

## **MAESYCWMMER COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Maesycwmmmer Community Council held remotely on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7:00pm.

### **PRESENT**

Councillors: Miss J Rao, Mrs M Harries, Mr C Williams, Mr R Woodyatt, Mr A Joynes

### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs R. Kedward (Clerk), Cllr V James, Bronwyn Satterly (Community Engagement Officer), Telly George (Police Officer), Mr James Harris.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr A Jones.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

#### 1698. **HEAD TEACHER - MAESYCWMMER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Mr Harris passed on thanks from the Governors, staff, pupils, and parents of the school for the generosity shown by the Community Council. He explained that the wet weather gear had been used a lot already and had enabled outdoor lessons to be undertaken in all types of weather which had really had a positive impact on learning. The donation for the computer equipment had allowed 85 chrome books and 5 charging trolleys to be purchased and meant that every child from year 1 to 5 has their own individual Chromebook and younger children have access to 1 between 2.

Mr Harris stated the school had never been so well resourced and the donations had a positive impact not just on pupils learning, but on circle time, wellbeing and across all areas of the curriculum. He added that the impact will last for future generations.

Cllr Woodyatt thanked Mr Harris for attending the meeting and appreciated the gesture especially under the current circumstances. He stated it was a pleasure to be able to do something for the future generations of the village.

#### 1699. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were confirmed as a true record.

1700. **ROAD SAFETY, POLICE and COMMUNITY LIAISON**

Bronwyn Satterley introduced herself as the new Community Engagement Officer for Gwent Police. She explained it was a new role and wanted to outline her duties and how she can help the community, including:

Main point of contact for reporting Anti-Social Behaviour.

Mediation between neighbourhood disputes.

Help in setting up neighbourhood watch.

Housing issues.

Liaising with partnerships.

Cllr V James brought up the discussion from last month's meeting regarding the setting up of a neighbourhood watch scheme and commented that there was a lot of community support for it. Discussion ensued and Bronwyn Satterley agreed to attend meetings to offer help, support, and advice.

It was agreed that a suitable person needed to be found to run the scheme.

Telly George gave a report on Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime for the village. He stated that although there had been an increase in ASB due to Covid-19, there was no increase in actual crime rates. The Police are now required to record crime ethically and so all areas have seen an increase due to this, but this did not equate to an actual rise in crime such as theft, burglary etc.

He stated that there was reluctance to change the traffic light sequence due to issues with heavy traffic in rush hours. The current timings are believed to aid traffic to flow on the main road and are not considered to short for traffic leaving the village.

1701. **MATTERS ARISING**

Discussions regarding the arrangement of a road and traffic safety advisor took place. It was agreed that the Clerk would make the necessary invitations to the next physical meeting.

Cllr Woodyatt stated that he was aware that the OAP Hall's roof was in disrepair and needed work. He questioned whether this could be a possibility for the Community Empowerment Fund / new CIL monies / reserves. He stated that no costing was available yet, but it could be worthwhile making enquiries with the OAP association. Cllr V James stated he was still waiting for further details on the fund. It was agreed to discuss further when more information was received.

1702. **VACANCY FOR COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE**

Cllr Harries informed the meeting that she had resigned from the Community Centre Committee. Cllr V James thanked her for all of her hard work on the committee over the years. As Cllr Rao is already serving on the Committee, the Community Council decided not to submit a further candidate at the moment.

1703. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported that a number of documents had been forwarded to Councillors by email and requested that Councillors contact her if any action was required. The Clerk

had also received a letter from One Voice Wales requesting the council renew their membership. This was considered and it was agreed to rejoin for the year.

1704. **REPORT OF THE CLERK, MISCELLANEOUS MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES.**

The Clerk reported that the Defibrillator had been fitted on the OAP Hall and was up and running. The website had been updated to make people aware of this and Cllr Harries had posted on Face Book.

The Clerk reported that work on the outdoor gym was underway.

The Clerk reported that she had updated the website with a news post encouraging residents to report crime and safety issues.

Cllr Rao reported that she would be chairing the Joint Liaison Committee meeting next week.

1705. **FINANCE**

The Clerk produced a report for payments. This was considered and payments approved and signed on the monthly payment schedule.

The Clerk reported that the current balance was £71,865.07 less CIL funds of £50,633.98 = £21,231.09

The Clerk produced the final comparative budget for 2020/21 and the new budget for 2021/22. These were considered and approved.

The Clerk reported that the underpayment of salary had been backdated. The Clerks contract was reviewed, and it was agreed to increase salary in line with National Association of Local Councils' salary scale LC1 level 10 from April 2021.

1706. **PLANNING**

Case Ref. 21/0130/FULL

Public Open Space Monmouth Way Gelli-haf Pontllanfraith

Construct a temporary haul road for a period of 36 months, off the end of a turning head in the north west corner of the residential site onto Hawtin Park Industrial Estate Road to the north.

Noted.

Case Ref. 21/0179/FULL

The Rise Summerfield Hall Lane Maesycwmmmer Hengoed CF82 7RG

Erect garage and driveway to rear of the property.

Noted.

1707. **MEMBERS MATTERS**

Cllr Woodyatt announced that at the next election he would be standing down. He commented that it had been a pleasure to work with everybody and was grateful to

have served on the Community Council and achieved good things for the village over the years.

Cllr Rao, on behalf of the Council, thanked Cllr Woodyatt for the immense work he had carried out and for all the help support and advice he had provided.

Cllr V James echoed Cllr Rao's sentiments and stated he had always appreciated the help and support Cllr Woodyatt had given him.

Cllr C Williams enquired if there would be a meeting held in April. The Clerk agreed to check and let everybody know.