**TALYBONT ON USK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Cyngor Cymuned Talybont ar Wysg**

**MEETING HELD ON 21st September 2020**

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

**Beverley Lewis of the National Parks addressed the meeting at 7pm**

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| **ITEM NO** | **NOTES** | **ACTION** |
| **Address by Beverley Lewis of the National Parks** | The Chair welcomed Beverley Lewis and invited her to address the meeting. She spoke to the meeting of her role with invasive and non-native species. The project involves Himalayan Balsam when, at a designated time in the year it was possible to easily pull the Balsam from the ground, and it was hoped that community groups would get involved . Beverley said she was looking to make contact with groups/individuals/landowners who would be interested in working together to control the balsam on the Caerfanell tributary leading to the River Usk and any other areas around Talybont/Pencelli.  She concluded it would be really helpful if the Community Council could put her in touch with local groups. Beverley will forward information to Clerk for distribution. Councillor Fitzpatrick will also put her in touch with his wife who is very involved with this issue. The Chair thanked her for speaking with the Community Council and wished her well. | Clerk |
| **1** | **In Attendance**  Cllrs. G James (Chair), C Burdon,  F Morris, C Parry, S Baldwin, D Newberry, J Short and R Jones.  Also in attendance County Cllr. L Fitzpatrick and Mrs. K Bender (Clerk) |  |
| **1a** | **Apologies for absence**  Cllr G Thomas |  |
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| **2** | **Declarations of Interest**  None |  |
| **3** | Minutes of the 17th August 2020 , after an amendment to delete the last sentence from item 11 which was included in error, were accepted as a true record. |  |
| **4** | **Matters Arising**   1. The response from the Highways Department at Powys CC concerning a Cross Oaks resident request for signs to identify the Hamlet of Cross Oaks, was there were not enough properties to warrant a sign. 2. It was reported that large amounts of litter had been left at the Reservoir due in the main to a vast increase in wild camping. The clerk had contacted the National Parks and Welsh Water. Welsh Water has responsibility for the Reservoir. Marc Everett of Welsh Water informed the Council that this had indeed been a big problem created by a small minority of wild campers and Welsh Water had a team that were collecting the rubbish and would be closely monitoring the situation. 3. M&K Mole Patrol had reported that the mole situation had been dealt with. Awaiting invoice. 4. Still awaiting a response from Highways Department concerning Ash Dieback in trees on Station Road. Clerk to contact Vincent Playdon of Highways Department | Clerk |
| **5** | **Correspondence**   1. Ellen Wood of Limitless Trails had forwarded information concerning an event which was taking place from Gilestone on the 20th September-. This included permissions from the National Parks . Noted. 2. The landlord of the White Hart sent an email asking if there had been a response from Canal River Trust concerning flooding issues directed from Bridge 143. After a discussion it was decided to write to the Minister of Rural Affairs at the Welsh Government with the Community Councils concerns around the lack of engagement from the CRT with the Community Council. | Clerk |
| **6** | **National Parks Authority Matters**  a. The Enforcement complaint 20/20145/ODP3 registered with Brecon Beacons National Parks is still under investigation, awaiting official report.  b. Clerk to follow up with Ann Weedy of Natural Resources Wales the issue of rubbish and plastics in the Coity Bach Brook resulting in blocked culverts . | Clerk |
| **7** | **Canal Matters**  There has been no further response from Hanna Booth of the Canal River Trust since her original response that she would investigate the matter around concerns that the tow path is not wheelchair friendly with the access blocked off at the White Hart and the difficulties encountered to negotiate access at the drawbridge.  There are too few bins along the Canal paths and no recycling facilities These matters will also be included in the letter to the Minister of Rural Affairs. Councillor Burdon sent a letter to Hannah Booth with grave concerns around health and safety measures taken by workers during grass cutting on the canal banks adjacent to the Star Public House, awaiting response. | Clerk |
| **8** | **County Councillors Report**  Cllr Fitzpztrick reported there had been a £2.6m cutback in the highways budget. He also reported that culverts at Cross Oaks were causing problems along with the culvert at Rose Cottage Pencelli, which are being investigated.  There are concerns around the resurgence of Covid 19, it was agreed the clerk would post a reminder in the Talybont Facebook Community Page to inform residents that the Community Council are still available to help those in need through its volunteers’ network. | Clerk |
| **9** | **Highway Matters**  The site meeting arranged with Jo Lancey to look into traffic calming measures had taken place; this was a productive meeting.  Discussions around using a mobile speed monitoring unit are ongoing, the Clerk to obtain a quote with the view to purchasing a unit.  Awaiting a decision around double yellow lines.  Parking policy to be put on the October agenda  It was reported the police are conducting speed checks along Station Road.    Drawbridge resurfacing to be addressed by Mr. L. Parry of the Highways Department | Clerk  Clerk |
| **10** | **Applications for Planning Consent**  **Decision Notices**  Decision Notices 19/17936/FUL- installation of 15m telecommunications Column at Ty Canon Farm.  Decision Notice 20/18709/CPE- Talybont Farm.  Decision Notice 20/18269/FUL Bank House.  All the above Decision Notices had permissions granted.    Application 20/18889/FUL -,Single storey extension at Gilestone Cottages had been circulated with no objections raised. |  |
| **11** | **Llandetty Church -** Upkeep of burial plots.  The chair received a concern from a family member of a deceased relative that the upkeep of the burial plot was not being looked after by the Church. The response from Church Wardens was there are agreements between the Church and owners of the plots that it is the responsibility of the owners to deal with the upkeep of plots. However, all communal areas are maintained by the Church. Chair to inform the person who raised the concern. | Chair |
| **12** | **AGM Arrangements**  The AGM will take place in November, the Clerk explained the process for electing officers and representatives to outside bodies and internal committees.  Self-nominations and nominations for Chair, Vice- Chair and other positions to be forwarded to the Clerk and should there be more nominations that positions a ballot would take place. All nominations to be received 1 week before the AGM. |  |
| **13** | Community Council Assets  Play equipment – Reports.  All reports are completed and up-to-date.  In future a monthly comprehensive report will be compiled by the Clerk and circulated for discussion prior to the meeting. |  |
| **14** | **Finance**  a.Current Financial Position  Financial position was reported to the meeting.  b. Invoices and payments for approval –. Wales Audit Office. Massive UK Treck – Refund for cancelled event. Sandra Briskham- printer ink for Henry Vaughan Gardens. Nina Krauzewicz- compost for Henry Vaughan Gardens. Cllr Baldwin- defibrillator battery. Bin Shop- bin for picnic area. All were approved. |  |
| **15** | **Audit Update.**  External Auditor has informed the Community Council that audit preparations has commenced and has issued an updated Audit Notice which the Clerk has posted on the website. The External Auditor has also forwarded a number of questioned on the audit that the Clerk is working through. | Clerk |

**Date of next meeting 19th October 2020 held over Zoom**

**Commencing at 7.15pm.**