

# ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL



## MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF ST BRIDES MINOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024 AT SARN LIFELONG LEARNING CENTRE AND VIA ZOOM

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### PRESENT:

Councillors: Bernard Tiltman (Chair)  
C Booton  
E Davies (via zoom)  
Y Walton-Davies (from 6.09 pm)  
M John  
D McConnell (via zoom)  
S Morgan  
T Nicholls  
M Williams (via zoom)

Apologies: Councillor I Curzon, P Deenik  
& T Thomas

Clerk & RFO: Ann Harris

Public: 2 SW Police

Minute No: 74/24-25

The Chair welcomed new Councillor Callum Booton to his first meeting.

**75/24-25     ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

<b>Councillor Name</b>	<b>Minute Number</b>	<b>Declaration</b>	<b>Speak/Vote</b>
Yvonne W-Davies	81, 87 & 90/24-25	Member Coity Higher Community Council	No/No No/No
Mark John	All relevant  86 & 90/24-25	All BCBC Matters including Development Control Ynysawdre CC  Tenant Community Garden	No/No No/No No/No
Terry Nicholls	86 & 90/24-25	Ynysawdre CC	No/No
Dan McConnell	86 & 90/24-25	Ynysawdre CC	No/No
Shaun Morgan	None relevant 91/24-25	Tenant Allotment Gardens Bryncethin Bryncethin Community Centre and Bryncethin RFC	No/No No/No
Martin Williams	All relevant 81, 87 & 90/24-25	All BCBC Matters Vice-Chair Coity Higher Community Council	No/No No/No

**76/24-25     ITEM 3 PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

There were no members of the public present.

**77/24-25     ITEM 4 TO READ, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2024 ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

The Minutes of the September 2024 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.

**78/24-25     ITEM 5 TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2024 MEETING**

**Minute 59 Consider Matters Arising from the July 2024 Meeting**

**Invitation to Leader, BCBC:** Councillor Spanswick has accepted the invitation to the November 2024 meeting.

**Land at Vale View:** Pier Management has offered the land to SBM CC for £1. If Members are happy

to accept a straightforward transfer, not inclusive of any searches or contract them their legal fees would be £500. Should the council wish to have a contract of sale to be drawn up (again not including surveys) this will increase to £950.

**Christmas 2024:** permission forms for external fixtures on lighting columns have been completed but the Clerk is waiting for Centre Great's input on weight loading etc. to forward to BCBC. However the column motifs are already in place. Only the 4 new motifs for Bryncethin are to be added.

**Benches:** V2C has granted permission for two and the Clerk is waiting on permission from BCBC for the one opposite the Royal Oak in Bryncethin.

### **Minute 70 Clerk's Report**

A response has been received from Mark Shepherd, BCBC to the letter sent on behalf of the Chairs & Clerks, this had been sent to all SBM CC Members and all attendees of the Chairs & Clerks meeting.

**Resolved:** The information and action of the Clerk was noted and approved. It was unanimously agreed that checks for covenants and a survey would be sought prior to responding to Pier Management. It was agreed that it is important for the Chairs & Clerks meeting to continue.

### **79/24-25 ITEM 6 CRIME FIGURES AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2024**

Two representatives of SW Police were present. The crime figures for the two months were Discussed. Members expressed their disappointment that there is no breakdown of drug statistics. PC Harpur had written to say he is left the Community Policing Team and thanked the council for all their support and welcome at council meetings. Sgt Watts said that reporting crime through Crimestoppers is totally confidential even the police don't know who reports the crime and that the online facility South Wales Listens is also an excellent tool to use.

**Resolved:** Sgt Watts would ask for the drugs information to be included in future statistics. Pc Harpur's correspondence was noted.

### **80/24-25 ITEM 7 LEASE UPDATE - BRYNCETHIN MEMORIAL HALL CAR PARK**

The Clerk had reiterated the request to remove the condition ref the reinstatement to agricultural land at the end of the lease, to find out what standard of agricultural land they were expecting and inform the solicitor that that area had once been a public highway. The Clerk gave feedback on the solicitor's reply.

