**Ponthir Community Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

**Held on 13th May 2024**

Ponthir Village Hall

@ 7pm

**Present:**  Cllr I Danaher (Chair), Cllr P Buffery, Cllr R Morgan, Cllr M Leighton, Cllr L Ryan-Scales and Cllr P Matthews,

**Also present: Clerk to the Council -** Mrs C Danaher

1. **Apologies:** None. Cllr A Lang not in attendance.
2. **Declarations of Interest:**  None.
3. **To consider matters raised by members of the public.** None
4. **To approve the minutes of the previous meeting** – 15th April 2024.

Proposed – Cllr Leighton

Seconded – Cllr Morgan

Minutes were signed and dated by Chair as an accurate record of the meeting.

1. **Matters arising.**

**Email/ Photo** Cllr Lang to complete by the next meeting. **Action-** Cllr Lang to provide new email address and photograph.

**Defib Llanfrechfa –** Defib is now registered on the national website, and has a Guardian in Lower Llanfrechfa

**Candwr Lane Trees –** Response received from TCBC,who confirm that the matter is being investigated as a breach of planning control involving unauthorised works to trees protected by TPO’s. The owners have been contacted, with an investigation ongoing.

**Planters –** Cllr Matthews suggested that planters are topped up prior to planting with compost. Council agreed to

purchase suitable stain to freshen up the wooden planters. **Action: -** Clerk to purchase compost, stain, and brushes, and

to call nursery to confirm date for delivery.

Planters were allocated to each Councillor to plant: -

Cllr Matthews – Candwr bus stop and Ponthir House.

Cllr Morgan – Lamb Lane and School Close.

Cllr Ryan- Scales – Hafod Road bus stop.

Cllr Danaher – Top of Station Road.

Cllr Lang – with help from Cllrs Leighton and Buffery, large planter at Barnfield.

**Newsletter and Annual Report-** Cllr Buffery to provide an article updating residents on the Village Hall. Cllrs Lang and

Morgan to provide a small biography of themselves for publication. Cllr Ryan - Scales to obtain some information for

publication about late Cllr Bailey. **Action: -** All articles to be provided by 1st June. Clerk to speak to PSCC, John Parfit for

his update on progress at the Club. Council also agreed to use the Newsletter to share our Annual Report with

residents.

**Tree lights –** Cllr Matthews has left a message with Chris Mellen to examine the current lights. Clerk has also ordered

the three new lamppost lights for Christmas 2024. **Action: -** Cllr Mathews to update Council on progress at the next

meeting.

**Cllr S Bailey Memorial –** Ponthir School were extremely pleased to receive the trophy in memory of Cllr Bailey.Stuart’s

brother felt it was a fitting way to acknowledge all his work on behalf of Ponthir and Lower Llanfrechfa over many years.

He will be only too pleased to be involved with presenting the trophy later this year.

**Adoption of Council Social Media Policy: -** Council agreed to adopt the Policy. Proposed Cllr Buffery,

seconded Cllr Morgan.

**Training –** Cllr Morgan has completed his Induction training and has booked his Code of Conduct training.

**Action: -** Cllr Lang needs to book both courses, with an update at the next meeting.

**Waste management costs –** No response from TCBC. Cllr Buffery will keep us updated.

1. **To consider and discuss items.**

**Grants** – It was agreed by all present that Council would offer small grants of up to £200. **Action: -** Clerk to advertise this

on the website, FB and in the noticeboards.

**Accounts –** Clerk confirmed that the internal audit has been completed. **Action: -** Clerk to complete full audit for

submission. Clerk to enquire about finding a new internal auditor for the coming year.

**Blaenavon Town Council visit -** Clerk confirmed that the Clerk and Chair have asked to attend our June meeting.

**Action: -** Clerk to confirm their attendance**.**

**PCSO –** Clerk to invite new PCSO to our June meeting, to update us with recent crime figures and activity in the village.

Clerk has had complaints about anti-social behaviour in the woods behind Star Villas. Clerk has liaised with TCBC and

PCSO in this regard. Matter is ongoing.

**LEA Governor –** TCBC have approached the Clerk to serve as an LEA Governor at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwynllyw in

Pontypool. Council wished Clare well in her new position.

**ML left the meeting at 19:46**

1. **Finance and Accounts** – Balance and all transactions noted.
2. **Planning** – Application received dated 8th May 2024 relating to proposed two story side extension at Seren Fach Nursery, School Close Ponthir. Discussion took place and Council on balance, felt that they were unable to support this application. **Action: -** Clerk to lodge our objection.
3. **Correspondence received –** Noted.
4. **Committee Reports**

 **Ponthir CIW Primary School**. – Cllr Ryan-Scales confirmed that the acting Head Teacher is now permanent. Deputy Head

 post to be advertised in due course. 103 pupils now on roll. Issues with their perimeter fence still ongoing.

 **Torfaen County Association of Local Councils.** – No report.

 **Gwent Valleys Partnership. -** No report.

 **Ponthir Village Hall. –**Monthly activities have now increased to over 100. Grant applications are still ongoing. Major issues

 with the flat roof not helped by recent extraordinary weather. TCBC are responsible for the roof, along with external lighting and

 outside paving. Trustees pushing for this vital work to be completed.

 **PSCC –** Progress has again been hampered by bad weather, but the club should still be open by the end of May.

 **Mick Morris Memorial Sporting Trust** – Next meeting in June to discuss sporting grants in Torfaen.

**The date of the next Meeting is Monday 10th June 2024 at Ponthir Village Hall at 7pm.**

Meeting Closed at 20:15

**This document is available on our website**.

**A copy of this document could be made available in Welsh**. Please contact us on the telephone number or e-mail below.

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Cysylltwch a ni ar y rhif ffôn neu drwy e-bost isod.

**Telephone/ Ffôn: 07454 988250 E-Mail/ E-bost:** **clerk@ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk**