

Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council

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

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

Apologies: Liz Aldworth, Keith Regan,

Also Present: PSO Jonathon Spokes, Jolene Dalton (Clerk)

Declarations of Interest: Councillor Chris Morgan declared an interest in item 5 of the Finance Committee as Vice Chair of the Lower Graig-Y-Rhacca Community Association. Councillor Derek Havard declared an interest in item 5 of the Finance Committee as a resident of Graig-Y-Rhacca. Neither Councillor played any part in the decision making of this item.

At 6pm the meeting was inquorate. As a Police Representative was present it was decided that those members present would hear the presentation for information only. At the conclusion of the presentation at 6.30pm there were sufficient Members for the meeting to be quorate and the Full Council meeting took place.

POLICE & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

199. PSO Jonathon Spokes attended the meeting and informed members that there had been 37 crimes recorded. A large operation had been carried out in the area which resulted in over 200 Cannabis plants being seized with a value of around £200,000

A joint event was planned with the fire service to combat deliberate fires over the Easter holidays. Any future Road Safety events would need to be community led, although the Police would offer assistance to any community group that wished to take the lead with organising the day.

It was reported that a vehicle which may have been abandoned in Forge Road was causing a traffic issue. PSO Spokes undertook to check the registration details.

There was no update on a road traffic accident in Trethomas which had caused significant damage to the flower beds.

Despite the work carried out in Crossways speeding cars were still causing a problem. Likeways, speeding was still an issue on Hillside and East Avenue. McDonalds had agreed to make financial contributions towards traffic calming measures but the Borough Council would not allow the work to take place as they did not view the speeding issues to be sufficiently serious.

Members noted the points presented and thanked PSO Spokes for his attendance at the meeting.

FULL COUNCIL

200. Apologies for absence- The apologies were noted and accepted.

201. Minutes of the meetings held on 2 February and 2 March 2017

RESOLVED: 1. That the minutes for 2 February be accepted as a true record for signing by the Chair. 2. That the minutes for 2 March be accepted as a true record for signing by the Chair.

202. 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.

In addition to the report the Chair asked all Councillors to undertake online training to become ASD Aware. The training consisted of information followed by answering 20 questions, following completion a certificate could be printed out. It was hoped that all Councillors would complete the training. Congratulations were passed to the Old Library Staff in Caerphilly who had all undertaken the training.

Funding had been secured from Welsh Government for the much needed improvements to Pwllpant roundabout. An additional £500,000 was available to implement a range of road safety measures across the county which included bus stop improvements, speed reduction signs and safety schemes.

The Chair paid tribute to Councillor Mary Williams who was standing down at the forthcoming election and passed on the thanks of the entire Council for the contribution that she had made during her time in office and wished her all the very best for the future.

Members passed on their thanks to Councillor McConnell for being a wonderful Chair during a period when a number of significant issues had to be

dealt with, they agreed that she had handled all issues in a very professional manner.

203. Clerk's report

The Clerk reported that the new tenants would be moving into the building during May. The lease proposed for use was a standard template lease from The Law Society. As it was now almost guaranteed that they would be moving in, the Clerk would arrange for the small office and adjoining hallway to be re carpeted.

The original cheque issued to Bedwas & Trethomas Association had been lost in the post. The Clerk would re-issue the cheque.

Members were aware of quotes that had been received regarding the renewal of utility bills. Although only a small saving would be seen, in the face of rising prices it is a larger saving that it initially appears and also demonstrates the Council's commitment to achieving best value for money.

An invoice for £192 had been received from K&G for £192 for clearing debris off the projector roof at the Hall and clearing the guttering and replacing a damaged slate. It has been recent practice to bring all invoices to Council for approval prior to being paid, but on this occasion it had been received following the production of the Council papers. The Clerk asked if Members were happy for the invoice to be paid.

The Clerk thanked Councillor McConnell for the help, support and guidance that she had provided as chair of Council since she began her employment.

Resolved: 1. That the Clerk and Chair be authorised to sign the room lease for the new tenants. 2. That the Clerk arrange for the downstairs small office and hall to be re carpeted. 3. That the cheque be reissued to Bedwas & Trethomas Association. 4. That the Clerk signs new contracts for the utility providers. 5. That the invoice for £192 from K&G be paid in full.

204. Appointment of an Internal Auditor for the 2015-16 audit

The Clerk reported that she was recommending that Council appoint BPU Chartered Accountants to carry out the Internal Audit for the 2016/17 period. The firm of accountants have significant experience of carrying out audits for Town and Community Councils and were aware of the requirements as set out by the Wales Audit Office. The estimated charge provided for their services was between £975 and £1,125 plus vat per annum.

