

LLANDOUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON A REMOTE BASIS ON
THURSDAY 20 MAY 2021 AT 7.00PM.**

PRESENT

Councillor E. Penn (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs L. Barrowclough (Vice-Chairman) (Part Meeting)
Councillor Mrs P Carreyett
Councillor M. Edwards
Councillor Mrs P. Gay
Councillor D. Mears
Councillor Dr M. Misra
Councillor W. Williams

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor P. King
Councillor I. Williams

(Mrs Hallett an independent member of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Standards Committee was present in an observer capacity. The Chairman welcomed her to the meeting).

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

There were none declared at this stage in the meeting,

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 APRIL 2021.

RESOLVED that: The minutes be confirmed as a correct record.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 5 MAY 2021.

RESOLVED that: The minutes be confirmed as a correct record.

4. MEETING WITH THE POLICE.

There was no representative in attendance.

5. MEETING WITH COUNCILLOR G. CARROLL.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Carroll to the meeting. He provided the following report for the information of members.

LLANDOUGH HOSPITAL ENERGY CENTRE

He had received a number of concerns about the impacts the proposed planning application would have on the community. He sympathised with the Hospital in their attempts to make the site more energy efficient and environmentally friendly, and considered that most residents would agree with this. However, he was very concerned that the new chimney would be closer to residential properties than the existing one, which would also remain in place if the development goes ahead. He was also aware that many residents in the immediate area had not received consultation letters and he had raised this matter with the planning department who had now consulted additional residents.

He was liaising with residents and assisting them with their concerns, and would be making representations as part of the consultation on the planning application.

WILLOWMERE PORTACABINS

He had received a number of complaints from residents about the portacabins, which they believed were encouraging fly tipping at the site. The Planning department had confirmed there was no planning permission, so they had commenced enforcement action.

PENARTH ROAD FLOODING

He had raised concerns about the matter with the Highways department after heavy rainfall earlier in the week. They had agreed to carry out an inspection of all drains/gullies and repair any blockages.

COGAN PILL ROAD

The issue of the collapsed tree had been received with the relevant department with a request that it be removed.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

Minute 15 – Councillor Carroll had contacted the Highways department about the flooding issue at the top of Llandough Hill and he had been informed that officers were in consultation with Welsh Water in this regard.

Minute 20 – The Clerk informed the Council that Mrs AH was delighted to receive positive feedback from the Council in relation to her role in selecting plants and helping in planting them in the new street planter.

7. MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS WORKING PARTY HELD ON 5 MAY 2021.

RESOLVED that: The minutes of the meeting be approved.

8. FUTURE OF THE LEWIS ROAD RESERVE ALLOTMENTS SITE.

(Councillor M. Edwards declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this matter as a close neighbour of his was using the land under the referenced grazing licence. He left the meeting for the duration of the discussion on this matter and took no part in the decision making thereon).

The Clerk provided members with the following background relating to the site and the recommendation of the Allotments Working Party that consideration should be given to returning the site for use of allotments in the light of the current high demand for allotment plants.

- a) There were currently 38 names on the waiting list for the Corbett Road allotments site with approximately one third of these being residents of the community.
- b) The Council had a duty in law to consider the provision of allotments for electors if there was sufficient demand for them to be provided.
- c) The Lewis Road site was originally purchased for allotments use but when it had previously been used for this purpose demand was low and eventually there were no tenants and no demand for plots. Those that had cultivated plots had referred to the poor soil quality as a reason for relinquishing their tenancies.
- d) As a result, it had been decided to offer a licence for grazing on the land and a local resident used the land for this purpose with the current licence due to expire in December 2022.
- e) It was clear that in order for the site to be returned to allotment use it would require a substantial investment, the engagement of a land surveyor and opportunities for grants or a loan would probably need to be pursued.

It was pointed out that the return of the site for allotments was very relevant to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Project Zero strategy although it was acknowledged that consideration would need to be given to parking issues on Lewis Road.

RESOLVED that:

- a) A Task and Finish Group be established to consider the proposal in depth and report back to the Council with detailed recommendations for consideration.
- b) The membership of the Group to be Councillors Mrs Gay, Dr M. Misra, Mears, W. Williams and a representative of the Corbett Road Tenant's Association.

(Councillor Mrs L. Barrowclough arrived at this point in the meeting).

9. INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2021/22.

The Clerk had amended the strategy as requested at the Annual meeting and a revised version was presented for consideration. The Clerk advised that in relation to the eventual payment of the gratuity to the Clerk it was necessary to check with the HMRC as to whether the Council would be required to pay an employer's NI contribution.

RESOLVED that: The revised strategy be approved and the Clerk be requested to check with HMRC and report back as to whether the Employer's NI contribution would be payable at the time the gratuity was paid to the Clerk.

10. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/21.

Members had been provided with a copy of the annual return with a request for the Council to consider and approve the statement of accounts and complete the governance questions.

The Council examined each of the questions in the governance section of the return and decided to respond positively in relation to each of them with the exception of the question relating to Trust funds which was not applicable.

RESOLVED that: The statement of accounts for 2020/21 be approved and the Chairman be authorised to sign the return accordingly.

11. PROPOSED DONATION TO THE MS SOCIETY CYMRU,

Councillor Mrs Gay proposed that the Council give consideration to making a donation to the MS Society Cymru in memory of the late former Councillor AW who had recently died and who had suffered from MS for many years.

