

Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the remote virtual Full Council on Wednesday
12 May 2021 at 6.30pm**

PRESENT : DJ Davies, J Gale, D Havard, N Bull, L Phipps, G Pratt, A McConnell, J Winslade, P Rosser, L Aldworth, C Morgan (Chair), Bob Campbell (Temp Clerk), Lisa Gibbs (Gwent Police), Jake Michael (Gwent Police)

APOLOGIES: D Llewellyn

GWENT POLICE PRESENTATION

705 Officers Gibbs and Michael of Heddlu Gwent Police provided the Council with an update of the Police activities in the community over the last month. Overall calls to the local Police had been much lower than this time last year. Mountain fires and some off road motor cycling has been reported. Cllr McConnell asked the Officers for more patrols in the community and for education calls to the local schools. Cllr Pratt highlighted he had seen off road bikers in the Machen area and reported an individual driver was seen speeding around the Machen housing estate near the local rugby field. Officer Gibbs had identified the culprit and spoken to him. Cllr Aldworth had previously reported a security issue at the old Ty yn y Pwll Hotel, Trethomas. Cllr McConnell will send to CSO Gibbs the contact details for United Welsh. The Officers asked the Council if they were aware of offensive graffiti on the Pandy Lane stone bridge. The Council were unaware of it and Cllr Phipps undertook to report it to Caerphilly CBC for action

FULL COUNCIL

706 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Phipps declared an interest in the financial assistance application from Bridgend Allotments. Cllr Aldworth declared an interest in the planning items due to her Caerphilly CBC role as a Planning Committee Member

707 Attendance and an apology for absence were noted as above. Chair Cllr Morgan formally welcomed the two newly elected Cllrs N Bull and G Pratt to the Council. He also welcomed Bob Campbell, Risca Town Clerk, who had agreed to assist the Council on a temporary basis in order for the council to carry out its business

708 To consider and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 April 2021. The April minutes were accepted as a true record and will be signed by the Chair Cllr Morgan as soon as practically possible

709 An emergency matter arising from the April Minutes was reported by the Chair, Cllr Morgan, as a verbal report for the Council to consider urgently. An emergency Caerphilly CBC dangerous building notice had been served on BTM CC for its WI Hall. The Council discussed the report and unanimously agreed with great reluctance that the building must be closed immediately for public safety. The Council also agreed with a voting majority to pursue a scaffolding quote for the building of £29,000 for an emergency inspection of the Hall's roof. The Council also unanimously agreed for its Committees to consider and progress reallocating a set amount of £24,000 from its staffing budget towards this initial emergency cost

710 Clerk's Report – As the Council currently does not have a Clerk in place there was no Clerk's report. The Chair and Vice Chair are pursuing an advert for a replacement Clerk as soon as practically possible

FINANCE MATTERS and Finance Committee update

712 The 2020/2021 end of year spend was reported and agreed

713 Applications for Financial Assistance

Two applications were received and a third item was raised by the Council.

713.1 The Council considered the request from Bridgend Allotments (Cllr Lisa Phipps temporarily left the meeting for this agenda item) and agreed to a donation of £300 (£100 each from the three area budgets)

713.2 The Council considered the request from Unity Dance and agreed to a donation of £150 (£50 each from the three area budgets)

713.3 The Council considered the recent Fire and Rescue Services emergency action on Machen Mountain and to show its gratitude to the fire fighters, they agreed to a donation of £300 (£100 each from the three area budgets) to the local 'fundraiser' project

714 The Committee's minutes of 20 April 2021 were accepted along with the extension of the Hall Caretaker's contract for a further 12 months and the recruitment of a replacement Clerk/RFO

ENVIRONMENT and CIL COMMITTEE

715 The Committee's minutes of 12 April were accepted along with its approved expenditure items as listed on the Agenda

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

716 CCBC Planning Applications 0309, 0353, 0355, 0362, 0388 and 0400 were all noted (Cllr Liz Aldworth temporarily left the meeting for this agenda item)

The Meeting closed 8.20 pm



SignedChairperson