**TALYBONT ON USK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Cyngor Cymuned Talybont ar Wysg**

**MEETING HELD ON 15th March 2021**

**The meeting was held as a Zoom Meeting commencing at 7.15pm**

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| **ITEM NO** | | **NOTES** | **ACTION** |
| **1** | | **In Attendance**  Cllrs. C Burdon( Chair), R Jones ( Vice-Chair).  F Morris, S Baldwin, J Short, G Thomas,  D Newberry and G James.  Also, in attendance County Cllr. L Fitzpatrick and Mrs. K Bender (Clerk) |  |
| **1a** | | **Apologies for absence**  Cllr. C Parry |  |
| **2** | | **Declarations of Interest**  None |  |
| **3** | | Minutes of the 15th February 2021 were accepted as a true record. |  |
| **4** | | **Matters Arising**  1. Mole Hills on the playing field continues to be an issue. Clerk to contact G&K Mole Patrol.  2. Bus Shelter/Woodland Group  The Woodland Group are meeting on the 17th March to discuss if they would be interested in maintaining the area around the bus shelter.  3. A very positive meeting has taken place with Cllrs Newberry and Jo Lancey of PCC to discuss Scethrog Issues. A 3 stage plan has been agreed to clear the gullies.  4. The Strimmer has been purchased and will be collected on the 16thMarch. Invoice to be forwarded.  5. Cllr James will repair the Bucket Swing when weather permits. | Clerk  Cllr. Fitzpatrick      Cllr James |
| **5** | | **Correspondence**   1. Email from Collette Evans of Powys County Council concerning 2 queries raised by the Community Council. Mr. Phil Jones, the street cleaner has agreed to collect the bags retrieved from the poo bin at bridge 143 by Cllr James and taken to an agreed pickup point, Cllr James to liaise with Mr Phil Jones. A request for litter bins at Pencelli will be considered under a forthcoming review, this may take some time and there is no guarantee the request will be successful.   b. Correspondence received from Peter Seaman referencing rubbish and litter concerns at Blaen y Glyn. The email was sent to Welsh Water and National Parks to which the Community Council had been copied in. Following a full and comprehensive discussion Councillors were appreciative of Peter Seaman's efforts in coordinating action between National Parks, Welsh Water and Pontsticill Community Group. It was agreed to support these parties going forward.'  Clerk to respond to Peter Seaman. The Clerk will also write to the professional partners to reaffirm the Community Councils support and its awareness with the situation, which will reinforce the positive relationships established during its dealings concerning the rubbish and litter left by Wild Campers during 2020. | Clerk |
| **6** | | **National Parks Authority Matters**  Enforcement case ENF/20/02145/ODP2- Update on Station Road Outdoor Pursuit Centre. See item 10 on the agenda under Planning Applications. |  |
| **7** | | **Canal Matters**  Flooding and drainage problem outside the White Hart.  The Clerk sent emails to the CEO and Welsh Director of the Canal & RiverTrust, the CEO of Highways England, the CEO and Leader of Powys County Council requesting that all parties work together as Professional Partners to resolve this ongoing problem. At the time of writing all had acknowledged receipt of the correspondence with the exception of the CEO of Powys County Council. It Is anticipated that there will be more to report by the April Meeting. |  |
| **8** | | **Highway Matters**  Mobile Speed Units  An Email has been sent to Jo Lancey, Highways officer of PCC requesting a site meeting to discuss mobile speed units, she has replied that as soon as restrictions are lifted she would be happy to attend. The Clerk to offer dates to Jo Lancey for a socially distanced meeting with 2 Community Councillors.  Trees on Station Road  There has been a further incidence of falling trees on Station Road. Clerk to write to the landowner, Simon Harpur to request assurances that the trees have been inspected and are in a safe condition.  An email to be sent to Lyn Parry appraising him of the situation and the Community Councils safety concerns for residents. | Clerk |
| **9** | | **County Councillors Report**  Cllr Fitzpatrick reported that following opposition led by himself and supported by a number of Independent Councillors along with Labour, Plaid Cymru and Lib Dems, this group will look at future levels of Council tax.  Cllr Fitzpatrick has put forward PCSO Billy Dunne for a commendation to the Police and Crime Commissioner for his exceptional work within the Community which has been agreed . | Cllr Fitzpatrick |