RESOLVED that: In pursuance of the power conferred by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and being of the opinion that the expenditure satisfies the requirements of that section, a donation of £100 be made to the MS Society Cymru in support of its activities and in memory of the late former Councillor AW.

12. UPDATE ON MATTERS REFERRED TO THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED USE OF THE REDUNDANT TENNIS COURT AS A BIRD SANCTUARY AND DRAINAGE WORK REQUIRED IN RELATION TO THE ACTIVE TENNIS COURT.

The Clerk reported that he had been unable to obtain an update in relation to these outstanding matters.

RESOLVED that: Councillor Carroll to follow up on these matters on behalf of the Council.

13. POSSIBLE PROVISION OF LIGHTING IN COGAN PILL ROAD.

The Chairman welcomed N. Thomas of the Vale of Glamorgan Council to the meeting. He advised that at the current time budgets were very limited for street lighting work and an estimated costing of the provision of lighting in the road was around £31k. He advised that he had been informed that some of the trees in the road were diseased and would soon be felled which might increase natural light in the immediate area. It was pointed out that there was a large new development proposed on a site off Cogan Pill Road and it was hoped that the developer might be required to provide a S106 payment which could be used for lighting. It was suggested that a cheaper alternative to the traditional type of street lighting would be solar lighting. Mr Thomas advised that solar lighting might be ineffective in this area due to tree sap and moss covering the solar panel rendering it ineffective.

One member was concerned about the type of lighting that might be provided which should not be of the type that would adversely impact on wildlife habitats. Mr Thomas agreed to speak with the Council's Ecologist in this regard.

Another suggestion made was that bollard lighting might be appropriate on the basis that it would serve to improve the safety of pedestrians using the road during the hours of darkness.

RESOLVED that: Mr Thomas to undertake an investigation of options available for consideration and report back to the Clerk at the earliest opportunity.

14. MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES.

No reports were received.

15. CONSULTATION EVENT IN RELATION TO DRAFT CARDIFF COUNCIL'S LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

RESOLVED that: Councillor E. Penn be nominated to attend on behalf of the Council.

16. BANK RECONCILIATION FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 APRIL 2021.

RESOLVED that: The bank reconciliation be approved.

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17. EXAMINATION AND PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

RESOLVED that: The under-mentioned payments be approved as indicated below:

Payee	Amount	Description of Payment
Welsh Water	28.21	Allotment Water Charges
P.R. Egan (Amazon)	37.56	Inkjet Cartridges
P.R. Egan	29.00	Telephone Expenses
Macmillan Cancer Support	100.00	Donation
Zurich Municipal	570.15	Insurance
P.R. Egan	25.20	Car Allowance
A.D. Williams	200.00	Audit Fee
P.R. Egan	50.00	Petty Cash
P.R. Egan	105.17	Rent Allowance
Llandough and Leckwith WMI	631.78	Accommodation Charges
Caerphilly Skip Hire	540.00	Hire of Skips for Allotments
P and A Grounds Maintenance Ltd	726.20	Grounds Maintenance April 2021
Thos Fattorini Limited	115.74	Staples for Badge of Office
Salaries, Wages and Income Tax	1,086.47	Aggregated Total
TOTAL	4,245.48	

18. APPLICATION NO. 2021/00550/FUL

University Hospital, Llandough – Proposed External Works to the Energy Centre including the development of a free standing 37m tall single core chimney, duct work for CHP plant, external blowdown vessel, dry air coolers and external alterations to the building including new and replacement louvres.

A report was received from the Planning Sub-Committee which had met on 17 May 2021. The Council gave consideration to the issues raised by the Sub-Committee in relation to the application.

RESOLVED that: The application be opposed on the following grounds:

- a) The apparent lack of adherence to the Project Zero plan of the Vale of Glamorgan Council with its focus on creating a carbon neutral county borough area which was in line with the comprehensive climate change strategy of the Welsh Government.
- b) Potential air pollution issues of concern to the community.

- c) Possible noise pollution.
- d) Visual impact of another chimney on the environment of the community.

The specific comments of the Council relating to the proposal are:

- The application is supported by in-depth mathematical modelling which was difficult to interpret especially having regard to the absence of relational data concerning the operation of the current boilers and their associated emissions. Data in relation to the emissions from current boilers was based on statistics from 2019 which may well have changed over the past 2 years having regard to the age of the boilers.
- There appears to be some apparent unfounded assertions that the emissions from the new system would not be problematic and the Vale of Glamorgan Council should be encouraged to make its own assessment of such assertions.
- There should be a greater focus on identification of more energy efficient buildings to include greater consideration of green energy solutions and use of solar panels in the hospital.
- There is a concern about why a more in-depth analysis of the performance and emissions from the current chimney should not have been undertaken and it is suggested that this assessment should be undertaken before the application is given consideration. Regard should be given to the concerns of the community about occasional black smoke emissions from the chimney which are often of a substantial nature and have raised concerns within the community especially by those residents who live close by.
- It was noted that there are a number of receptors within and outside the community area and the question should be asked about why data collected from these monitoring devices have not been used to produce more current emission data in the planning application's supporting information.
- The content of the application clearly gives the impression that the impact of the new energy centre on the community will be negligible but this assertion does not appear to be supported by the documented research information included with the planning application.

It is the overriding view of the Council that consideration relating to climate change factors should outweigh any cost factors given that a failure to achieve the targets set by Project Zero will result in much wider implications as well as costs for the Vale of Glamorgan as a whole.

Signed..... Date: 24 June 2021
Chairman