

RHYMNEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the last meeting held virtually via BT Meet Me of the above Community Council on Thursday 11th March 2021 at 7pm.

Present

Cllr. M. L. Thomas (Chairperson)	Cllr. D. Bradley
Cllr. H. Williams	Cllr. D. T. Williams
Cllr. J. E. Hughes	Cllr. A. Davies
Cllr. J. Bevan	Cllr. L. Dykes
Cllr. A. Power	Cllr. C. Cuss
Cllr. S. Rees	Cllr. D. Harse

Absent

Cllr. L. Gronow	Cllr. G. Oliver
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In Attendance

Mr. G. Williams	Clerk to the Council
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43 **Pen March Wind Farm Update**

Angharad Davies & Jen Cowley CADNO / RWE

Angharad Davies and Jen Cowley provided Council with a presentation highlighting RWE is exploring the potential for a wind farm located mainly on common land north of the A465 Heads of the Valley Road, north-west of Rhymney. Angharad Davies and Jen Cowley highlighted studies to date suggest there may be scope for in the region of five/seven turbines, with a combined generating capacity of up to 30 megawatts to be added to the grid via a substation at Dowlais Top.

Angharad Davies and Jen Cowley then took a range of questions from Councillors, although acknowledged this was merely the start of a longer-term consultation and relationship with the Community Council.

Cllr. M. L. Thomas thanked Angharad Davies and Jen Cowley for attending and presenting to Council.

Moved. Clerk to circulate hard copies of the previously electronically circulated presentation and link to the community benefit fund example at Brechfa Forest.

44 **Minutes / Apologies**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th February 2021, previously circulated to members were accepted as an accurate record and signed (virtually) by the Chairperson Cllr. M. L. Thomas.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. G. Oliver and Cllr. L. Gronow.

The Chair of Council Cllr. M. L. Thomas welcomed recently appointed Cllr. S. Rees to the Community Council and asking him to introduce himself to Council and to briefly summarise their involvement in the Community, which he duly did. The Clerk reminded Councillors yet to return paperwork relevant to the declaration of acceptance of office and declarations of interests to do so

at their earliest convenience. The Clerk agreed to send duplicate copies to support completion.

45 Declarations of Interest

45.01 Cllr. J. Bevan declared an interest in Agenda Item – Planning.

45.02 Cllr. C. Cuss declared an interest in the discussion relating to Summer Scheme funding and the potential for bidding into the Pen Bryn Oer Community Benefit Fund. Cllr. C. Cuss Chair of that committee.

45.03 Cllr. H. Williams declared an interest in the discussion relating to Summer Scheme funding and the potential for bidding into the Pen Bryn Oer Community Benefit Fund. Cllr. H. Williams member of that committee.

46 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

47 Planning Applications

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

48 Approval of Community Council Cheques and Payments

The attached list of Community Council cheques and payments was approved by members and amounted to **£01,282.60**.

49 Correspondence

49.01 HMRC

Full Payment Submission for period ending 5th March 2021.
Moved. Noted on file.

49.02 Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report 2021

In accordance with the requirements of Section 147 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, the Clerk reported receipt of the above-mentioned report which will have effect for the financial year 2021/2022.

Moved. Clerk to agenda for consideration at the Annual General Meeting of Council.

49.03 Zurich Municipal Insurance

Invoice for Council's Indemnity Insurance for 2021/22.

Moved. Payment - £575.43.

49.04 Gwent Police

Monthly report to Councillors dated 1st March 2021.

Moved. Noted on file.

Moved. The Clerk advised that an electronic copy of this report had already been circulated to Members.

49.05 Caerphilly CBC

Confirmation of changes to the cost of website hosting, maintenance and support, reducing annual expenditure from £500+VAT to £200+VAT, the service to be provided by a third-party contractor – United Graphic Design.

Moved. Noted on file.

Moved. Clerk to amend Council's draft expenditure budget for 2021/22 accordingly.

49.06 Festive Lighting Company

Confirmation of contract for Council's previously agreed one-year hire extension to its Christmas lighting display.

Moved. Noted on file.

49.07 Centregreat Limited

Notification of changes in relation to VAT Domestic Reverse Charge changes for construction activities effective 1st March 2021.

Moved. Noted on file.

Moved. The Clerk confirmed that he had already taken necessary action with the supplier in relation to these changes.

49.08 Lloyds Bank

Balance to 9th February 2021 for Account x6x4x9x0

Balance to 9th February 2021 for Account x0x7x1x5

Balance to 9th February 2021 for Account x0x7x0x1

Moved. Noted on file and for finance file.

49.09 Caerphilly CBC

Notification of a Members briefing on Coal Authority and Tips Safety to be held via MS Teams on Thursday 15th April 2021 – this invitation having been extended to Town & Community Councillors.

Moved. Clerk to circulate joining instruction detail when received.

50 **Report of the Clerk**

The Clerk highlighted to Council a number of recent and future planned activities. The Clerk advised Council that there had been an increase in contact to the Community Council, local residents querying support for housing, fly-tipping, nuisance parking etc. The Clerk advised that he had supported these queries to a successful conclusion, also providing correct orientation to resolve future issues.

50.01 **Payments and Invoices**

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

Moved. All payments were approved by members.

50.02 **Community Councillor Vacancy – Appointment via Co-option.**

The Clerk advised Council that advice received from Mr David Beecham at Caerphilly CBC, pointed towards Council being able to select / appoint via a vetting exercise, likely to take the form of a short suitability interview. The Clerk advised Council that to do this, Council should appoint a small selection committee. Council duly and unanimously elected the following committee to undertake this piece of work:

- Cllr. M. L. Thomas (Chair)
- Cllr. C. Cuss
- Cllr. H. Williams

Moved. Clerk to prepare a series of set questions / stencil for capture in readiness for and to support the suitability interviews.

Moved. Clerk to write to both candidates and work with committee members to coordinate a suitable date / time for

50.03 Community Council Summer Scheme 2021

The Clerk provided a verbal outline of potential schemes for the forthcoming summer holidays. Council agreed to set-aside £6,500.00 for the provision of a Scheme to be delivered in July / August 2021.

Moved. Clerk to work with both Caerphilly Adventures and Sport Caerphilly to develop a costed proposal for consideration and agreement at the April or May meeting of Council.

Moved. Clerk to agenda for the April / May meeting of Council.

Moved. Clerk to explore the potential of an application to the Pen Bryn Oer Community Benefit Fund,

Date of Next and Future Meetings / Events

- Community Council Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7pm
- Community Council (AGM) Thursday 13th May 2021 at 7pm
- Community Council Thursday 10th June 2021 at 7pm
- Community Council Thursday 1st July 2021 at 7pm

Meeting Closed at 8.20pm.

_____ **Chairperson**

APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL CHEQUES

Date of Meeting

Thursday 11th March 2021

Minute Number

48

Cheque No.	Nature of Payment / Payee	Amount
003841	Salary / Mr. G. O. Williams	£00,588.98
003842	Meet Me Conference / BT (January 2021)	£00,050.39
003843	Meet Me Conference / BT (February 2021)	£00,052.50
003844	Royal Mail Postage / Mr. G. O. Williams	£00,015.30
003845	Insurance / Zurich Municipal	£00,575.43
		£01,282.60