**MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**HELD REMOTELY ON MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**ON THURSDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.30PM**

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|  | **PRESENT**: | |
|  | **Community Councillor** | **Community Councillor** |
|  | Paxton Hood-Williams [PHW]  Belinda Hansford [BH]  Kevin White [KW] | Warren Smart [WS]  Andrew Rogers [AR]  Janet Taylor [JT] |
|  | **Clerk:** Ian Donaldson [ID] |  |
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**Meeting commenced 7.30pm Community Councillor Paxton Hood-Williams (Chairman of the Community Council) presiding.**

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| **ITEM** | **HEADING** | **ACTION BY** |
| 1664  1665  1666  1667  1668  1668  1669  1670  1671  1672  1673  1674  1675  1676 | **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**  The Chairman welcomed everyone to the council meeting and thanked them for taking part.  **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  Apologies were received from Cllr Jones.  **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL PREJUDICIAL INTEREST**  There were declarations of interest from Cllr Hood-Williams, with regard to all C&CS matters.  **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**  The minutes of the meeting held on 21st January had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Hansford proposed and Cllr Smart seconded the motion that they be approved. This was carried with Cllrs White and Taylor abstaining as they were not present at the January meeting.  **MATTERS ARISING**  [1625] The clerk reported that he had still not received this grant. The chair said he had spoken again with the city council officers to ensure that the approved grant payment can be paid. He said had put forward Cllr Rogers proposal and form of words to assist the city council.  [1642] Councillors reported that problems accessing the web-site were still there and Cllr White said he would re-visit the idea of certification. He would also remove the clerk’s credit card details from the web-host company.  [1646] The chairman commended Cllr Hansford on the latest edition of Cryws News and this was echoed by all present. Cllr Smart was thanked for carrying out the risk assessment to allow door to door deliveries.  [1646] Cllr Smart said that he had not yet been able to contact Commercial Marquees regarding the deposit for the cancelled 2020 event.  **CLERK’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE**  **1. External Audit Process –** Schedule of Expectations and Engagement Letter sent to Lyn Llewellyn for the 2020/21 audit.  *No acknowledgement as yet.*  **2. Playground Project –** Final Safety Inspection Report received and circulated to council and TNL Community Fund who have released the final 5% of the grant. It is hoped to bring the zipwire into use at the end of w/c 15th February.  *The final 5% has been received from the National Lottery.*  **3. Swansea City Council - Community Budget Capital Grant** – New grant application for £20,980 (drainage work and extra play items & surfacing) prepared and submitted to Swansea Council on 18/10/20. Detailed claim with invoices submitted 18/12/20 to Swansea Council.  Informed by email from SCC that the claim has been accepted and processed.  *No progress as yet but Cllr Hood-Williams still discussing with SCC.*  **4. Community Centre Re-Opening –** being kept under regular review.  **5. Places for Nature - Butterfly Garden Project –** Woodland Trust – further tree planting to be considered for Banc area. Unfortunately, the scheme has been suspended until later in the year. Council agreed to re-apply in the autumn.  **6. Highways search regarding land around the Community Centre –** this has revealed that the land outside the fence lines is actually owned by SCC. Meeting held 7/12/20 between Mr Geoff Bacon of SCC Estates. Once again, no progress reported.  **7. New Banc Paths –** The first section from the playground gate to the zipwire is almost complete just needing more stone dust and compaction. B-Line hope to carry this out soon. The second section up to the Joiners Rd benches will be done in the Spring when the weather improves.  **8. Country Stores Community Council Noticeboard –** The board itself requires replacing, the seals have perished and the frame is warping. The present board is fixed to the building along a mock tudor timber which has rotted away and needs replacing as well. This timber also holds several cables which will need to be removed and relocated. The clerk recommended that council speaks with the property owners to discuss. The chairman agreed to speak to the property owners. A replacement man made timber board 3 panels will cost around £1800**.**  **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**  The chairman stated that he wassaddened to receive the letter of resignation from Cllr Belinda Hansford. He thanked her on behalf of the council, and indeed the whole village, for all her hard work since she joined the council in September 2012. He remarked that her legacy would be there for all to see in the new playground, Crwys News, the Hogroast on the Banc and her Mutual Aid work. He, the clerk and all councillors wished her well in her future interests.  In response she stated that she had enjoyed her spell on the community council and wished the council well. She said that she would be able help, if asked, on any future projects.  