

**Minera Community Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**Commencing at 7.15 pm at the Tyn Y Capel, Minera**

**Present:** Cllrs: J Edwards (Chair), H Field (Vice-Chair), W Blaze, J Rosier, D Kelly, J Savin, J Belton, J Marsh, S Edwards, D Austin

Clerk: Mr D Hinchliffe

**Apologies:** Cllr J Barton

**119/19            Declarations of interest**

**119.1/19**        There were no declarations of interest.

**120/19            Ratification of the minutes of the December meeting**

**120.1/19**        The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15 January 2020 were confirmed as a true record, and were proposed for adoption by Cllr H Field, seconded by Cllr W Blaze.

**121/19            Matters arising**

**121.1/19**        The Clerk had received correspondence from WCBC to confirm that the flooding condition on the Old Road near Cae Haidd was being investigated with a view to an urgent resolution.

**121.2/19**        The Chair advised the meeting that warning notices against dog fouling for Minera playground had been provided free of charge by WCBC.

**121.3/19**        Cllr D Kelly advised the meeting that, due to current pressure on resources caused by continuing severe weather, gully emptying work would be prioritised in favour of flood-risk areas across the County Borough.

**121.4/19**        The Clerk had received confirmation from WCBC that the unfilled casual vacancy could be re-publicised. Prior to doing so he would check to ensure that no new notice to invite interested residents to call an election was required.

**121.5/19**        Following a query raised by a resident, it was confirmed that a footpath which had been omitted from the definitive map could only be added to the map by going through the established, albeit potentially very lengthy, due process with WCBC. Minera Community Council was unable to take advantage of any alternative approach.

**122/19            Police report**

**122.1/19**        No report had been received in the current month from North Wales Police and no representative was present.

## **123/19 Minera Community Council Chair's report**

The Chair's report already having been circulated, he highlighted the following points:

**123.1/19** The bus shelter floor had been re-concreted, hopefully countering recent issues with surface water.

**123.2/19** A safety certification of the new playground equipment was imminent, following which WCBC would be advised and the area included in the annual playground inspection protocol.

**123.3/19** As the availability of individual concrete sleeves on certain street lights was proving to be the main hold-up in completing the project to change out all lights to LED units, Cllr W Blaze would research the possibility of getting a batch of sleeves commissioned, any surplus from which could be held over for future needs. The Clerk would send SSE an updated inventory of completed units in the meantime.

**123.4/19** Following a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr J Belton and seconded by Cllr J Marsh that the playground plaque should not quote individual names, but should include the council's website address.

**123.5/19** A resident had asked for dog waste bins and dog fouling warnings to be installed in Ffordd yr Eisteddfod as this area was becoming a particular problem spot for the issue.

## **124/19 County Borough Councillor's report**

Cllr D Kelly briefly commented:

**124.1/19** The budget proposal for WCBC would see an increase in Council Tax close to 7%. £1m was being dedicated to pothole repairs, but plans for three-weekly bin collections had been shelved.

**124.2/19** Plant and equipment had been and continued to be removed from the former premises of Tomlinson's Dairy. A return to former use was very unlikely.

**124.3/19** A planning appeal had been received concerning the development at Gwylfa on the Ruthin Road.

## **125/19 School Governor's report**

Cllr J Savin gave a verbal summary:

**125.1/19** The Estyn review had still not commenced. GWER had, however, recently inspected the school, and had been very impressed by a visible improvement in all areas of performance.

**125.2/19** Contrary to some rumours circulating in the community, the school Governors were not opposed to ‘wrap around care’ but were, on the contrary, working hard to ensure that workable arrangements could be put in place by September.

### **126/19 Correspondence**

A summary of correspondence since the previous meeting had been circulated to all Councillors. The following items were discussed:

**126.1/19** The demise of the OWL community watch charity was regrettable, with recent funding appeals failing to secure future operations. The decision to close had seemed sudden nevertheless, and the Clerk would raise the issue at the forthcoming regional SLCC meeting.

