

May 2023

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Gilfach Goch Community Council held on Wednesday 10 May 2023 at the Community Council Office.

Cofnodion cyfarfod misol. Cynhelir Mercher 10 Mai 2023.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS: A. WARREN L.PRICE R.PRICE A.DRAPER J.REES

IN ATTENDANCE

THE CLERK DAWN WALTERS

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 J. ABBOTT D.ATHWAL.

2. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

2.1 No declarations were received.

3. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS TO THE COUNCIL – TO RECEIVE ANY REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR

3.1 No representations were received.

4. STAFF SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

4.1 Clerk & RFO 20 hours a week. Annual Salary Point 21 NJC Pay Scale £28900 Pro Rata £15622 per annum.

4.2 Outdoor Assets Caretaker 12 hours a week. National Living Wage hourly rate £10.42.

4.3 Groundsperson 20 hrs a week. Annual salary Point 12 NJC Pay Scale £24496 Pro Rata £13241 per annum.

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4.4 The clerk expressed her concerns that salaries might not get paid if she was absent from work for any reason. It was RESOLVED: that the councillors would ensure that payments would be made.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 The minutes of the previous monthly meeting were then agreed as a true record.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

6.1 Minute 118.3 The photographic evidence sent to the insurance company is not suffice and the matter is now with assessors / solicitors.

6.2 Minute 118.4 Will be discussed in reports.

6.3 Minute 118.5 Two new dog bins have been positioned in High Street.

6.4 Minute 123.1 Borough Councillor Roberts has confirmed that the benches can be placed at the duck pond area.

7. ALLOTMENT UPDATE

7.1 Three quotes have been received regarding the removal of debris and it was RESOLVED: that the work be awarded to Vale and Valley Developments Ltd re their quotation number QU-0170 for the sum of £3600 including vat because it was the best value for money and the willingness of the company to oblige.

7.2 The woodchip paths have been filled (some will be filled after completion of wheelchair path). The disabled access path framework has been set in place. This has involved a lot of landscaping due to the nature of the allotments being on a hill and the need for the path to be within Wheelchair guidelines for gradients. The beehive location has been cleared and ready for bees to be deployed. A skip has been put in place for plot holders to dispose of allotment waste. Weeds and branches protruding through the fence on to the side verge of Holly Street have been cut back.

7.3 The groundsperson will be attending a course with Forest Park and Garden Treforest on 25 May – City and Guilds NPTC Award for safe use of brush cutters and trimmers at a cost of £175.

8. OFFICE RENOVATIONS

8.1 No further information has been received regarding the White Hut.

8.2 The dram refurbishment is complete, and the slate removed.

9. EVENTS

9.1 It was RESOLVED: that the annual forestry run / fun day will be held on Wednesday 9 August. The clerk will make enquiries regarding the use of the sports hall at Abercerdin school should weather conditions be poor.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 A planning application was read and noted for the following

10.1a 3 Beech Street CF39 8UD rear infill extension.

10.2 Borough Councillor Roberts requested that £350 be made to the day centre in High Street from the Windfarm budget towards the cost of the coronation celebrations. It was RESOLVED: that the payment be made.

10.3 The police have requested that the GGCA have more cctv cameras positioned on their building due to incidents in the public car park and Hendreforgan school. Borough Councillor Roberts has also been made aware of the situation and request. It was RESOLVED: that the community council purchase the necessary equipment for positioning at the GGCA at a cost of £787.50 from the Windfarm budget.

11. REPORTS / COMPLAINTS

11.1 The clerk reported on the meeting regarding the project for a new park at the top end of the valley. The area is complicated as it involves various services that will need to be contacted. This will be done by Lisa Austin and Adam Kettley of RCT Parks Department. The clerk also reported that there will be a new design for the skateboard park at Hendreforgan.

11.2 The clerk reported that she had made a site visit with Steven Jones regarding the positioning of the benches at the duck pond and community orchard. It was RESOLVED: that two be positioned at the duck pond with an information board of the wildlife that visit the area. Councillor Draper will work with the local biodiversity group for this information. Hedgehog boxes and bug hotels can also be placed there. Signage will be positioned bilingually encouraging the public to take their litter home. One bench will be positioned in the community orchard. It was RESOLVED: that the work go ahead as quoted by Steven Jones.

