

MINERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROJECTS MEETING, 3 DECEMBER 2020

Held by Zoom videoconference, commencing 1930 hrs

Present: Cllrs J Edwards (Chair), W Blaze, D Kelly, H Field, J Belton, A Roberts

Apologies for absence: Cllrs W Ollerhead, J Marsh, H Eustace

Clerk: Mr D Hinchliffe

1. Declaration of interest

Although not present, Cllr H Eustace had declared an interest with respect to the status of Berwig quarry by dint of being a resident of property adjacent to the quarry. Cllr Eustace had provided the meeting with observations relating to the condition and recent history of the quarry site which would be useful to the meeting, and the Chair formally noted this contribution with thanks.

2. Renovation of the Gwynfryn play area

Those present participated in a wide-ranging discussion of the current status and future options relating to the status of the Gwynfryn play area, following the recent refusal by WCBC to accept the validity of potential repairs proposed to be carried out by other than the original equipment suppliers.

The following key points and actions were recorded:

- i) The Clerk should devote immediate efforts to relaunching the Minera Community Council website, which could then be used as a vehicle to garner local views as to what form a redesigned Gwynfryn play area should take, and what equipment it should contain (subject to affordability);
- ii) Either within or supplementary to website content, a Survey Monkey survey should be created by the Clerk and put out for community response;
- iii) Following responses from the community, a specification should be prepared by the Clerk and agreed by the full Council before inviting contractors to submit bids for the work to restore the play area;
- iv) The Clerk should instruct WCBC to remove the rocking horse as soon as possible, since WCBC had confirmed ownership of the equipment and had condemned this asset, and
- v) The Clerk should circulate to all Councillors details of potentially available grant funding which had been identified, together with possible sums available from Minera Community Council's own resources. This would be presented alongside budgetary information in the near future so that any potential impact on the precept could be fully understood.

3. Possible development of Berwig quarry as a public amenity

Those present discussed the current condition of the Berwig quarry and previous efforts to improve it as a public space.

The following key points and actions were recorded:

- i) The Chair had made efforts to get the quarry included in an application for LEI funding, with the help of representatives of Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB. It was concluded, however, that as such application opportunities came round every 6 months, it would be preferable to put in a more reasoned and less rushed application for consideration at the next funding round;
- ii) The Chair would accordingly pass to the Clerk the contact details of Simon Mills, who could be approached to obtain a quotation to provide a definitive ecology and diversity report that would allow a viable plan for the quarry area to be compiled, including potential opportunities for grant-funded support;
- iii) The Clerk would also review the papers and plans arising from work done in 2019 by former Cllr J Basford-Barton to establish the precise boundary of the quarry asset, and to review the process and possibility of registering title to the land, and
- iv) A septic tank type structure within the quarry would be examined to assess what if any hazard it might pose to a visitor to the site, noting any immediate works required to make the structure safe.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm