

## **MINERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF PROJECTS MEETING, 5 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**Held at the Tyn y Capel, Minera, commencing 1915 hrs**

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

**Apologies for absence: Cllrs J Barton, D Kelly, J Rosier**

**Not present: Cllr G Nelmes**

**Clerk: Mr D Hinchliffe**

#### **1. Streetlighting Contract – ratification of contract, including purpose and term of loan agreement**

Cllr W Blaze gave a summary of the current position of the project to change out the Minera Community Council streetlight inventory with new LED units. Proposed contract documents from MEGA and finance documents from Salix had been circulated prior to the meeting, and were perused by those Councillors present, noting the following points:

- Forms would need to be signed and returned to Salix to secure the interest free loan from Welsh Government. Money would be expected to be available after around two weeks.
- The project was for capital outlay, and did not cover for maintenance. Any maintenance needs discovered during the progression of the changeover could be dealt with using the precept funding set aside for that purpose.

Cllr J Marsh asked whether Minera Community Council could potentially opt to borrow less money and fund the project partly from reserves, since there were funds in hand which could be so applied.

Cllr J Belton replied that, as the loan was interest free and should be repayable from savings created from reduced electricity consumption, the project should be pursued to completion with loan finance, prioritising the use of funds already in hand to bring all ageing and dilapidated lamp standards into a sound condition. Outcomes could then be tested against experience and decisions relating to the timing of loan repayments taken with the benefit of experience. The meeting concurred with this approach.

It was agreed that, in accordance with the terms of the proposed contract, Councillor Wyn Blaze should be nominated Project Manager, and the Clerk be nominated the Project Co-ordinator.

Cllr W Blaze advised those present that he would arrange a meeting with MEGA on 18 or 19 September for a final review of the contract, and to agree maintenance arrangements.

Cllr W Blaze would also meet the Clerk prior to the September Council meeting to ensure that the finance documents were complete and correct, and could be placed before Minera Community Council for approval and signature at the September Council meeting.

#### **2. Playground project – status of previous quotations received and grant availability. Confirmation of project objectives and commencement date**

The Clerk updated the meeting with the current status of the playground project.

Three quotations had been received in late 2018, which would be summarised for presentation to the next Council meeting. Insurance proceeds were held as a dedicated fund for use in restoring the facilities in Minera, and had been shown as such each month in the financial statements presented for approval.

Grant availability had been raised with AVOW, whose grant advisor had indicated that some funding could be found, and that AVOW would be happy to work with Minera Community Council to achieve a positive outcome.

It was the view of those present that the project to restore the Minera playground should proceed against a confirmed quotation and grant funding separately pursued to ascertain what could be sourced to improve the Gwynfryn playground.

The Clerk would therefore seek confirmation that quotations in hand were still firm prior to the next Council meeting, so that a decision as to which supplier to engage could be then be taken.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.55pm