

Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council

**Minutes of the meeting of FULL COUNCIL Council Offices, Newport Road,
Bedwas on Thursday 5th January 2017 at 6pm**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Apologies</u>
E. Aldworth	
E. Davies	
DJ Davies	
J. Gale	
	D Havard
B James	
L Jones	
A McConnell (Chair)	
C Morgan	
K Regan	
	M Williams
J Winslade	

Apologies: Councillors Derek Havard, Mary Williams

Also Present: Jolene Dalton (Clerk)

Declaration of Interest Councillor Liz Aldworth declared an interest in agenda item 4 of the Finance Committee as a Trustee of the Bedwas & Trethomas Community Association.

POLICE & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

148. There were no Police Representatives in attendance.

A member reported that there had been an incident in Navigation Street in the past week where something sounding like gun fire had been heard followed by 4 off road vehicles speeding in the area. This was reported and resulted in an unroadworthy vehicle being removed.

FULL COUNCIL

149. Apologies - The apologies were noted and accepted.

150. Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2016

Minute 131 – it was reported that the Head of Planning at CCBC had undertaken to write to Tesco to ensure weigh limits of vehicles and time restrictions were being adhered to.

The Clerk had issued a letter to Mrs Jones' family and her daughter had contacted Councillor Aldworth who reported that the gesture had meant a great deal to her.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be accepted as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

151. Chair's Announcement and Report

The Chair's report was noted as set out in the report which will be attached to the minutes when published on the website.

152. Youth Representative's Report

As the position was vacant there was no report. It was not known if Councillor Havard had made any steps to fill the vacancy.

153. Clerks Report

A telephone call had been received from Machen Over 50's regarding the Christmas donation. In order for a donation to be made the Clerk was requested to write to the organisation asking for details of the Constitution, Treasurer and details of how the money would be spend.

154. Caerphilly County Borough Council Draft Savings Proposals

Members were asked to consider and respond to the proposal. Members of the Community Council who are also County Borough Councillors were asked what was in the revenue budget for the BTM ward and it was requested that a report be made to a future meeting if the proposals would adversely affect the ward. Members undertook to provide any further responses directly to the County Borough.

155. Caerphilly Local Assessment of Well-Being

Members undertook to provide responses directly to the County Borough on the consultation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

As Councillor Havard was not in attendance, Councillor David Davis chaired the Finance Committee

156. Chair's Report

It was reported that Chubb and AFP had provided quotes for the fire and security system, one more quote from Brumble Fire & Security Systems would

be prepared shortly. Once all three quotes were received they would be considered by the Council

157. Clerk's Report

There was no report.

158. Payments made since last meeting

The payments were noted and approved as set out in the paperwork. It was confirmed that the £32 paid to CCBC was for rates.

159. Ward Project Expenditure

The information provided in the report was noted.

160. Applications for Financial Assistance

RESOLVED: 1. To award £215 to Bedwas & Trethomas Community Association.

161. Budget & Precept for 2017/18

The Clerk presented the report making the following points:

- The report had been updated since the December meeting with figures amended to include up to date spending.
- Staffing would continue to be the largest expense but the staff costs for the current financial year do not reflect the spending costs for next year.
- Election and audit expenses are not yet known.
- As in previous years there has been an underspend in the grants budget and the Council may wish to consider how to address this ongoing issue.
- Office rental has dropped, but new tenants are likely to be secured very shortly.
- With changes being discussed for the Hall it is difficult to accurately predict what the costs will be.
- Although there are some areas of uncertainty in the budget, the finances of the Council are healthy and where uncertainty exists there is sufficient provision to cover unforeseen or unknown costs with no detriment to the Council or the Community that it serves.
- Training required a separate budget of £1000 to cover development for staff and Councillors, particularly as there could be new Councillors following the elections.
- If the Council wish to hold an Annual Awards evening then somewhere in the region of £500-£1000 should be considered.
- The Council wish to explore the provision of Christmas activities which could include Christmas lights and Christmas trees for the area. There are a local fundraising group keen to assist with raising money for such work.

RESOLVED: That the Council increase its precept for 2017/18 by 1%

LAND & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

162. Chair's Report

A date needed to be set for a meeting with Hurley & Davis regarding the tendering process for the works to the roof at the Workmen's Hall. It was agreed that they be invited to attend the February Council meeting.

Work was on-going at the Hall, a rodent inspector had attended following the infestation and work had been carried out to plaster the ceiling in the toilet and reparatory works to the kiosk which would be paid for by the Hall Committee.

163. Clerk's Report

There was none

164. Workmen's Hall Bedwas

The caretaker at the Hall had resigned, this role was currently being undertaken by other volunteers but discussions were needed about the long term need to have a caretaker in place. It was suggested that the Council could pay someone to run booking and manage the hall to bring in business which would be of benefit to the Hall and to the community.

It was felt that funding could be available for this role as part of future grant applications and that this area should be discussed further with relevant officers from GAVO.

Some Members felt that it was important to increase the usage of the hall as soon as possible as this would help with securing grant funding.

RESOLVED: that the expenditure for the Hall be reviewed in 6 months time. That this review would be carried out at the July meeting.

165. Framework Contracts

A question had been raised with CCBC regarding the use of framework contracts by Community Councils

RESOLVED: That the Clerk investigates if the use of such contracts is possible.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

166. Application 16/0971/LA – Land Adjoining Bedwas Cemetery Bedwas.

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/0974/COU – Fwrrwm Ishta House, 68 Commercial Road Machen

RESOLVED: That the Clerk circulate a site map of the plans and that any comments be forwarded to the Clerk via email.

Application 16/0988/FULL – Firbeck Royal Oak, Machen

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/1007/FULL – 16 Dan-Y-Deri Bedwas

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/0858/OUT – Tradesmans Arms 45 Chatham, Machen

RESOLVED: That the use of the word derelict does not accurately reflect the state of the building as there are clearly people currently living there.

Application 16/0928/FULL – Ty Maen Mountain Road, Bedwas

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/1019/FULL – Trethomas 33KV Substation, Addsion Way, Graig-y-Rhacca

RESOLVED: No objection.

Minutes of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE

167. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that the BTM Band event was a success and was very well attended. The family Christmas party was a lovely event but needs to be better advertised if repeated.

There were a number of upcoming events including a Clairvoyant and an evening of soul music.

It was reported that a number of meetings had taken place regarding the viaduct in Machen. Although it is not within the BTM ward it was hoped that the Community Council could work alongside the neighbouring Community Council in DWR as a long term project. Realistically this would not take place until after the elections in May

The provision of Christmas lights had been discussed at a recent meeting with One Voice Wales. Most Community Councils now rent Christmas lights from companies which hire out the lights and also install and remove them.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk undertake the work necessary to provide a report on the feasibility and cost of providing Christmas lights for the area at a future meeting.

Meeting End 7.50pm

.....CHAIR OF COUNCIL