SEVEN SISTERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR CYMUNED BLAENDULAIS

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 4th Jun 2018**

Present: Chair: Mr L Jenkins
Councillors: Mr J Davies, Mr A Evans, Mr E Francis (taking the minutes of the
 meeting), Cllr S Hunt, Mr G James, Mr L Parfitt, Mr M Rivers, Mrs G
 Smith, Mr D C Thomas, Mrs C Thompson

 Clerk: Mrs L E Oliver (Not present due to Jury service duty)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

There were apologies from Mrs N Herdman

1. **Declaration of interests**

Cllr Hunt declared interest in item 14

1. **To receive the minutes of the Annual meeting held on the 7th May 2018**

It was RESOLVED that the minutes were a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

1. **Matters Arising**

None were raised

1. **To receive the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on the 7th of May 2018**

It was RESOLVED that the minutes were a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

1. **Matters Arising**

Cllr Hunt wished to amend some of the wording in Note 17.

NPTCBC could clean up the frontage and the individual would be billed – Not Seven Sisters Community council.

Cllr Hunt also said NPTCBC had started the mowing contract and not the mowing problem.

1. **Policing Matters**

Cllr Hunt pointed out that the PACT meeting had been cancelled once again and that this was unacceptable. Cllr Hunt wants the Sergeant to visit. **ACTION:** Cllr Hunt to request the presence of the Sargent at a Community Council meeting as well as PC Isabelle Van De Wow. It was agreed that as a community council we need to have assurances that the PACT meetings are not cancelled. Next PACT meeting is on July TBA

**Community Hall and CHAOSS to include Relief Community officer position and to consider quotations for repair to MUGA**

Mr Parfitt raised the issue of the broken flagstones behind the community hall. It is believed that children have been lifting them and throwing them about – there are a number of them that have now become lose and they need to be fixed. It was suggested that dummy cameras could be placed around the community hall, although Mr Davies believed that the price of real cameras linked up to the internet now that its worth getting a quotation – probably from Nitelite Security. Another suggestion was to place cages around the lights. Other current problems at the hall includes

* The need to re-render the pine end
* The Network Rail fence has fallen – this is NR’s responsibility, it was suf=ggested that Dai John was contacted as a local employee of NR
* Some of the swings by the MUGA have been deemed to be unsafe and have been taken down by Nigel (Carol’s husband)
* The planning has gone into the council for the landscape management plan. Once approved the only responsibility of the Community Council would be on-going aftercare – i.e. to mow it.

Following the discussion the following actions were agreed:-

**Action:** To contact Nitelite for a price on CCTV cameras, and request a “callout service charge”. It was noted that another two quotes from other companies should also be found in line with public sector best practice

**Action:** To request quotes for the re-render of the pine end of the Community Hall

**Action:** To request quotes for the fixing/replacing of the flag stones at the back of the Community Hall, and at the same time ensuring a reasonable sized path all the way around to ensure that there is a good escape route from the fire exists. Quotes from Marco, NPTCBC and Huw Watts

**Action:** Mr Parfitt to get in touch with Dai John with regards to the fence that has fallen down

It was also noted that one person had expressed an interest in the relief caretaker role – Gareth Lindsay. Mr Parfitt will follow this up.

1. **Recreation Ground**

There was positive news on the grant for the teenage play park. Although the grant is yet to be awarded, there has been an indication that the work on it could start. This implies that the grant award is likely. **Decision:** It was agreed that the work would not start until the grant has been awarded in full.

1. **Brynbedd Cemetry**

The money from Alan McCutcheon has been received. It was agreed that the cemetery could do with some TLC. Some of the trees need cutting, weed killing also required a. After the costs of the funeral there is £445 remaining.

