

Minera Community Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th September 2019

Commencing at 7.15 pm at the Tyn Y Capel, Minera

Present: Cllrs: J Edwards (Chair), W Blaze, S Edwards, J Rosier, J Belton, J Savin, J Barton, D Kelly.

Clerk: Mr D Hinchliffe

Apologies: Cllrs: H Field (Vice Chair), J Marsh, D Austin.

Not Present: Cllr G Nelmes

059/19 Declarations of Interest

059.1/19 There were no declarations of interest.

060/19 Ratification of the minutes of the August meeting

060.1/19 The minutes were ratified without amendment as a true record of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 August 2019, and were proposed for adoption by Cllr W Blaze, seconded by Cllr S Edwards.

061/19 Matters Arising

061.1/19 The condition of the Old Road following recent spells of heavy rain was discussed. A new pothole was developing close to Bryn Cliff, in spite of the recent resurfacing of the carriageway. The Chair asked the Clerk to advise WCBC of the issue and advise any feedback received.

061.2/19 Cllr J Barton advised the meeting that plans of the land to be registered in the name of Minera Community Council had been obtained, and passed a bundle of copy plans to the Clerk to complete the registration process. The Chair recorded his thanks and the thanks of Minera Community Council as a whole to Cllr J Barton for the hard work carried out to arrive at this position.

062/19 Minera Community Council Chair's Report

As PCSO Andrew Harris was not yet in attendance, the Chair presented the salient points of his own report, which had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

062.1/19 In response to a resident's verbal complaint, the use of weedkiller on Pen y Palmant Road had been investigated. Enquiries by the Chair and the Clerk had established that the application of weedkiller in question was not the work of WCBC. Cllr D Kelly added that WCBC would counsel individuals against widespread use of weedkiller if the user was known. The Chair added that the complainant intended to write to the Clerk with details of the incident. The Clerk confirmed that to date no letter had been received.

062.2/19 Ongoing road repairs were briefly discussed, following which the Chair asked the Clerk to send an email to Craig Youens of WCBC, copied to Cllr D Kelly, to ascertain when repairs to the Berwig Hill might begin.

062.3/19 Bench repairs had been carried out promptly and to a high standard by Del Fidler, who had been assisted to great effect by Paul Latham. Cllr D Kelly proposed that the Clerk send a letter of thanks to Mr Latham on behalf of Minera Community Council. Cllr S Edwards seconded this proposal.

063/19 Police Report

PCSO Andrew Harris joined the meeting, and was welcomed by the Chair. PCSO Harris took questions from Councillors and confirmed current policing priorities and resources in the locality, with the following items being noted:

063.1/19 Meetings between Councillors and PCSOs would be organised on request, rather than against a specific schedule. Invitations to all full Council meetings would be formally sent via the Clerk.

063.2/19 Police patrols in the locality were still being undertaken, although resources based in Coedpoeth were now just 2 full time and one part time PCSOs.

063.3/19 Investigations into the recent burglary in Church Road were continuing.

063.4/19 WMBC do not now provide funding for requests from individuals and Community Councils for specific speed monitoring exercises. Any such initiatives now need to be self funded. Cllr D Kelly asked the Clerk to contact GoSafe with respect to speed enforcement on the Old Road based on the most recent percentile speeds. Cllr J Belton would also retrieve the Council's speed gun with a view to organising use of it around the ward.

063.5/19 Cllr J Savin resolved to speak with the Head Teacher at Minera School to propose a joint review with North Wales Police of illegal and dangerous parking near the school at pick up and drop off times.

063.6/19 The Chair advised PCSO Harris that he would organise a request for policing of the Minera Remembrance event along the same lines as previous years.

Having been thanked by the Chair and all present for his attendance, PCSO Harris then left the meeting.

064/19 County Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr D Kelly gave a verbal report, noting the following points:

064.1/19 The planning application for the shepherd's hut style visitor accommodation was still pending, awaiting permission.

064.2/19 WCBC were engaging with a resident in Cae Adda to resolve issues arising from disturbance to the existing drain.

