

## RHYMNEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the last meeting held virtually via BT Meet Me of the above Community Council on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7pm.

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### Present

Cllr. M. L. Thomas (Chairperson)	Cllr. D. Harse
Cllr. L. Dykes	Cllr. H. Williams
Cllr. J. E. Hughes	Cllr. D. T. Williams
Cllr. D. Bradley	

### Apologies

Cllr. J. Bevan	Cllr. L. Gronow
Cllr. P. Oliver	Cllr. G. Oliver

### In Attendance

Mr. G. Williams	Clerk to the Council
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#### 07 Minutes / Apologies

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020, previously circulated to members were accepted as an accurate record.

Moved. The Clerk agreed to forward an official copy of the minutes to be signed / returned by the Chairperson Cllr. M. L. Thomas.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. P. Oliver, Cllr. G. Oliver, Cllr. L. Gronow and Cllr J. Bevan.

#### 08 Community Council Accounts / Internal Audit – Mrs. J. Richards

The Clerk read out loud statements one to eight, from section 2 – Statement of Assurance of the Local Councils in Wales Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 and populated the boxes with accurate and appropriate responses. The Clerk updated Council on the carry forward position and expenditure from 2019/20 yet to be brought to account. The Clerk then advised the display of the ‘Notice of appointment of date for the exercise of electors’ rights’ had been postponed owing to prevailing Covid-19 restrictions / conditions.

The Clerk went on to advise Mrs Julie Richards (Internal Auditor) had already completed statements relevant to her role as the Internal Auditor (Section 4) and populated the boxes with accurate and appropriate responses. The Clerk referred Council to papers previously circulated, including the report provided by Council’s Internal Auditor.

The form was subsequently signed (virtually) and dated by the appropriate Officers.

Moved / Clerk to forward necessary documentation for external audit as appropriate.

Moved / Payment for Internal Audit.

09 **Declarations of Interest**

09.01 There were no declarations of interest.

10 **Matters Arising**

10.01 Planning. 19/0536/RET / 20/0007/REF

The Clerk updated Council on responses received to Council's earlier correspondence addressed to colleagues at Caerphilly CBC Planning, Planning Inspectorate Wales and Gwent Police. Within his update the Clerk highlighted the process for appeal and conditions associated with the order served on vacating the site by March 2021.

Moved. Noted on file.

Moved. Clerk to liaise with colleagues at Caerphilly CBC to highlight the recent delivery of building materials to the site.

11 **Planning Applications**

The Clerk confirmed no applications for planning had been received since the last meeting of Council.

12 **Approval of Community Council Cheques and Payments**

The attached list of Community Council cheques and payments was approved by members and amounted to **£00,789.78**.

13 **Report of the Clerk**

The Clerk highlighted to Council a number of recent and future planned activities including:

**Community Council Summer Scheme**

The Clerk advised Council that owing to complications caused by Covid-19 it would not be possible for Council to organise its traditional summer scheme in August 2020.

Moved. Clerk to liaise with colleagues at Sport Caerphilly & Caerphilly Adventures to explore the potential for a replacement scheme in the October and February half term. Clerk to progress as appropriate and report at the September meeting of Council.

**Section 19/137 Continued Support for Rhymney Foodbank**

The Clerk updated Council that as requested he had made Council's £600.00 donation. A further proposal to allocate more funds was made by Cllr. J. E. Hughes, although following information on awards made by neighbouring Councils, a seconder to the proposal was not forthcoming. It was agreed the Clerk write to the local foodbank to make them aware of alternative funding sources. It was also agreed that Council would revisit this conversation later in the year, when Council's expenditure commitments for 2020/21 was better understood – chiefly the potential or otherwise to operate an alternative summer scheme at October / February half terms.

**Community Council. Interim Approach to September 2020**

Council moved to cancel its July 2020 meeting, in the hope that conditions will continue to improve through July and August (Council does not meet in

August), allowing Council to return to a monthly, face-2-face rhythm from September 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Other Community Notices**

Letter from Mr. Carl Nesling Assistant Community Safety Officer regarding the annual review of the surveillance camera located at Pontllynn.

The Surveillance Camera Commissioner has put a responsibility on Local Authorities to justify any deployment of surveillance cameras via a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). Such assessments are now required before deploying any new cameras and for assessing the continuing need for existing cameras. PIA's consider whether there is a justified need for the deployment of cameras, for example serious, frequent antisocial behaviour. It also considers the impact on those subjected to the surveillance, whether such actions are proportionate to the problem they aim to address and if other less intrusive measures have been considered. Within his narrative, Mr. Nesling made reference to the following statistics relevant the Pontllynn camera in the period 01/04/2019 to 31/03/2020:

- 2137 targeted CCTV patrols carried out by Operators;
- 21 incidents monitored by CCTV not requiring police attendance;
- 09 police request for assistance for live incidents; and
- 11 police requests to view retrospective CCTV footage after incident has already occurred.

Following discussion, Council agreed to support the continuation of this facility chiefly as a deterrent measure.

Email from Angharad Davies, Director CADNO Communications, updating Council on progress and slight amendments relating to their wind farm project proposal at Pen-March.

Moved. Noted on file.

Email from colleagues at the Boundary Commission for Wales advising on the recommencement of consultation on Caerphilly CBC's draft proposals. The restarted consultation period to begin 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and run to 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Moved. Noted on file.

### **Payments and Invoices**

The Clerk also read aloud the payments / invoices for approval.

Moved. Noted on file.

### **Date of Next and Future Meetings / Events**

- Community Council Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7pm
- Community Council Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 7pm
- Community Council Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7pm
- Community Council Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7pm

**Meeting Closed at 8.00.**