



GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of the GELLIGAER COMMUNITY COUNCIL held on Wednesday 9th September 2009 6.30pm at the COUNCIL OFFICE, LLWYN ONN, PENPEDAIRHEOL.

PRESENT

Councillors: A Angel, D Bolter, W Griffiths, M James, T H Matthews, C Morgan, Mrs T Parry, and Mrs J A Pritchard.

Clerk: Mrs C Mortimer

In Attendance: The Mayor of Caerphilly Cllr John Evans, Head Teachers, Teachers, Children and Parents of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Bro Allta and Tir y Berth Primary School and a representative of Derwendeg Primary School.

86 School Environmental Presentation 2009

The Chairman, Cllr Dennis Bolter welcomed all present to the School Environmental Presentation 2009.

He commended all 8 schools for taking part.

However Congratulations went to

YGG Bro Allta on winning first prize

Cllr Bolter presented the children with a Shield and three bird boxes that were donated from Caerphilly County Borough Councils Parks Services.

Tir y Berth Primary came second and Derwendeg Primary School came third and each were awarded a shield and bird boxes, again donated by CCBC's Park Services.

The children thoroughly enjoyed participating in this exciting project competition that the Community Council had introduced and were looking forward to the competition in 2010.

Photographs of their projects were displayed and refreshments served.

All left the chamber but the Mayor remained.

87 The Mayor of Caerphilly, Cllr John Evans

The Chairman, Cllr Dennis Bolter welcomed the Mayor to the meeting and presented him with a cheque for his chosen charity Cancer Research Wales. The Mayor explained why the charity was so close to his heart having lost a young family member to the illness and thanked the Members for their contribution.

88 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr R Bevan due to visiting his daughter in hospital, Cllr W David due to a family holiday, Cllr G Roberts due to new family commitments and Cllr R C Thomas due to family holiday.

89 Declarations of Interest

Interest was declared on Minute No.102

90 Chairman's Announcements

- The Chairman, Cllr Bolter stated that he too would contribute to the Mayors Charity from the Chairmans allowance.
- Cllr W David sent his apologies via the Clerk for not being present this evening especially for the School Environmental Presentation, a project he strongly supports. The Chairman Cllr Bolter congratulated both Cllr W David and Cllr T Parry for initiating and supporting the project, as it proved to be a huge success.
- The Chairman thanked the Vice Chairman Cllr Martyn James for delivering flowers to Mr and Mrs Elliott of The Walk Ystrad Mynach as they were celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on the 6th August.
Cllr James said that they were very grateful and thanked the Members for such a kind gesture
- The Chairman announced that Cllr Gethin Roberts' partner Zoe gave birth to a baby girl. They have named her Lily.
The Members requested that the Clerk send a card of Congratulations to the family.
- Due to Cllr Roger Bevans' daughter being in hospital the Members requested that the Clerk send a card of best wishes to the family.
- A big thank you to the Caerphilly County Borough Councils Youth Offending Team who have helped create a new garden at the Cyber Café, Gelligaer
- The Sultans Challenge is on Thursday 17th September at Parc Penallta starting at 6.30pm. This annual event is held to promote healthy living with children from a few schools in the area competing in races. The Chairman will be awarding trophies at the close of the event.

91 Minutes

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 22/07/2009 were received, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

92 Current Financial Situation

Details of the Current Financial Situation of the Council as at 05/09/2009 was received confirmed and signed as a correct record.

93 Financial Assistance

There were no Financial Assistance Application Forms Received

94 Clerks Report in relation to the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2009

The Clerk presented her report and explained that the variances between 31st March 2008 and 31st March 2009 was due to the Cydcoed project in the main and the councils decision to spend more on other projects

Following the recent internal audit that was conducted there were no issues and the Clerk presented the internal audit conclusions summarised in section 4 of the Annual internal audit report.

The Council approved the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2009

The Members thanked the Clerk for her work.

95 One Voice Wales: Motions for debate in the AGM

The members in relation to the Motions that are to be debated at the Annual General Meeting on the 10th October 2009 made the following comments.

1. Pelenna Community Council

Gelligaer Community Council Members agree with One Voice Wales and deplores the lack of maintenance evident throughout Welsh Forestry in connection with upkeep of boundary fencing, lack of felling and thinning leading to a sterile ecosystem beneath the overgrown canopy.

2. Carmarthen Town Council

Gelligaer Community Council Members along with One Voice Wales calls upon planning authorities to consult community and town councils at an early stage when major re-development schemes are being formulated.

3. Ponthir Community Council

This Conference notes with concern the ability of certain bodies to build on or develop land in Wales without obtaining planning permission from the relevant body. The General Permitted Development Order 1995 allows for certain developments to be undertaken without the need for planning permission. This ability overrides the wishes and well being of local people

and communities and removes their right to express their views on the development of their community.