**126.2/19** The Clerk would make further enquiries regarding the Local Places for Nature scheme sponsored by Keep Wales Tidy and WCBC as it looked like an ideal candidate for the school environmental project for which funds had been precepted in 2020/21.

### **127/19 Grants and donations**

**127.1/19** A request for a donation had been received from Wales Air Ambulance. It was decided to hold this request over until April when the new year’s budget was available for consideration.

**127.2/19** In response to questions raised the Clerk would enquire within the local SLCC branch as to the policies applied by other Community Councils with respect to donations to other than registered charities, and to recipients not operating from the area of jurisdiction of a particular Community Council.

### **128/19 Financial matters**

**128.1/19** The financial report was proposed for approval by Cllr J Savin, seconded by Cllr J Belton. The schedule of payments for the month, listed below, was proposed for approval by Cllr J Belton, seconded by Cllr H Field.

Items previously approved and payable

D Hinchliffe January expenses	143.96
WCBC playground inspections 6m to 31/3/20	648.78
D Hinchliffe tax refunds December/January	260.60
Cllr J Savin	120.00
HMRC - tax on Cllr J Savin/Cllr W Blaze allowances	60.00
Coedpoeth Befrienders	200.00
Eisteddfod yr Urdd	100.00
Eisteddfod Powys Rhos	100.00

Items approved for payment

Clerk salary, February	314.98
------------------------	--------

Clerk Home Working Allowance/phone	28.50
D Hinchliffe expenses	20.50
SSE January account	291.58
Welsh Government - audit fee 2019/20	351.75
Play and Leisure - playground works	30,104.73
Play and Leisure - additional mats	64.80
Cllr W Blaze - Councillor allowance	120.00
One Voice Wales membership 2020/21	236.00
Alan Dymond - safety certification of new play area	210.00
Chair's purse - donation for Remembrance Day wreaths	100.00
WCBC - installation of streetlight column for solar light	320.40

**128.3/19** A proposal to spend a total of £899 to move the Minera Community Council website to the management of a third party provider who could ensure compliance with all applicable legislation had been provisionally agreed at the Projects Meeting on 6 February. This proposal was now formally proposed by Cllr H Field and seconded by Cllr J Savin.

**129/19 Planning matters – to consider items received from Chief Planning Officer**

**129.1/19** With the exception of an appeal against P/0627/2019 relating to Gwylfa, Ruthin Road, Bwlchgwyn (noted under 124.3/19 above) the only planning correspondence received in the month related to the creation of a Tree Preservation Order at Stryt y Scweiar, Bersham.

**130/19 Extension of bus services within the Minera ward**

**130.1/19** Representations about restoring bus services to Gwynfryn had been reaching WCBC via Simon Baynes MP. The Welsh Government would be needed to provide funds to secure any service extensions. The Clerk would therefore liaise with Cllr D Kelly to enable a letter containing Minera Community Council's request for extending bus services within the ward to be sent to the appropriate parties.

**131/19 Big Park project**

**131.1/19** The Chair encouraged all present to drop into Plas Pentwyn on 20 February to register their input to this initiative, aimed at securing the large playing field and park in Coedpoeth for community use.

**131.2/19** Cllr H Field additionally proposed that the Clerk work with Cllr D Kelly to attempt to secure 'field in trust' status for the Minera football field and the Gwynfryn play area. This was seconded by Cllr J Marsh.

**132 Ratification of SLA for play areas**

**132.1/19** The Clerk tabled the Service Level Agreement received from WCBC, and which was required to be returned by 1 March 2020. The service provision was unchanged

from the prior year and had a proposed cost of £1,102 and was covered by the sums precepted for playgrounds and maintenance within the budget for 2020/21. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr H Field and seconded by Cllr D Austin, whereupon the SLA was signed by the Chair.

Meeting adjourned 2115 hrs.