Resolved: That the Council approve the appointment of BPU Chartered Accountants to complete the 2016/17 Audit. They requested that the Clerk issue a Letter of Engagement as set out in the Council papers.

205. Music in Hospitals Scheme

It was explained that the scheme was run by a charity that provided musicians to visit hospitals and care homes to provide concerts for the residents – often at Christmas.

Resolved: That the Community Council engage the services of the Music in Hospitals Scheme to provide concerts at Christmas. The location of the concerts would be discussed nearer the time.

The Clerk was also requested to look at costings for the provision of a Pantomime at the Workmen's Hall. This would be discussed at a future meeting.

206. One Voice Wales and Society for Local Clerk Membership

This item was deferred for discussion at the Annual Meeting in May.

207. Buddy Benches and Muddy Kitchens.

The Chair presented the item explaining that she would like the Council to consider the purchase of a piece of equipment for each of the 5 infant and Primary Schools in the area.

Resolved: That the Clerk contact each of the schools and ask which piece of equipment they would like to the value of £500. If they wished to purchase equipment costing in excess of £500 then they would be asked to contribute the difference at the time of purchase. The funding of these purchases would be found by using the underspend in the grants budget.

208. Provision of Defibrilators.

The Chair presented the item asking the Council to consider the purchase of a defibrillator for each of the schools in the area.

It was also reported that the defibrillator at the Workmen's Hall would be of more use to the community if it were to be placed outside the building so that it was accessible to all 24 hours a day instead of just when the hall was open.

Resolved: 1. That the Clerk write to the Tommy Cooper Foundation to establish any assistance was available with the purchase of the defibrillators.
2. That the Clerk contact Pat Martin to enquire if planning permission were needed to move the defibrillator to the outside of the building.

209. The Annual Meeting 2017

Resolved: That the Annual Meeting would be held on Thursday 11th May 2017.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

210. Chair's Report

There was none

211. Payments made since last meeting

Resolved: That the payments be noted and approved as set out in the paperwork.

212. Ward Project Expenditure

Resolved: To note the expenditure

213. Budget Monitoring

Resolved: To note the expenditure against each budget.

214. Applications for Financial Assistance

RESOLVED: 1. To award £300 to the Petanque Club. 2. To sponsor the Machen Show with a sum of £250, the Clerk to complete the paperwork. 3. To award the Lower Graig-Y-Rhacca Community Association with £500, which comprised of £300 from Machen, £100 from Trethomas and £100 from Bedwas.

LAND & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

215. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that water had been pouring through the ceiling at the Hall approximately 18 months ago. At the time the guttering had been cleaned out and broken slates replaced. This had solved the problem at the time, therefore when the problem reoccurred, the Chair again arranged for the same work to be carried out. Again, this has stopped the water from coming in. The Chair undertook to contact the Management Committee at the Hall and arrange for the balcony to be re-opened.

216. Workmen's Hall Balcony Ceiling.

This item was covered at minute 215 above.

217. Workmen's Hall Utilities Contract

The Clerk reported that the Utility contracts were due for renewal at the Hall. Member were asked to determine if the Management Committee the Hall would be best placed to look for and sign new contracts. The Chair of the Committee undertook to provide details for a comparison company called Ecotricity.

Resolved: That the Management Committee at the Hall search for the best deals available and sign contracts accordingly.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

218. Application 17/0052/Full 27 Bryn-Gwyn Street, Bedwas – Not Applicable as deadline passed.

Application 17/0061/Full Eriez Magnetics, 17 Greenway Bedwas House Industrial Estate – Not Applicable as deadline passed.

Application 17/0063/full 30 Newport Road, Trethomas – No objection

Application 17/0075/RET 15 Dol-Y-Pandy Bedwas – No objection

Application 17/0089/COU 10 Newport Rd, Bedwas – No Objection

Application 17/0117/COU 1 Pandy Rd Bedwas – Members had no objection to the application but raised concerns over increased parking issues.

Application 17/0132/Full 7 Riverside Terrace Machen – Members objected on the grounds that glare from the illuminated sign would disturb neighbours.

Application 17/0221/Full 5 Ridgeway, Graig-Y-Rhacca – no objection

Application Pen Yr Heol Las Farm Heol Las Energlyn Caerphilly – No objection

Minutes of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE

219. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that upcoming events included the BTM Band, Kiddies Corner Spring Fair and Big Mac Soul Band

220. 100 Year Remembrance Day Service

Councillor Chris Morgan undertook to take the lead on planning an event and would report back at a future event.

Meeting End 8.15pm

.....CHAIR OF COUNCIL