This Conference calls upon the Executive Committee to raise this issue with the Welsh Assembly Government and to seek ways of repealing this order and bringing all developments within the scope of normal democratic administration.

Explanatory Note –

This Order currently permits small scale developments such as extensions, roof repairs, erection of porch, hard-standing, oil tank, satellite antenna and exterior painting.

The Gelligaer Community Council Members stated that small-scale extensions should have planning but small-scale porches need not. The current system would be overloaded and costs in planning administration would be increased.

The Members agreed that there should be a separate motion for masts. All Members voted against the motion.

4. Meifod Community Council

Meifod Community Council wishes to express its grave concern at the routing of high voltage power line/pylons through the Welsh countryside. Whilst permission is sought for the siting of the turbines, no account is taken of the route that the power lines will take, at the planning stage. These power lines can be erected as close as four meters to a dwelling, with no compensation payable, and no account being taken of possible health implications and the well being of the environment. Gelligaer Community Council agrees with this motion.

5. Llandybie and Llangernyw Community Councils – Composite Motion

One Voice Wales calls upon all County and County Borough Councils in Wales to engage positively with Community and Town Councils in the improvement of their public services, and particularly where delegation of services is being considered, and that this is done in accordance with the principles of charter working. Gelligaer Community Council agrees with this motion.

The Chairman, Cllr Bolter noted their comments and will relay them at the AGM

96 Wales could make its own laws to strengthen community and town councils

The Welsh Assembly Government had recently proposed that powers be given to Wales to allow the National Assembly to legislate to strengthen the community and town council sector. The Powers would be given in the form of a Legislative Competence Order (LCO) that sets out new areas in which the Assembly can make legislation.

97 Consultation on proposed Legislative Competence Order relating to community councils, councillor recruitment, retention and allowances

Correspondence having previously been received was noted

98 Adjudication Panel For Wales

Correspondence having previously been received was noted

99 Welsh Language Policy and Legislation

Correspondence having previously been received was noted

100 5 Man Cleansing Team Commencing 12th October 2009

The Clerk received areas from members to forward to CCBC's Cleansing Department. More areas are to follow.

101 Projects Summary

Project No.196 Christmas Lighting

Work to be undertaken: One festive light at the following locations:

- **Penybryn**
- **Gelligaer**
- **Glyngaer**
- **Cascade**
- **Glan y Nant**
- **Tir y Berth**
- **Cefn Hengoed**
- **Hengoed**
- **Ystrad Mynach (Tree)**

Current Situation: Members to provide the Clerk with column no.'s
Cost: £570 x 9= £5,130

Project No.195 Casc-aid Carnival

Work to be undertaken: Hire of toilets

Current Situation: PAID

Cost: £500

Project No.194 Sultans Challenge

Work to be undertaken: Payment towards the cost of transport, refreshment & trophies

Current situation: CCBC's Communities 1st Team are organizing this annual race event for 17th September 2009. 4.00pm – 6.30pm

Cost: £500

Project No.193 Vehicle Activated Signs at various locations

Work to be undertaken: Installation of VAS signs

Cost: £5,000

Members agreed to finance 2 VAS signs at a cost of between £2,000-£2,500 and 8 posts at the following locations in the first instance:

- **Pengam Road, Ystrad Mynach**
- **Hengoed Road N/r Derwen Deg**
- **Hengoed Road N/r Brynsiriol and Rolls Ave**
- **Church Road to Pengam Road**

Project No.192 Ystrad Mynach Partnership Fun Day

Work to be undertaken: Fun Day

Current situation: Members agreed to finance marquee

Cost: £850 + VAT

Project No.191 Duffryn Field

Work to be undertaken: Concrete driveway leading to football field

Current situation: three quotes received, Clerk has instructed Mark Engwell to proceed

Cost: £4050 + VAT

Project No.190: Glan y Nant Play Area near Hanbury Street and Pengam Street

Work to be undertaken: To tarmac to the side of the play area by the gate. Quote received of £2240, match funding of £1120 from CCBC's Park Services. Members agreed, project completed.