The council then discussed who would take over the tasks that Cllr Hansford had been doing. The clerk said that the website updating could be carried out by the clerk. The chairman asked when the next newsletter was due out and was informed June, but that the work for it would have to start in early May. Cllr Hansford suggested that it could be incorporated into the duties of the new clerk. She also said that Kingsbridge Print could do a lot of the compilation work that she does now. Cllr Smart asked if she had a list of key contacts and Cllr Hansford agreed to prepare this.  **FINANCIAL REPORT/ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**  The clerk presented the February accounts for payment. It was proposed by Cllr Smart that these be accepted. Cllr Rogers seconded this and the motion was carried unanimously. The approved accounts are appended to these minutes.  **CAPITAL PROJECTS**  The clerk updated the meeting on the progress of the zipwire and the new stonedust footpaths. He said that the zipwire would be available for use once the groundwater levels in the area had dropped. It may be necessary to create a stone hardstanding area around the launch ramp. To be reviewed when phase 2 of the pathway up to Joiners Rd starts.  Cllr White said it might be necessary to create a stone dust track under the zipwire runway if it become too muddy. However, the clerk remarked that this might not be advisable from a safety view.  The clerk mentioned that the bearings on the Wicksteed roundabout were on order with Wicksteed and should be fitted in March.  The chairman raised the issue of an official opening for the playground. Cllr Hansford explained that this was quite a way off yet. She had explained this to the TNL Community Fund and they were understanding.  It was agreed that the situation with Covid-19 data & restrictions would determine a date.  There was a discussion outlining future potential capital projects. It was agreed that the following should be considered;  Community Centre – exterior re-vamp  Benches – replace or refurbish (quotations to be obtained for these options)  Outdoor Gym Equipment around the village  Climate Emergency Action– Community Centre (EPC Survey to be commissioned)  **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**  Cllr Hood-Williams left the vitual meeting at this point and Cllr Smart took the chair. The following application was discussed and it was agreed that there were no issues or concerns. 2021/0312/FUL 27, Gowerton Rd.  Cllr Hood-Williams re-joined the meeting and resumed the chair.  **CITY COUNCIL MATTERS**  Cllr Smart said that the dog waste bins were regularly overflowing and that the one near the old BT Phone box on Joiner’s Rd was broken. Cllr Hood-Williams would speak with SCC about these issues. The clerk reminded councillors that dog owners could use the general litter bins if they wished and it would be a good idea to put this on the Facebook page to help inform residents.  Cllr Jones who was not present at the meeting had raised a concern regarding the deteriorating state of the roads around the locality. The chairman agreed to raise with SCC.  Cllr Hansford was concerned that if residents queried why the hanging baskets were no longer placed on the lampposts that Councillors were clear what response they would give.  The message that the lampposts were not safe would not be a good one.  It was emphasized that it was a question of being safe to hold the weight of the baskets not that the posts are likely to fall down any time soon.  Councillors discussed whether the Council should contact City and County about replacements/repairs and the chairman said he had not seen the survey report but would ask for it to be provided by contacting Jonathan Hurley who had carried out the survey.  Cllr Hansford said that it needed to provided to TCCC so that possible questions from residents could be answered with clarity.  Cllr Hansford also raised the issue of blocked drains around the village. She said that on a recent walk around the triangle she had noted 40 drains blocked and not working properly.   She had submitted these in a report to City and County.  The chairman also agreed to speak with the relevant SCC department. Cllr White asked Cllr Hansford if she would forward the survey to him for his information.  **FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**  Cllr Smart said that the condition of LH58, the footpath from Dukefield to  Upper Killay & Dunvant, had deteriorated into a mud bath this winter. He agreed that more people were using it, including cyclists, and that the weather had been awful recently. The chairman said that a City Council Countryside Access Officer and NRW representatives had been out to look at LH58 to determine what the impact on biodiversity in the area would be, if additional maintenance was carried out. which would enable it to connect to Ddol road, in Dunvant. This would then provide access to the Clyne Valley Way.  A general discussion  about Activ Travel proposals in Swansea then took place. Cllrs White and Taylor asked about Activ Travel and asked the chairman if a map of potential routes was available. He agreed to look into this.  Cllr White asked who in SCC could be petitioned about this route and the chairman said this was Cllr Mark Thomas (the City Councillor for Penclawdd).  **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  Scheduled for 18th March 2021 @ 7.30pm on MS Teams | PHW  KW  KW  WS  ID  PHW  ALL  ID  PHW  ID  PHW  ID  ID  BH  ID  ID  ID  PHW  BH  PHW  PHW  PHW  BH  PHW |