

**Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council**

**Minutes of the meeting of the remote virtual Full Council on Thursday  
23 September 2021 at 6.30pm**

<b>Present</b>		<b>Apologies</b>
DJ. Davies	G. Pratt	J. Gale
E. Aldworth		P. Rosser
L. Phipps		N. Bull
D. Havard		D. Llewellyn
C. Morgan (Chair)	Bob Campbell (Temp Clerk)	A. McConnell
J. Winslade	Ann Birkenshaw (Clerk)	Lisa Gibbs (Gwent Police)
Madison Phipps-Magill	Rhys Griffiths	Jake Michael (Gwent Police)

**GWENT POLICE PRESENTATION**

737 Officer Michael had provided the Council with an emailed update of the Police activities in the community over the summer months

**FULL COUNCIL**

738 Declarations of Interest: None

739 Cllr Morgan chaired the meeting that commenced at 6.35 pm. Attendance and apologies for absence were noted as above. Temporary Clerk/Proper Officer: Robert Campbell and Ann Birkenshaw, newly appointed Clerk/Proper Officer. Also in attendance were Youth Representatives Rhys Griffiths and Madison Phipps-Parry. The Chair welcomed the newly appointed Clerk/Proper Officer, Ann Birkenshaw to the Council and thanked the Temporary Clerk, Bob Campbell for his assistance since May 2021. There were no residents' addresses due to the Coronavirus crisis, the Government lockdown and the current Welsh Government regulations

740 To consider and sign the Minutes of the meeting of the previous Full Council meeting held on 1 July 2021, the Extraordinary meeting on 15 July 2021 and the Extraordinary meeting on 9 August 2021

The meeting acknowledged that the three sets of minutes were agreed for signature as true and correct records

741 Clerk's Report – The Council recognised that the new Clerk can make a report to the next meeting in October

### **FINANCE MATTERS and Finance Committee update**

742 The Chair presented a summary of the recent financial transactions. The summary was agreed as satisfactory by the Council. The Chair also reported on two quotes recently received for essential building maintenance works at Bedwas Workman's Hall Temporary Clerk. The Council agreed for the Chair and the new Clerk to study the quotes against the current budget and accounts and to report back to Council in October. The Temporary Clerk reported that he had emailed Audit Wales to ask for a new notice of electors' rights with new dates now that a new Clerk was in place in order for the 2021/2021 Audit Return to be completed for Audit Wales. The report was agreed as satisfactory by the Council

743 The Chair and Vice Chair reported that the position of a replacement Clerk had been advertised

### **CORRESPONDENCE and Financial Assistance Applications**

744 Correspondence

1/ Council discussed the Chair's request to consider an outstanding complaint of last March/April on an item that was omitted in the 4 March 2021 minutes. The Council agreed that they had considered a point/issue raised by a Member and had asked the Clerk to formally respond to a Facebook summary that had incorrectly summarised the Council's decision on the point/issue raised on 4 March 2021

2/ Council also discussed another Facebook summary complaint of mid August about a lack of dog litter bins in the three communities. The Chair and the Clerk offered to respond to the complaint author that the Council did not have a new Clerk in place until 6 September, that the Council was in recess in August and that the issue will be investigated. The Council agreed for the Chair and the new Clerk to respond

3/ Council considered a recent letter from the Royal British Legion saying they will no longer take the responsibility, risk and costings for Armistice Parades to take place for paraders to walk in the public highway. An issue had occurred in 2018 when a parader was struck by a vehicle causing life threatening injuries. The RBL's public indemnity insurers covered the costs into millions of pounds on that occasion but that cover has since been stopped. Heddlu Gwent Police stated they will not be taking that responsibility on either. There is no indication yet that Caerphilly county borough council will take on the responsibility either.

The Temporary Clerk advised the Council that if they were considering taking on the responsibility for paraders to walk in the public highway then they must take out separate public indemnity insurance to do so. The Council agreed to consider any such requests in detail at their October meeting

### **Council Committees**

Cllr Phipps verbally reported that there had been excellent progress of the Council's recent decision to purchase environmental improvement equipment out of their CIL monies account across the three communities. One issue was still outstanding on the type of material for two new litter bins

Cllr Winslade verbally reported on the recent Events Committee discussions that events at the Workman's Hall were being progressed. Cllr Winslade also asked if the council will fund additional street lighting poppies for the Armistice weekend and the Council agreed for the Events Committee to spend up to £200 on these items

The Temporary Clerk reminded the Council that each of the four Committees must produce truncated, unsigned minutes of all of their meetings and for them to be published on the BTM website within 7 days of the dates of those meetings under the terms of the Welsh Government's Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 that came into force last May. The Council agreed to carry out this legal function

**Financial assistance applications** - The Chair reported that the Council had not received any recent request for financial assistance

### **Current Projects Summary**

Due to the ongoing health crisis the Council is still unable to plan its other projects at the present time

745 **Youth Representatives** - Youth representative Madison reported that a Macmillan Coffee Morning was arranged at Bedwas High school for Friday 24 September and all were welcome to attend

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

746 CCBC Planning Applications - Case Refs: 0582, 0336, 9336, 0609, 0625 and 0875 were all noted. Case Ref. 0547 was discussed and the Council agreed for Cllr Havard to ask CCBC Planning for more details on this application

The Meeting closed 8.00 pm

Signed .....Chairperson

Date 7 Oct 2021.....