Cost: £1120 PAID

Project No.187: Maes yr Adar

Work to be undertaken: Environmental project –3 suitable sites have been found 1.Ystrad Mynach Park 2. Coed Top Hill Landfill Site 3.Glyngaer Primary

Current Situation: 3 suitable locations have been established – completed

Cost: £1639.88

Project No.186: Develop the Website

Work to be undertaken: Links to other groups/organisations

Current Situation: Clerk has met with CCBC Web Master Nick Rutter to discuss development - underway

Cost: £750 - £1,000

Project No.185: Knee Rail at the rear of Woodfield Terrace to stop cars and motorcycles going up the tunnel and also thus preventing antisocial behaviour

Work to be undertaken: Supply & erect knee rail, forestry barriers and A frame

Current Situation: Work completed awaiting invoice

Cost: £4,000 + CCBC to pay £3,165 = Total £7,165

Project No.183: Shrub beds at 3 Sites

1. Hengoed Ave at Cefn Hengoed,
2. Village green at Tir y Berth
3. Where the Christmas tree is situated at Penpedairheol

Work to be undertaken: Maintenance to shrub beds

Current Situation: 19 visits

Cost: Annual Maintenance cost (19 visits) £134 x 3 =£402

Project No.172: Pen y Bryn Playground

Work to be undertaken: Installation of playground

Current Situation: Member submitted drawings and quote of £60,000 and is seeking funding from other sources

Cost: Pledged 2008/09 £5,000 Letter from Council sent in support

Project No.171: School Environmental Project

Work to be undertaken: As before, from January 2010, each school in the community to undertake an environmental project

To be judged in July 2010 by Mr Derek Price,

Cost: £8,000 & cost for shields and certificates

Project No.167: Bi-Annual Gelligaer Community Newsletter

Current Situation: Newsletter has been distributed.

Cost: £825 PAID for issue 1. Issue 2 Cost: £825

This project will be a bi-annual project June and October. Issue no. 2 has been distributed by Members and the CCBC's Youth Offending Team. Thank you YOT for your support.

Project No.165: Annual Project Ystrad Mynach Christmas Lighting

Work to be undertaken: Install Remove and Store

Current Situation: Annual project Invoice Paid

Cost: £1,900

Project No.163: St Anne's Church, Cefn Hengoed

Work to be undertaken: Refurbishment

Current Situation: £25,000- £30,000 to repair.

Cost: £5,000 pledged Awaiting further funding.

Project No.162: 2nd Phase Gelligaer Fort

Work to be undertaken: Interpretation Project

Current Situation: Bid has been submitted.

Cost: £1000 pledged towards match funding

WAG funding available

CCBC to manage Admin & Finance from RDF

Gelligaer CC Clerk to manage Admin & Finance from HLF

Clerk has set up HLF Application and Account

Gavo have submitted application

Covenant signed by Land Owner

Project No.161: Hill View Hengoed

Work to be undertaken: Turn a small part of a large grassed area amenity into a car park with fencing, separating car park from grassed area for safety reasons. Further £720 funding agreed for higher fence

Cost: £5,000 (2007/08) + £720 (2008/09) =£5,720 Completed

Project No.156: Griffiths Street Play Area

Work to be undertaken: Erect Goal Posts

Current Situation: Consultations taking place Re: Benches

Some of the work has been undertaken i.e. goal posts

Cost: £677.50 Completed Awaiting Invoice

Project No. 99: Cefn Road kick-about area

Work to be undertaken: Provision of kick-wall, basketball hoop and stand.

Leisure Department of CCBC confirmed that Persimmon had contributed £30,000.00 to new play area. Play area/kick-about area to be redesigned. Area cleared for new design & fence in place.

Current Situation: New play area has been installed

Cost: Circa £2500.00 Pledged

Awaiting further details from Simon Beacham - Clerk to enquire

New Project: Part Time Sessional Outreach Youth Workers

Work to be undertaken: To share 2 youth workers amongst the wards to work with disaffected youths concentrating on the anti-social hot spots. Paul O'Neill, Community Education Manager attended our meeting to discuss further, will now provide costings. Apologies received for the delay – will forward asap. Vice Chair to speak with Steve Mason.

New Project: Heritage Project

Work to be undertaken: Project to engage youths with elders by researching their history and creating picture story books, filming etc to help bridge the gap between the generations and attempting to create in the youths an interest in people, history and film making etc Member to contact Debbie Whitty for further information.

New Project: Bottle Banks

Work to be undertaken: To place bottle banks o/s commercial premises for them and residents alike to use. Some licensed premises are hiring skips to dispose of their bottles, which are then taken to landfill.

New Project: Ladies Chapel at St Cattwgs

Work to be undertaken: Bricked up window to be replaced with glass window. Rev.Tony Stevens to provide Members with costing.

Cllr D Bolter and Cllr A Angel declared an interest in the next item and subsequently left the chamber.

Vice Chairman Cllr M James chaired the remaining item of the meeting

102 Planning Applications

There were no objections to the following Planning Applications:

- **09/0622/ADV**
- **09/0670/FULL**
- **09/0640/FULL**
- **09/0641/LA**
- **09/0644/RET**
- **09/0646/FULL**
- **09/0659/FULL**

Meeting Closed at 8.25 pm

Signed: _____ Chairman