would purchase 3 single noticeboards from Greenbarnes, locations would be suggested and a decision would be made on whether they would be purchased from the 23/24 budget or the 24/25 budget at the precept meeting.

103/23-24 ITEM 11 SHELTERS

The Clerk had prepared a document showing photos, details and prices for youth shelters from several companies and these were discussed.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the council would purchase 3 shelters from Fitness Sports, locations would be suggested and a decision would be made on whether they would be purchased from the 23/24 budget or the 24/25 budget at the precept meeting.

104/23-24 ITEM 12 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

1. Payments

The Clerk requested authority to make the payments listed for October 2023 totaling £2,481.80. The unaudited balance carried forward to November 2023 is £73,899.88

2. Audit 2022/23

Nothing to report.

Resolved: The information was noted and authority given to make the payments listed for October 2023.

105/23-24 ITEM 13 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair had attended the Armistice Day service at Aberkenfig and the Remembrance Day services at Bridgend and Bryncethin. He had laid a wreath on behalf of the community council.

Resolved: The information was noted.

106/23-24 ITEM 14 MEMBERS/WARD REPORTS

Councillor Tim Thomas had attended the Armistice Day service at Aberkenfig and the Remembrance Day service at Bryncethin. In the month he'd made many referrals, some were Confidential.

Councillor Mark John had also made many referrals particularly around housing matters.

Councillor Yvonne Walton-Davies, as a private citizen, is in talks regarding raising the sides of the Bridge over the M4 at the top of Heol Spencer. She had had discussions with Huw Irranca-Davies he is checking if the funding previously available for this work is still available.

Councillor Bernard Tiltman had also attended the Armistice Day service at Aberkenfig and laid a wreath on behalf of the community council. He had also attended a Cenin meeting and amongst other matters said the windmills will be much bigger than expected and that approval will be made by Welsh Government and not BCBC.

Resolved: All information was noted. There were mixed views on the approval procedure for the Cenin proposals.

107/23-24 ITEM 15 CLERK'S REPORT

Youthworks Activity Scheme:

The last day of the half-term scheme was rained off at Bryncethin. Unfortunately, the pitch was too wet to use. Every attempt was made to publicise the cancellation on the day and the organizer attended site just in case some children turned up. Following a discussion with the organizer it was agreed that he would only charge half the fee for that day to cover his assistant's wages.

Town & Community Grant Funding 24/25:

The total fund this year is £103,000 with a maximum match funding of £20,000 per application. Application forms will be available from January with a deadline for applications of 29th February. Councillors were asked to think of projects to include in the scheme that meets with the criteria specified. Match funding would need to be included in the precept budget.

Training:

Councillor Tiltman is booked onto two courses, Charing a Meeting and Local Government Finance.

NALC Salary Increase:

Councillors have been forwarded details of the national pay agreement for Clerks for 23/24 which is to be backdated to 1st April 2023. For all spinal points up to 43 the award is a flat rate payment of £1,952 and for those over it's 3.8%. The Clerk's salary falls into the first category and the flat rate payment will be calculated pro rata and will show in the December 2023 payments.

Website:

The Clerk asked for authority to spend up to the Clerk's limit on asking the website host to reformat the website pages as some are full and are difficult to navigate.

Queen's Jubilee Trees:

Some time ago the council resolved to purchase Queen's Jubilee plaques and install with a tree in each ward to mark the jubilee. The plaques were purchased but the council was unable to buy the trees as permission had not been granted for the suggested sites. We are now able to go ahead and plant and the trees are on order.

Sarn Centre:

The Clerk informed the council that she'd received an enquiry recently to book Sarn Centre for a Community Craft Fair and referred the caller to BCBC and the Library to book. The caller subsequently booked Bryncethin Memorial Hall as the Centre is no longer available for the public to book in the evenings or on the weekend.

Resolved: The information was noted. The agreement with Youthworks to reduce the fee to half was accepted and approved. The NALC salary increase aligned to the Clerk's salary and contract of employment was accepted and the back pay and increase authorised. Authority was given for the Clerk to update the website. The information regarding Sarn Centre was disappointing and the Clerk was asked to write to BCBC to express their concern that the Centre is no longer as accessible as it was and is no longer a Community Centre in the evenings and weekends.

108/23-24 ITEM 16 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence had been forwarded by email to Members.

The Clerk highlighted some items:

- BCBC - had requested quotes for the MUGA
- Community Gardens - request for financial support
- C Megias - request to publish information on a pet euthanasia service on the council's website
- South Wales Fire & Rescue Service - Your Voice is Important to Us survey closes 24th January 2024
- One Voice Wales - Road Safety Strategy Consultation closes 31st January 2024

Resolved: The items of correspondence were noted. The Clerk had provided the request for quotes for the MUGA, the Community Gardens request had been addressed in item 6 above and it was agreed to publish the pet service subject to the Clerk checking some details.

Note: Councillor John did not take part in the item 17 discussion and Councillor Tiltman chaired this item.

109/23-24 ITEM 17 PLANNING MATTERS

2 planning request had been sent out in the month and 2 decision and 0 appeals.

3 Planning Aid Wales event details had been sent out in the month.

Resolved: There were no objections to the planning applications. The Clerk was asked to request further information on T/23/32/TPO as 50% reduction seemed a lot and to report to planning that P/23/638/FUL the location plan is the wrong location.

110/23-24 ITEM 18 URGENT ITEMS FOR THE DECEMBER 2023 PRECEPT MEETING

The agenda will be kept open for any urgent items that may arise during the month, though the meeting is to set a precept for 24/25.

The next meeting of the St Brides Minor Community Council will take place on Monday 11th December 2023 at Sarn Lifelong Learning Centre and via zoom at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.03 pm.

.....
Chair of Council

.....
11th December 2023