| **10** | | **Applications for Planning Consent**  Application 20/19417/FUL - Talybont Outdoor Pursuits Centre. The Certificate of Lawfulness received from the Planning Department at National Parks stated that in the previous 10 years there had been camping for up to 60 tents including 12 teepees and camping for up to 12 campervans or caravans Community Council . The Community Council has asked for the evidence on which the decision was made, the response was that the evidence is confidential and can not be shared.  A request of Freedom of Information will be made by the County Councillor for the evidence as it is believed the grounds on which the decision was made was not accurate.  The Residents of Station Road will give evidence that there has never been as many tents, teepees, caravans or motor homes on the land as was claimed in the Certificate of Lawfulness.  Cllr Liam Fitzpatrick is also awaiting a response from the Chair of the National Parks concerning this matter.  21/19590/FUL= Retention of 20m tower on land at Coetgaellwyn. Supported with no observations raised. | Cllr Fitzpatrick |
| **11** | | **Wild Flowers**  Cllr Baldwin reported that Linda Windham, the resident who intends to plant wildflowers on areas surrounding the playing field and the Orchard Trail, is in conversation with Ceri Bevan of the National Parks concerning funding opportunities from the biodiversity grant to purchase the wildflowers. Should it become necessary the Community Council Fund may be able to support this initiative through the Gardening Club. |  |
| **12** | | **Kids Bike Course**  Cllr Baldwin received correspondence from Keith Lee of Bikes and Hikes representing a group of young people concerning the possibility of creating a pump, bike and skills track at the upper left hand side of the playing fields. The Community Council has already made an investment in this project by clearing the land in question and confirms its support for the project and grants permission for use of the land. Clerk to respond to Keith Lee. | Clerk |
| **13** | | **Pencelli Tidy-Up**  Cllr Baldwin reported the residents’ group at Pencelli have approached, through the Community Council, Powys County Council to provide them with 3 Litter bins that the group would maintain and empty themselves. At this time PCC have been inundated with requests for Litter Bins and the Pencelli request would be added to the list when a review takes place. It was also reported that Keep Wales Tidy could not help with providing litter bins. The Group has been advised that it could apply for funds from the Talybont-on-Usk Community Council Community Fund should the Fund be agreed under item 16 on the agenda. The group has already cleaned drains and gullies and carried out litter picks. They have also started working on planters and wildlife areas.  Cllr Baldwin will speak with the group to ask if the Group would like to register with the Community Council as volunteers to ensure they are covered by insurance, this being the case a letter would need to be sent to the Clerk. | Cllr. Baldwin |
| **14** | | **OVW Report**  Cllr James reported he had attended the virtual Star Leaf meeting of the OVW quarterly meeting on February 23rd, 2021. He confirmed that Community Councils under the Power of Competence, are within their rights to donate money to local groups.  From April 2021 all Community Councils will be required to produce an annual report, templates will be made available. To be reported in April 2022.  From November 2022 Community Councils will be required to record training plans for all Councillors and Employees.  Next meeting to be scheduled in May 2021 |  |
| **15** | | **Community Council Assets**  **a**. Play equipment – All reports were completed, up to date and shared with the meeting. The lock needs be put back on the tennis court that is under an insurance claim. Cllr Thomas has passed the keys to Mike Smith.  Mike Smith has reported slabs need to be put down at the entrance to the play area as there is mud being carried into the play area. Cllr Baldwin to investigate.  **b.** Flooding Issues- Quotes, photograps and videos for the repair of the Muga and paths have been forwarded to the insurers , Came and Co. awaiting a response. Should the insurers support the claim the Clerk will instruct the Contractors to start the work. The surface regeneration of Court 2. has also been quoted by the contractor outside of the insurance claim. There are funds in the budget for this maintenance therefore it was agreed to accept the quote, in principle, with the work being carried out at the same time as the work on the Court 1. which is under insurance. Quote to be circulated to all Cllrs. for their consideration. | Cllr Baldwin  Clerk  Clerk |
| **16** | **Finance**  a. Current Financial Position  Financial position was reported to the meeting.  b. Budget Update  Clerk reported the budget was on track and would be reported at the year end.  c. Vat Reimbursement Claim. Clerk reported a claim for £453.82 had been made to HMRC.  d. Community Fund Arrangements In a previous meeting it was agreed the Community Fund would be funded by the Community Council to the tune of £2000. Clerk to set up the mechanics to administer and advertise the Fund.  d. Invoices and payments for approval –  OVW Membership Fees £122  Clerk – Black Bags for Poo Bin £19.50  JL Stephens – Strimmer £468.  All were approved. | | Clerk |

**Date of next meeting 19th April 2021**

**Venue to be decided**