

**Minera Community Council Meeting held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

**Commencing at 7.15 pm and conducted by Zoom videoconference**

**Present:** Cllrs H Field (as Chair), N Jones, J Belton, A Fisher, A Roberts

Clerk: Mr D Hinchliffe

**Apologies:** Cllrs J Marsh, W Ollerhead, D Kelly, T Grundy, G Dillon

**166/21            Declarations of interest**

**166/21.1**        There were no declarations of interest.

**167/21            To elect a Chair who shall preside until the next Annual Meeting of the Council**

**167.1/21**        Noting that this item of business had been occasioned by the sad passing of Cllr John Edwards since the date of the previous Council meeting, Cllr H Field indicated a willingness to be appointed Chair until the next Annual Meeting, scheduled for 18 May 2022.

**167.2/21**        Cllr J Belton proposed and Cllr A Fisher seconded that Cllr H Field be duly appointed Chair of the Council for the period specified, and all present signified their assent.

**168/21            Ratification of the minutes of the previous meeting**

**168.1/21**        The minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2022 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr N Jones and seconded by Cllr A Fisher.

**169/21            Matters arising**

**169.1/21**        The Clerk advised the meeting that installation of the Gwynfryn defibrillator cabinet had been completed on 20 April. Further progress on installing cabinets and defibrillators would be reported to and discussed at Projects Meetings.

**169.2/21**        The Clerk had sent a letter to WCBC seeking consideration for the two play areas as 'Fields in Trust.' Any reply received would be shared with Councillors.

**169.3/21**        Cllr J Belton advised the meeting that Go Safe had positioned a speed camera van on the Old Road in response to residents' requests, and the van was expected to make return visits. Speed checks using the speed gun would be organised to complement this.

**169.4/21**        The Clerk advised the meeting that Mega were ready to deploy streetlight numbering stickers. Cllr J Belton undertook to organise the required equipment and would advise the Clerk when it would be available. Further progress would be noted at Projects Meetings.

**169.5/21** Cllr N Jones advised the meeting that waymarking discs had been sourced from WCBC Rights of Way team, and were being affixed to direction posts where needed.

**169.6/21** The Clerk had contacted the Head Teacher at the School to request bank details so as to be able to pay over donations awarded by Minera Community Council. Details were awaited.

**169.7/21** The Clerk advised the meeting that he had not yet established the current parameters for the granting of felling licences, and would seek to provide this to Councillors in time for the next meeting.

**170/21 Police report**

**170.1/21** The Clerk advised Councillors that he had met with PCSO Holly Jones, and had sent a summary of incidents in the past month in Minera which she had provided to him.

**170.2/21** The Clerk and PCSO Jones had also discussed the ongoing issues at Minera Hall. North Wales Police would keep a watching brief on the site, and had met with a prospective new tenant intending to use the grounds. Following a short discussion, the Clerk undertook to maintain liaison with the owners of the building on behalf of Minera Community Council.

**170.2/21** The Clerk had received an introductory email from the new Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, who was keen to attend a future meeting. The clerk would advise him of future meeting dates and arrange for attendance accordingly.

**171/21 Footpath issues**

**171.1/21** Damage reported to the Clerk by the NWWT warden was discussed. This concerned deliberate cutting of fencing and removal of waymarks around the Boncyn/Quarry area, and was similar to damage inspected near Gwynfryn in the autumn of 2021. Cllr N Jones undertook to maintain liaison with NWWT on the issue – which had also been notified to North Wales Police by the Clerk – to try and identify a pattern of interference that might be disrupted.

**171.2/21** Fencing had once again been trampled down close to the White Road. This was also a persistent issue in spite of the existence of adjacent footpaths.

**172/21 Platinum Jubilee**

**172.1/21** The Clerk updated the meeting on developments since the previous Projects Meeting. Bunting would be sourced in line with the quantities agreed to be purchased. Cllr J Belton noted that decorative plaques could be potentially attached to lamp standards at the same time as the numbering of the standards was undertaken.

**172.2/21** The clerk would circulate to Councillors an email he had just received from Groundwork North Wales who were arranging an early Jubilee event at the end of May at Minera Lead Mines, which would include a celebration of Minera's industrial past.

**173/21 Minera Community Council Chair's report**

As the position of Chair had been in abeyance there was no report. This item of business was therefore deferred.

**174/21 County Borough Councillor's report**

In Cllr D Kelly's absence, this item of business was deferred.

