

Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council

Minutes of the meeting of FULL COUNCIL at the Council Offices

Newport Road, Bedwas on Thursday 7 March 2019 at 6.30pm

Present	Apologies
DJ. Davies	E. Aldworth
J. Gale	E Davies
L. Phipps	D. Havard
A McConnell	K Regan
C Morgan	
P. Rosser	
J. Walsh	
J. Winslade(Chair)	

POLICE & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

226 CSO Sarah May of Heddlu Gwent Police provided the Council with an update of the Police activities in the community over the last month. Off road motor cycling has been reported, an incident at Mynydd Haf School and an illegal parking complaint outside the Tesco Store are all being investigated by the local Police

FULL COUNCIL

227 Declarations of Interest: None

228 Attendance and apologies for absence were noted as above

229 To consider and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2019
Cllr Morgan raised an amendment at Minute No. 225 to add that he will resign from the Employment Group at the next AGM. The February minutes as amended were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair

230 Chair's announcements and Report
A verbal report was received

233 Clerk's Report – As the Council currently does not have a Clerk in place Cllr Phipps gave a verbal report on the office work she and the Cllrs had managed since

both previous Clerks had resigned on 7 February. Due to this urgent situation an advert for one replacement Clerk had been prepared and publicised by 26 February. The Employment Group are to consider the applications received as soon as practically possible to be able to progress Council business. To modernise Council business, Cllr Phipps raised the subject of a new, dedicated Council email domain solely for that Council business. The topic was discussed for security and data protection. Under the same modernisation topic Cllr Phipps also raised a recommendation that the Council consider purchasing Tablets for each Cllr from their annual remuneration. This is in readiness to be able to access a new Council domain instead of using their personal email addresses and to cease using paper documents where practically possible. All these items were agreed by Council. Cllr Phipps confirmed that CCBC had received BTM's request for the precept for 2019-20. Cllr Phipps updated the Council on the suggestion that the Council website be Welsh translated. The Council agreed on this and for Cllr Phipps to carry out further investigations into the necessary changes for it to be translated.

234 Forward Plan of Council Decisions
No further items were added to the plan

FINANCE COMMITTEE

235 Chair's Report – A verbal update was reported

236 Account summary

Cllr Phipps suggested that starting from this Council meeting that an Accounts Summary process ought to be used for reporting Council finance business. Cllr Phipps reported that since 7 Feb all the Banking Standing Orders had been processed and that several separately received invoices had been paid by cheque. Cllr Phipps confirmed that the internal audit provision had been set for early May. Cllr Phipps reported on the details set out by the Independent Remuneration Panel and the Council agreed that those Cllrs who qualified for an annual remuneration would receive the recommended payment of £150 each in 2019/2020. The Council also agreed on the Panel's recommendation for a Chair's allowance of up to £1,500 for 2019/2020. The exact amount and details are to be discussed for a decision at the Annual General Meeting on 2 May

237 Ward Projects Expenditure
Council agreed to note the expenditure to date

238 One Voice Wales Membership

The Council considered the renewal of its membership of One Voice Wales following its decision of a year ago to cease its membership. The Council agreed to rejoin OVW for 2019/20 at their fee of £1,467. Cllr Phipps reported on correspondence from Machen Agricultural Show regarding the Council's continual sponsorship of a 'gold level' for their annual event. The Council had considered lowering their sponsorship to a 'silver level. However, after further discussion the Chair agreed to supplement the difference to maintain the Council's 'gold level' sponsorship for 2019 from her Chair's allowance

239 Applications for Financial Assistance

Five applications were received. Those from Bedwas Akido, Llangollen Eisteddfod, Hephzibah Chapel and Machen Bowls Club were all considered, unfortunately, the Council agreed that it could not support these applications at the present time. An application from Lois Jones was supported and the Council agreed for £100 to be paid from the Machen allocation

LAND & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

240 Chairs Report – A full electrical survey had been carried out on the building. The Council agreed to ask the Hall Committee to fund the necessary reported remedial actions as soon as possible and the Council will reimburse the Committee when it is in a financial position to do so

241 Cllr Phipps had reported that the Clerk had sent a request to a contractor for external lighting at the Workmen’s Hall. The matter was deferred from the February meeting. The Council considered the request and decided that if the Hall Committee wish to proceed with any new lighting then they must pay for it from their own funds

242 The Council agreed to review the Caretaker role at the Hall at its April meeting

243 Hall Issues

The Council considered the Hall’s request for a replacement parking sign together with the repainting of the current white lining and for 2 blue disabled bays to be painted onto the Hall forecourt. Cllr Phipps offered to contact CCBC Highways for advice and costings for this work

244 Memorial Garden Project

Cllr Morgan reported that work on the new Memorial Garden at the side of the Council Offices is to commence in April with contractors from Landworks on site. CCTV has recently been installed to cover the new garden and the car park. Keep Wales Tidy are managing the works on behalf of the Council. Local schools and associations have volunteered to help with the project

PLANNING

245 Chair’s Report - No Update

246 Planning Applications

Application 19/0056/FULL - noted

Application 19/0088/FULL - noted

ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

247 Chair’s Report–The Chair’s Awards event is postponed to later in the year

248 Graig y Rhacca CCTV

CCBC are reviewing their CCTV coverage in Graig y Rhacca and had asked the Council on their views for its continued use here. The Council strongly supported the continued use of CCTV at Graig y Rhacca

249 Events for 2019-2020–Dog Show and Remembrance Poppies

The Council agreed to support a dog show to be held in July/September 2019. Further details are to be discussed nearer the date. The Council agreed to order poppies for lighting columns well in time for the Armistice weekend

The Meeting closed 8.45pm

SignedChairperson Date