11.3 RCT highways have sent a letter to Mr & Mrs Prosser of Carmel House High Street regarding the overgrowth.

11.4 The clerk reported that Gary Davies' nomination is complete and has been sent.

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11.5 The clerk reported that the application for the UK Shared Prosperity Funding regarding the allotment and graffiti project is complete and has been sent.

11.6 The table of remuneration payments for the financial year 2023/24 has been done and has been published on the website and noticeboard and submitted electronically to the IRP.

11.7 After a lengthy and in-depth discussion relating to Mr J Morgan's Internal Audit Report Document all observations and recommendations in the report were scrutinized and will be adhered to.

11.8 Councillor J Rees reported on the rubbish being left in the bus stop on Cambrian Avenue near the boxing club. It was RESOLVED: that the clerk make enquiries.

11.9 Councillor L Price requested that the clerk make enquiries regarding the rules and regulations of burning waste within RCT.

11.10 Councillor A Draper gave an update on the community orchard.

11.11 Councillor J Rees gave an update on the hydropower group.

12. FINANCIAL REPORT

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 12.1 | Bank balance as of 30.04.23 | | £146591.34 |
| 12.2 | Invoices / Receipts | | |
| 12.2a | Tesco | Easter Chocs Food Bank | £99.92 |
| 12.2b | Cartridgesave | Ink cartridges | £77.80 |
| 12.2c | Amazon | Paper | £41.39 |
| 12.2d | One Voice Wales | Membership | £595 |
| 12.2e | Welsh Water | | £52.60 |
| 12.2f | Travis Perkins | Allotment | £347 |
| 12.2g | S Jones | Dram | £748.56 |
| 12.2h | Tee2Sugars | Graffiti Project | £2000 |
| 12.2i | Forest P & Garden | Training course R Scully | £210 |

13. ACCOUNTS

| | | | |
|------|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| 13.1 | Cheques authorised | | |
| | 002692 | Dawn Walters | £1066.52 |
| | 002693 | Huw Jones | £400.16 |
| | 002694 | Russell Scully | £1086.28 |

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13.2 Bank transactions for April

April Expenditure

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Dawn Walters | £1066.52 | Cheque 002692 |
| Huw Jones | £400.16 | Cheque 002693 |
| Russell Scully | £1086.28 | Cheque 002694 |
| Zoom | £15.59 | |
| HMRC | £476.31 | |
| BT | £41.02 | |
| RCT Council Tax | £115.25 | |
| Welsh Water | 52.60 | |
| Tesco | £99.92 | |
| One Voice Wales | £595 | |
| Gilfach Goch Ladies Bowls | £1000 | |
| Gilfach Goch Senior Citizens | £1000 | |
| Gilfach Goch Day Centre | £500 | c/o Kim Wyllis |
| V Burke | £150 | |
| N Rees | £150 | |
| K Thomas | £150 | |
| D Swain | £150 | |
| J Niblett | £150 | |
| Cartridgesave | £77.80 | |
| Amazon | £41.39 | |
| Travis Perkins | £347 | |
| Forest Park & Garden | £210 | |
| Thomas Llewellyn (Tee2Sugars) | £2000 | |
| S Jones | £748.56 | |

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April Income

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Garages | £10 |
| HMRC (Vat Reclaim) | £6090.87 |
| RCT Precept 1 | £56827 |

13.3 Money already earmarked

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| New Play Area | £40000 |
| Bus Shelters | £2000 |
| Events | £18000 |
| Windfarm | £2567 |
| S137 Grants | £8000 |
| Allotment | £20711 |
| Office Refurbishment | £60000 |
| Training | £4825 |
| TOTAL | £156103 |

Commitments

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Salaries (including oncosts) | £38471 |
| Unpresented Cheques | £0 |
| TOTAL | £38471 |

Income not yet received

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Windfarm | £5000 |
| Precept | £113654 |
| Allotment & Ground Rent | £1120 |
| TOTAL | £119774 |

13.4 Bank Reconciliation

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Balance @ 30.04.2023 | £146591.34 |
| Earmarked + Commitments | £-194574 |
| Income not yet received | £+119774 |
| BAL: | £71791.34 |

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14.1 The meeting was then brought to a close and the date set for the next meeting which will take place on Tuesday 6 June 2023 at 6.30pm at the Council Office.