064.3/19 Complaints had been received from residents in Gwernygaseg Road relating to the use of the entrance to Tomlinson's Dairy's premises as a smoking area for employees, particularly on the night shift.

064.4/19 Transport for Wales had introduced a wholesale requirement for concessionary travel passes to be renewed involving re-presentation by concessionees of documents to prove entitlement. The system was already under great stress. Cllr J Rosier undertook to research relevant websites for guidance notes suitable for publication by Minera Community Council, and to look at the feasibility of arranging a support service for older residents.

065/19 School Governor's Report

065.1/19 Cllr J Savin briefly reported that the school was now back in session, and that an inspection was expected in the very near future. A Governors' meeting was imminent and relevant matters arising would be reported back to the next Council meeting.

066/19 Correspondence

066.1/19 A summary of correspondence received had been circulated to all Councillors ahead of the meeting. The list was reviewed and the following points noted:

066.2/19 The Clerk was asked to make further enquiries concerning the all-Wales Long Forest initiative as some of the hedgerows in the ward were historic, and might benefit from steps to identify and preserve their status.

066.3/19 The Clerk was also asked to forward to all Councillors details of the FCC Community Liaison Meeting on 23 September 2019 relating to the operations of the Recycling Park on Wrexham Industrial Estate and related Household Recycling Centres.

067/19 Grants and Donations

067.1/19 A request for financial support had been received from the North Wales branch of the Marie Curie Nursing Service. Cllr D Kelly proposed and Cllr J Belton seconded that a donation of £200 be made by Minera Community Council.

068/19 Financial Matters

068.1/19 Approval of the monthly financial statements was proposed by Cllr J Rosier and seconded by Cllr J Barton.

068.2/19 Approval for payment of items received was proposed by Cllr J Belton and seconded by Cllr J Barton. This would include all items for which invoices had been received to date, rather than wait until the next Council Meeting on 16 October to raise cheques.

069/19 Planning Matters

069.1/19 **To consider planning applications received from Chief Planning Officer**

Application number P/2019/0627 – Outline planning application to erect 1 four bedroom detached house with double garage at Gwylfa, Ruthin Rd, Bwlchgwyn – was discussed. The Clerk was asked to respond on behalf of Minera Community Council to record no objections, and an observation that an existing culvert within the proposed site boundary should be protected.

070/19 Approval of application for funding to support the upgrade of street lighting for which Minera Community Council is responsible

070.1/19 The Clerk advised the meeting that the proposal to proceed with the upgrade of street lighting to LEDs had been ratified at the Projects Meeting of 5 September. Accordingly an application for an interest-free loan of £16,046 to finance the project had been drafted. Approval to apply for the loan was proposed by Cllr J Belton and seconded by Cllr S Edwards and the Chair duly signed the application on behalf of Minera Community Council.

070.2/19 A vote of thanks for the hard work put in by Cllr W Blaze in organising the new lighting project was proposed by Cllr J Belton and seconded by Cllr S Edwards.

071/19 Playground project – status of quotations

071.1/19 The Clerk advised the meeting that, following the Projects Meeting of 5 September, the two contractors still in the running for the work had been contacted and updated quotations had been obtained. The Clerk was asked to find out additionally what delivery times were involved. Cllr J Belton proposed and Cllr W Blaze seconded that the Clerk be empowered to send a letter confirming award of the project against the cheaper of the two quotations, provided that delivery times were not significantly at variance with this position. The Clerk would also advise the unsuccessful contractor of the outcome.

Cllr D Kelly additionally advised the Clerk to make the successful bidder aware that application for temporary closure of a right of way would be needed to cover the period of the installation work.

072/19 Councillor Allowances

072.1/19 The Clerk advised the meeting that 3 Councillors had advised a wish to receive the annual allowance of £150, and 2 further Councillors who had not advised their preferences would be deemed to wish to receive the allowance, as per the Welsh Government guidance received. The Clerk would therefore begin the process of obtaining the necessary details to facilitate payment by contacting the 5 Councillors individually.

Meeting adjourned 2110 hrs.

