**TALYBONT-ON-USK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Clerk: Clare Preece email [talybontcc@gmail.com](mailto:talybontcc@gmail.com)

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15TH APRIL 2024, HENDERSON HALL, TALYBONT-ON-USK**

**Present:**

Cllr John Jones – Chairman (via Zoom)

Cllr Geraint James – Vice Chairman

Cllr Nina Krauzewicz

Cllr Phil Darbyshire

Cllr Craig Burdon

Cllr Harry Chapman

Cllr Seamus Hamill-Keays

**Apologies:**

Cllr Glyn Thomas

Cllr Chris Jones

**In attendance:**

Clare Preece – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

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| **Minute Ref** | **Minute** | **Action** |
| 15042024/01 | 1.**Apologies for Absence**: Cllr Glyn Thomas, Cllr Chris Jones |  |
| 15042024/02 | 2.**To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in items of business below**: No new items |  |
| 15042024/03 | 3.**Public session**: None |  |
| 15042024/04 | 4.**To approve as correct the Minutes from the meeting held on 15th April** **2024: Approved** |  |
| 15042024/05 | 5.**To receive a report from County Councillor Raiff Devlin:** Cllr Devlin provided a report (See Appendix 1). Cllr Devlin is unable to attend due to work commitments. |  |
| 15042024/06 | 6.**Finance:**  a)To confirm the bank balances: Reserves: £7299.10 Current: £18567.28  b)To confirm the following payments: **APPROVED**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Payee | Details | Amount | | SBW Ground Maintenance | Inv 221 Grass cutting Feb 29th, March 20th | £120 | | Clare Preece | Travel exps x 2 | £66.60 | | Clare Preece | Ink | £22.68 | | Clare Preece | Poly pockets | £1.40 | | Clare Preece | Defib stickers | £102.20 | | Clare Preece | NALC pay agreement 23/24 | Redacted | | GT/Clerk |
|  | c)**To receive an update on the insurance renewal and meeting with the NFU 11th April 11am – Cllr Thomas:** Cllrs will review the policy over the next 48 hours and get back to the Clerk. |  |