**Resolved:** The Clerk was asked to instruct the solicitor to return to the landlord to say that SBM CC will not agree to the reinstatement clause.

Note:Councillors Y Walton-Davies and M Williams declared an interest as members of Coity Higher CC

#### **81/24-25 ITEM 8 COITY WALLIA BOARD OF CONSERVATORS**

At the last meeting SBM CC had asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting of Chairs, Clerks and other representatives. However in the meantime one of the minor authorities, Coity Higher CC had suggested that both councils work in partnership and seek legal advice on the Act of Parliament which governs the land to obtain a summary of the Act.

In addition given that there may be a possible future merger of the other two minor authorities, a discussion was held on how that would affect representation by T&CCs on the board.

**Resolved:** It was unanimously agreed to share the cost and act in partnership with Coity Higher CC to see a summary of the Act and to inform the other two minor authorities of the action being taken. Following receipt of that information has been received the Clerk would arrange the meeting requested at the last council meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to BCBC to clarify what effect a merger of the two minor authorities would have on representation on the board.

#### **82/24-25 ITEM 9 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION**

The Clerk had received Councillor J Williams' resignation on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024, however it had been received too late to include on the agenda for the meeting.

**Resolved:** All Members accepted Councillor Williams' resignation and the Clerk would request a Notice of Vacancy from BCBC.

#### **83/24-25 ITEM 10 CWMBERRI FOOTPATH**

Councillor Tiltman had provided photos of the areas of concern on this footpath and it was discussed.

**Resolved:** It was unanimously agreed that in the first instance the Clerk would write to the Rights of Way Manager to ask that work is carried out to this path and to send him the photos.

#### **84/24-25 ITEM 11 ROWAN'S LANE/GREEN SPACE**

This item had been included on the agenda, to discuss whether SBM CC has an appetite to request a licence or CAT on this area and this was discussed.

**Resolved:** The Clerk was asked to write to BCBC to ask when the trees were last risk assessed and what is the planned maintenance programme for the trees as they need to be cut back.

## **85/24-25 ITEM 12 MEMORIAL FOR MINERS**

This was not discussed.

**Resolved:** Councillor S Morgan asked for this item to be deferred to the November meeting and this was unanimously agreed.

## **86/24-25 ITEM 13 UPDATE FROM MUGA WORKING GROUP**

3 Members of the MUGA working group had met the previous week. The Members represented SBM CC and Ynysawdre Community Council. It had been agreed at the meeting that both councils have an appetite to work together on the project. The Clerk was asked to obtain an up-to-date quote as the last one had been obtained in February 2024. It was agreed that both councils should seek advice from BCBC's Standards Committee regarding the two councils working in partnership and Councillor Tim Thomas would seek an update from BCBC on the Expression of Interest on the land earmarked for the MUGA. YCC councillors would raise the matter of joint funding with YCC full council for inclusion in their precept budget for 2025/2026.

**Resolved:** The Clerk had obtained a new quote the figure had increased slightly from £52,351 To £53,432. The feedback from the working group was accepted and approved. Following all of the above taking place a third party would be considered to submit a match funding application to BCBC's T&CC fund for 2025/26 (the maximum funding available from BCBC being £20,000).

## **87/24-25 ITEM 14 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS**

### **1. Payments**

The Clerk requested authority to make the payments listed for September 2024 totaling for £7,660.47 The balance carried forward to October 2024 is £73,185.40.

### **2. Income**

Income of £765.01 in bank interest had been received from the Swansea Building Society and a £200 refund had been received from Youthworks as they had been unable to provide a days' activities in week five of the summer play scheme.

### **3. Conclusion of Audit 23/24**

An unqualified Conclusion of Audit had been received and Members thanked the Clerk for her work. No matters had been raised.

**Resolved:** The information was noted and accepted and authority given to make the payments listed for September 2024. The Conclusion of Audit was accepted and approved and the Clerk was asked to publish the Conclusion of Audit; no charge would be made for copies of the Audit Statement.