**175/21 School Governor's report**

In Cllr W Ollerhead's absence, this item of business was deferred.

**176/21 Correspondence – summary of items received**

The Clerk had circulated summaries of correspondence throughout the month. All notable items of correspondence were covered by the business of the meeting.

**177/21 Grants and donations**

No new requests for donations had been received since the previous Council meeting.

**178/21 Financial matters**

**178.1/21** The Clerk briefly explained the financial activities for the period, and the details of payments proposed to be made. The financial statement for the period was proposed for acceptance by Cllr J Belton and seconded by Cllr N Jones. The schedule of payments, shown below, was proposed for approval by Cllr A Fisher and seconded by Cllr A Roberts.

Clerk Salary, April		393.89	
Clerk Home Working Allowance		20.00	
SSE March account		358.84	
Agent salary, March		771.12	
Clerk expenses, March		37.23	
Clerk overtime, March		67.50	
HSBC bank charges		5.00	
Flowers to Mrs P Edwards and family		20.75	
HMRC, NHI on Agent salary		4.71	
AVOW membership 22/23		15.00	
Bunting for Platinum Jubilee		504.06	
<b>Total to approve</b>			<b>2,198.10</b>

**178.2/21** The Clerk had initiated a request to create a new bank mandate, following the deaths of two signatories in the previous month. HSBC now required Minera Community Council to minute an instruction to complete this process. Cllr J Belton proposed and Cllr A Roberts seconded that the Clerk be so authorised to work with HSBC to create a new bank mandate. All Councillors present signified their assent.

**178.3/21** The Clerk had asked all Councillors to consider allowing him to apply for a debit card in the name of Minera Community Council, for use whenever purchases needed to

be made on behalf of the Council of more than nominal value, and where payment was required with order. At present such payments were discharged via the Clerk's own resources and recovered through expenses. Cllr J Belton proposed and Cllr N Jones seconded that the Clerk should be so authorised to proceed. The Clerk in turn would duly amend the Financial Regulations to specify custody and use arrangements for the card once acquired.

### **179/21            Local elections**

**179.1/21**        The Clerk noted that there would be no contested election for seats on Minera Community Council, 7 candidates having been registered for the 12 seats available.

**179.2/21**        The Clerk also advised Councillors that he had consulted the SLCC Legal Counsel for Wales, from whom he had been given to understand that a process of co-option to fill some or all of the vacant seats could be undertaken at the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the Council, if due notice calling for interested parties to contact the Clerk was given alongside notice of the Annual Meeting itself. He would contact WCBC Electoral Services to ensure any further points of compliance were observed.

Cllr J Belton proposed and Cllr N Jones seconded that the Clerk be duly authorised to issue any and all appropriate notices once consent had been secured.

**179.3/21**        The Chair requested additionally that all Councillors should remind anyone known to them who may be interested in serving as a Community Councillor that seats were currently vacant.

**179.4.21**        The Chair noted that Cllr A Fisher had previously given notice that she would not stand for re-election, and duly thanked Cllr Fisher for her service over the preceding year. This was endorsed by all present in a formal vote of thanks.

Susanne Allcroft now joined the meeting.

### **180/21            Community Agent's report**

**180.1/21**        Susanne had attended a meeting of Coedpoeth CC to speak about Dementia Friends. The presentation was well received, with all Councillors present expressing a wish to undertake further training. Businesses in Coedpoeth were also keen to support the initiative. The Chair asked the Clerk to consider including this training in the Training Plan which would need to be compiled for issue in the autumn.

**180.2/21**        The presentation to Coedpoeth CC had been born out of good collaboration with the Coedpoeth Agent. Further collaboration was being applied to organise a repeat day out to Llandudno, with a date to be arranged.

**180.3/21**        Following attendance at an online meeting to discuss the current energy cost crisis with representatives of Welsh and UK Government, Susanne intended to write to Simon Baynes MP to seek the support of a parliamentary case worker to provide up to date details of any schemes or initiatives to alleviate the current problems on a timely basis.

Susanne Allcroft now left the meeting.

**181/21            Planning matters – to consider items received from Chief Planning Officer**

**181.1/21**        Papers had been received in support of planning application planning application P/2022/0315 single storey side and rear extensions, Bryn Hyfryd, Ffordd Uchaf, Gwynfryn, and for planning application P/2022/0359, retention of external shelter, Tyny Capel, Church Road, Minera. No observations or objections were noted with reference to either application.

Meeting adjourned 2045 hrs.