**Action:** It was agreed that this work would go out to tender, including Marco, Ian Thomas and Dai Trees

1. **Electricity Supply to BMX track**

It was recommended and agreed that Mr Parfitt draw up a quick plan, starting with lighting. There is a need to know exactly where the lighting will be located. It was further agreed that Mr Rivers (who is an Electrical engineer) would organise and plan the necessary information to be sent to SWALEC with a view to a possible expansion. There needs to be a feed into the porto cabins with the ultimate goal being an ability to have a small café to service match days. It was also pointed out that there was a need to establish who is going to pay the electric bills.

1. **Seven Sisters Colliery Plans**

The Nant Helen fund has agreed to a £500 donation for the mining plan plaques to go up on the wall (4 of them) It was agreed that at a later date there would be further discussion about unveiling them as well as some ideas for an educational opportunity for the children of the local schools.

1. **Reports from meetings attended by Members**

Cllr Hunt attended a Nant Helen meeting on the 17th of May. It appears that there will be £4,600 available in November 2018 for requests from local clubs, societies and charities.

1. **Planning Matters**

No objections to the Landscape Management plans

1. **Correspondence**

Seafarers UK – Please help to raise public awareness of our island nation’s reliance on seafarers and shipping by flying a Red Ensign ashore on Merchant Navy Day 3rd September

ABM CHC Spring newsletter – circulated 22.05.18

Mr Rivers wanted to draw the council’s attention to a consultation paper to close a number of beds – 20 to close in Neath Port Talbot and 54 to close in Tonna. Mr Rivers propose that the council send a letter of objection.

**Action:** It was agreed that a letter would be sent to oppose the closures, and Mr Rivers would find the appropriate information

1. **Clerks report**

**Income £ p**

Cemetery 75.00

It was RESOLVED that the following be passed for payment:

L. Oliver, May 333.60

C. Freeman, May 1248.69

M Roberts, cleaning cemetery 30.00

B L Parfitt, BMX Track planning fee 190.00

1. **Doctors Surgery**

The NHS celebrates 70 years, and the surgery has been nominated as a key location for the relay of the carrying of the miners lamp. It will be held on July 3rd – there will be a mini concert (Huw and Mel) between 10.30am and 11.30am, the pop up café has been reorganised for the same day. The relay handover is likely to happen around 2pm. The Surgery will be advertising the event.

Mr Davies asked whether or not Wifi could be made available at the surgery due to poor phone signal. Mr Jenkins said that they are currently reviewing that possibility.

Mr Thomas wanted to know why there was only one doctor available on a Friday. Mr Jenkins said that this was purely a one off due to the half term holidays and lack of availability of locums during that week

New Doctor will start anytime between July 29th and August the 8th

1. **Soar Chapel**

Cllr Hunt said that he has attempted to find the appropriate receiver to see where the ownership of Soar Chapel currently lies. There are so many subsidiaries it is really hard to track down. Cllr Hunt will continue the hunt.

1. **AOB**

Mr Rivers has been informed that Tesco provide bread to Crynant community centre every Wednesday. Should Seven Sisters also contact Tesco and get in on the act. The point led to a more open discussion about the possible need for a food bank in Seven Sisters. It was felt that this could be a future discussion.

Mr Thomas raised the fact that a manhole had been raised in Mary Street due to excess water. Council are aware of it, however this appears to be something that will happen again. Any job completed on it will be temporary. Mr Thomas felt that the council wasn’t doing enough.

Mr Evans raised the ongoing issue of the problems at the old legion. Cllr Hunt pointed out that the current owner is being prosecuted. There is a similar on-going issue also with the same owner at a site in Skewen. The likelihood is that there will be a prosecution, the environmental officer will organise a clean-up and the owner will be recharged.

Mr Thomas was still aggrieved that this was another item that the NPTCBC was not addressing. Cllr Hunt disagreed and said there was due process. Mr Thomas proposed a letter should be sent to the council

**Action:** It was agreed that a letter should be sent to NPTCBC to ask what they are doing to address these issues in the village.

The community Council offered their best wishes to Cllr Hunt on his impending surgery.

**Meeting closed**

Signed…………………………………………… Chairman Date ………………………………………………….