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|  | d)**To receive an update on the Llandetty children’s fund:** Rev. Kelvin Richards informed the Clerk that there was £2000 available in the fund at present for the benefit of children in the parishes of Llandetty and Llanfeugan from the rental of the old school field which is currently £510 per annum.  e)**To note the financial year end and proposed submission of submission of the year end accounts for approval at the AGM in May**: The Clerk had not received the year end pack from Welsh Audit so contacted Deryck Evans the Chief Auditor. It was discovered that they did not have the council’s official email address and they also had not received the year end accounts for the year 2022-23. The Clerk will produce both sets of accounts, hopefully they will be completed by the AGM, if not, the council have until the beginning of July to submit them to Welsh Audit**.** |  |
| 15042024/07 | **7.To receive a report from Cllr Krauzewicz as the representative for Usk Valley Ospreys:** There has been regular activity at the nest for the last 3 weeks and three birds have been sighted in the region. A discreet sign has been erected at the viewing point which guides the sightline to the nest. At present only the ornithologist and Welsh Government have access to the webcam. 30 people will undergo training to enable them to monitor the webcam and they will be required to uphold confidentiality and sign a non-disclosure. WG do not want the site to be widely advertised as this could cause a mass influx of people. The Community has shown great interest including the local primary and high school who have requested a talk. The Community feeling is of pride that the Osprey have chosen our valley. |  |
| 15042024/08 | **8.To receive an update from the Community Engagement forum sub-committee**: A provisional date has been set for 31st May. The overall purpose of the event will be to raise the profile of Henderson Hall and the Community Council as well as getting ideas around the future use of Gilestone. Welsh Government are keen to get involved. Cllrs Darbyshire, Thomas and James are meeting with C Cllr Sian Cox this Friday, 19th April who has a great deal of experience in conducting events of this sort and the Councillors will brainstorm ideas with her. The nature of the event will be dependent upon the interest shown and will be advertised on all available platforms to include the Talybont Matter (cut- off date for submission 26th April). For eligibility to take a person will be required to give their name and whether they are a village resident. It is not expected that anyone from outside the area will want to take part. It is to be made clear that this event is non-political and will not be an inquest into Gilestone. |  |
| 15042024/09 | **9.To receive an update on work to secure funding for the Henderson Hall public toilets:** No update |  |
| 15042024/10 | **10.To receive an update from the Hinterland Group**: The Chairman has been encouraged with the united front that has resulted in the formation of the group. The group will soon be formalised and will have its own constitution and standing orders. A relationship with the BBNPPA is developing and it is hoped that Planning will build on the importance of fact that the Community Council are at the grass roots level with the closest relationship to the residents in the area whose opinions need to be represented. Other matters for discussion will include the provision of healthcare and transport in the area with PCC. The Community Forum will mirror some of these topics. |  |
| 15042024/11 | **11.To consider matters arising from the previous meeting:**  **a)To receive an update from Cllr James on the guardianship of the defibrillators at the Post Office and Pencelli:** There are not currently guardians for either defibrillators. Both these pieces of equipment are in working order and need to be checked once a month. The Council will provide the funds to purchase batteries and pads. It was **AGREED** that a request for guardians will be placed into the next issue of Talybont Matters.  **b)To receive an update on the Pump Track and the plan to be provided from James at Trailcraft to enable completion of the permitted development application by the Clerk:** The plan showing the volume of the track has been promised for next week. There was some concern about the lack of demand in the village for a track now as so much time has elapsed since the grant was awarded some years ago. If there was potential for a bike club, then there may be the demand for a track. It was **AGREED** that a sub-committee comprising Cllrs Burdon, James, Thomas and C Jones will be set up to manage the project.  **c)To receive an update on the insurance claim:** No update a at present.  **d)To receive an update from the Nepali Village:** It was **AGREED** that the Chaiman arrange to speak with Major Gurung ahead of their 2-year anniversary event to discuss the Council’s stance. The views of the local residents need to be taken into consideration and as, yet no planning application has been submitted.  **e)To receive an update from the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee evidence session – Task and Finish Group meeting on 4th April 2024:** Cllrs J Jones, Krauzewicz and Burdon met on the 4th of April, and it was **AGREED** that the Chairman represent the Community Council at this session. It is hoped that remote access will be available. It is hoped to pick up on the positives that arose from Gilestone and build on the good relationship the Community Council now have with Welsh Government and ensure that communication between both parties is maintained and the alliance strengthened.  **f)To consider the setting up of a Task and Finish Group to overhaul the Communication policy:** It was AGREED that Cllr J Jones meet with Cllr James to arrange handover of the facebook account. Cllr Krauzewicz and the Clerk had begun a housekeeping exercise of the website. The Chairman said that it was statutory requirement to publish regulatory information only and that is what the website needs to provide going forward. It was **AGREED** that Cllrs J Jones, Darbyshire and Krauzewicz form the Task and Finish Group to accomplish this.  **g)To confirm the playground rota:** 15/4 GT, 22/4 HC, 29/4 CB, 6/5 HC, 13/5 GJ, 20/5 CB, 27/5 PD. | Clerk  Clerk  GT/Clerk  JJ/Clerk  JJ/Clerk  JJ/PD/NK |
| 15042024/12  15042024/13  15042024/14  15042024/15 | **12.To note correspondence received requiring action or noting and other matters for consideration raised since the last meeting:**  **a)To note the availability of community cushions:** It was **AGREED** that the Clerk find out more about these.  **b)To note the decision from Llandrindod Wells Town Council to ask Powys County Council for a referendum on wind turbines and pylons in Powys: NOTED.**  **c)To note the Nature Recovery Funding and Information Session on Saturday 20th April at 10am to 14.30pm at the National Parks Visitors Centre Libanus:** Cllr Burdon will attend.  **d)To note the Standards Committee report Annual report 2022-23 from Powys CC: NOTED.**  **e)To note Dog poo concerns from local resident:** It was **AGREED** that a larger sign was need for the playing field.  **f)To discuss request for a memorial bench from Emily Bull:** It was unanimously **AGREED** that Emily and her family may erect a memorial bench and pear tree in memory of her Father -in- law, Len Hemmings.  **g)To note the Eventbright Smart Towns Cymru events: NOTED**  **h)To note correspondence from Nick Willson: NOTED.** A response will be sent in due course.  **i)To note the Community Shuttle Bus events on 20th and 27th April: NOTED.**  **J)To note the One Voice Wales training dates for March, April, May and June: NOTED.**  **k)To consider the planting of additional daffodil bulbs on the canal side:** It was **AGREED** that a new cluster is needed and that a wildflower mix would also be a nice addition. Cllr Burdon will attend the Nature Recovery session on 20th April to see if funds from this can be tapped into.  **l)To note the request to host** [**www.talybontonusk.wales**](http://www.talybontonusk.wales) **on the Community Council website:** The Chairman has spoken to Peter Seaman about this and will give is some thought as we don’t want to lose this valuable information.  **m)To note Pejau Bychain – A Green Network for Town and Community Councils: NOTED.**  **n)To note the deadline for the next issue of Talybont Matters – 26th April 2024 –** Items for inclusion, volunteers for the defibrillator guardianships, Community Engagement event on 31str May, Weatherman Walking, Thanks to Mr Skyrme for his invaluable help with electricals at the defibrillator kiosk in Scethrog.  **o)To note the Cost-of-Living Crisis Newsletter for April 2024: NOTED.**  **13.To consider matters relating to planning including the recording of comments made between meetings by the Clerk under Delegated Authority section 101 of the LGA Act 1972: NOTHING TO NOTE**  **14.To consider Canal matters:** Letter from Cllr Devlin to CEO Richard Parry **NOTED.**  **15.To consider matters relating to Highways/footpaths/rural roads/drainage/flooding matters and matters raised with Cllr Devlin:**  **a)Revision of speed limits – mobile speed units: no update.**  **b)Bungalow drain issues:** Letter from C Cllr Devlin to CEO Peter Perry **NOTED**.  **c)A 40 toilets:** Following WG initial response noted in the March Minutes. Cllr Devlin wrote again to WG, **no update** available at present.  **d)Ashford Tunnel:** Cllr Burdon supplied C Cllr Devlin with the information he requested. **No update** at present.  **e)Station Road pavements: No update** at present. Update needed from Cllr Thomas.  **f)Blocked culverts at Tor-y-Foel – no update** at present. Cllr Burdon pointed out the area on the map to Cllr Devlin at the last meeting.  **g)Tree lying on cables –** map from Cllr Krauzewicz to be sent to C Cllr Devlin.  **h)Footpath at Fisherman’s carpark – no update** at present. Cllr Hamill-Keays to chase.  **i)Road at Scethrog –** C Cllr Devlin informed the Council that Capital funding has now been confirmed and the road will be resurfaced in the next few months.  **j)Street Lighting at Canol Pentre –** The electricity supply issue has been resolved and the lights may take a few days to “learn” the daylight times. | Clerk  CB  CB/Clerk  CB  JJ  Clerk  RD/Clerk |
| 15042024/16  15042024/17 | MEETING CLOSED 9.15PM. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – THE AGM 20TH MAY 2024:  Confidential session: Staffing matters. |  |