**CWMDU AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMDU A'R CYLCH**

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**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting Held on Zoom on 3rd June 2021**

**Present**

**Chairman -** Martin Harbour (MATH),

**Councillors:** Sylvia O’Brien (SO), David Meyer (DM), Hank Jackson (RDHJ), John Morgan (FJM), Janice Block (JEB)

**County Councillor:** Katherine Silk (KS)

**In Attendance:** None

**Apologies:** Heather Sweeting (HGS), Colin Morris (CJM) John Williams (JDW) Lesley Doggett (LMD)

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2021 had been circulated to all members. SO pointed out that the phrase in bold type on Page 1 (Starting “Sylvia, please supply details…”) should be deleted and “Bwlch” was misspelled under Planning Application 21/19912. The Clerk undertook to make these corrections and have the Minutes signed by the Chairman at a later date.

**Matters Arising**

There was a discussion about the War Memorial in Bwlch. RDHJ said that it was made of local sandstone and was in need of cleaning and maintenance. He suggested that we contact Terry Sinnett to find out how to get it professionally cleaned. MATH agreed to do this.

RDHJ agreed to find out the name of the Highways Grant for car parks.

**Highways**

RDHJ agreed to write to the Highways Agency about the inaccurate road sign in the middle of the cutting in Bwlch on the A40.

There was concern about the amount of water on the road outside the campsite in Bwlch. There were also potholes in the road which were filled with water and needed to be repaired promptly, and this was a major project. KS had been in contact with Lyn Parry and was now waiting to hear from her.

Councillors were concerned that the road in Tretower was being blocked because of ongoing building work. However, DM said that the road was closed only when building material was being delivered and the contractors always notified the village when the road had to be closed.

FJM said that the road in Tremynfa had deteriorated considerably. He asked the Clerk to contact him about details.

There was a short discussion about Elaine Harries’s gripe about the road sign in Cathedine. It was agreed that the sign was in the most practical position, and the Clerk was asked to write and tell her this.

**Correspondence**

SO will attend the next meeting of the 5 Councils. The Clerk was asked to write to Maria James to say that we are interested and would like the meetings to continue. MATH would also try to attend the meetings.

The Clerk was asked to write to Laragh Cresswell regarding her notification that she planned to grow broadleaves on her land. The Council had no objection to this. LMD would also be in contact with Laragh.

The Clerk said that he had written to the Art School to ask them to keep the rabbit fence on their side of the boundary.

There was a discussion about the potholes in the car park of the Art School. The previous Clerk (Bob Doak) had written to them offering to share the cost of repairs, but the owners had said that they were happy to leave things as they were.

KS felt that the Council was responsible for maintenance and she asked the Clerk to check the original agreement between the County Council and the Allotment Society.

**Planning**

There were no issues to discuss.

**Financials**

The Clerk was authorised to go ahead with the purchase of Microsoft Office software for the Council’s laptop. The cost would be approximately £250.

The previous Clerk (Bob Doak) had asked if he could engage a software consultant to arrange an automatic transfer of emails from his computer to the new Council laptop. This was agreed and the Clerk was asked to convey this to Bob.

The Clerk presented the Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Total Receipts in the year amounted to £12,489.80 and Total Payments to £11,702.08. This left a Bank Balance of £13,263.83 (War memorial Fund £5,267.64 and Council’s Fund £7,996.19).

The Clerk said that he would send an analysis of the May bank movements when he received the bank statements for May.

The Clerk asked if he could reclaim his travel expenses at the HMRC approved rate of 45p per mile. This was approved.

The following payments were authorised:

**Bharat Khaneka £130.50 - T**ravelling expenses for April & May ’21. 290 miles @ 45p per mile.

**Any Other Business**

It was agreed that the next monthly meeting be held in Bwlch Village Hall. The Clerk will contact Marion Heaffey to confirm this.

The Clerk was also asked to check that the Tretower & Cwmdu Village Halls can be used for subsequent meetings.

There was a discussion on booking a restaurant to thank Bob Doak for his services. MATH will ask Bob where he would prefer to go. Agreed that we should also invite Glenys Doak.

There is an abandoned car outside the entrance to the Allotments & Art School. JEB had emailed Billy Dunn about this, but had not received a reply. However, KS had heard from Billy and he had agreed to investigate it, although he pointed out that if the car was taxed & insured, there was little that he could do.

The Clerk was asked to write to Crickhowell police to say that the Council was worried about the whereabouts of the owner of the vehicle; he might be a potential suicide, or have suffered an accident.

MATH was still waiting to hear back from the newly appointed Head of Crickhowell Police. He was also awaiting a message from the local MP, who is planning to move to Bwlch.

There being no further matters to discuss, the Meeting was terminated.