**88/24-25**     **ITEM 15 CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair had attended Maesteg Town Council's Civic Service.

**Resolved:** The information was noted.

**89/24-25**     **ITEM 16 BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATES/WARD REPORTS**

**Councillor M John:** had attended Bridgend Town Council's Civic Service, held at St Mary's Church, Nolton; attendance had been high. He also reported that social housing issues continue and make up a sizable percentage of his referrals. He noted the Hybont meeting site visit and planning meeting would take place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

**Councillor E Davies:** said the Community Drop-in would be held at the Library on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 2.00 pm, with V2C representatives attending as well as a PCSO. Councillor Davies informed Members that she is attending the Awen fundraising event and will feedback at the next meeting.

**Councillor M Williams:** had attended the OVW Conference for another council, but reported that one of the discussions was the importance of warm hubs and that the Conference had stated that the gold standard for a CAT transfer should be a freehold.

**Resolved:** All information was noted.

**90/24-25**     **ITEM 17 CLERK'S REPORT**

**New Website Accessibility Rules:** The Clerk informed Members of changes coming into effect in October; the website needs to be updated to WCAG 2.2 AA. The new rules focus on the technical aspects like consistent button placement, changes to navigation etc. The web host will make the changes at no extra charge and provide an Accessibility Statement.

**Remote Equipment:** The Clerk informed Members that Coity Higher CC had agreed to purchase an Owl for use for remote meetings. It enables each speaker at the meeting to be seen by those

on screen. Coity Higher CC had asked the Clerk to invite St Brides Minor CC to purchase in partnership with them for a third of the cost OF £515.00 and use it for their meetings.

**Resolved:** The information was noted. A vote was taken there were 6 Members in favour of the partnership, Councillor T Nicholls voted against and two other Members, Councillors Y Walton-Davies and M Williams did not take part in the discussion or vote as they are Members of Coity Higher CC.

#### **91/24-25 ITEM 18 CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence had been forwarded by email to Members and with the Chair's permission 10 further items had been added as they were received after the meeting papers had been distributed.

The following were highlighted by the Clerk:

- Consultation: Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2025/26 (closes 29/11/24)
- Invitation to Councillors and Clerks to a Stakeholder Event: Role, Governance and Accountability of the Community and Town Council Sector (23<sup>rd</sup> October)
- Letter from the Deputy Leader, BCBC, ref. donations
- Invitation to Chairs and Clerks to a meeting on the future of local service delivery on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024
- Additional information from Bryncethin Community Centre and Bryncethin RFC.

**Resolved:** The items of correspondence were noted. It was noted that the Chair and Clerk had accepted the invitation from BCBC. The letter from the Deputy Leader was discussed and it was unanimously agreed to respond to this letter informing them that SBM CC already contributes to the Library Services costs at Sarn which is already designated a Warm Hub. It was agreed to donate £350 to Bryncethin Community Centre and Bryncethin RFC for their Christmas event.

#### **92/24-25 ITEM 19 PLANNING MATTERS**

1 planning request had been sent out in the month and 1 decision and 0 appeals.

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

#### **2.P/23/218/FUL - Site Visit and Speak at Meeting**

It was agreed that Councillor Shaun Morgan would attend the site visit and that Councillor Ian Curzon would speak at the Development Control Committee Meeting, however should Councillor Curzon run late for that meeting, Councillor Shaun Morgan would attend and speak in his place.

**Resolved:** The above information was noted.

**93/24-25    ITEM 20 ITEMS FOR THE NOVEMBER 2024 ORDINARY MEETING**

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

- Memorial for Miners
- Councillor J Spanswick, Leader BCBC

The next meeting of the St Brides Minor Community Council will take place on Monday 11<sup>TH</sup> November 2024 at Sarn Lifelong Learning Centre and via zoom at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm.

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**Chair of Council**

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**11<sup>th</sup> November 2024**