**Seven Sisters Community Council**

**Cyngor Cymuned Blaendulais.**

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 2nd March 2020**

Present: Chairman: Mr. D.C. Thomas.

Councillors: Mr J Davies, Mr E Francis, Cllr S Hunt, Mr. G. James, Mr L Jenkins,

Mr. B.L. Parfitt, Mrs. G. Smith and Mr P Totterdale

 Clerk: Mrs L Oliver

**1 Apologies for Absence**.

 There were apologies from Mr D John and Mr M Rivers

**2 Declaration of Interests**.

 Cllr Hunt in item 12.

**3 To Receive the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 3rd February 2020**.

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

**4 Matters Arising**.

 There were no matters arising.

**5 To Receive the Minutes of a Meeting with Mr R Bagshaw and Mr R Bland**

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

**6 Matters Arising**

Mr James said the planning for the home be changed from Class 2 to Class 2A and there would be nothing we could do about it

**7 Policing Matters**.

As a meeting had been held with member of the police force before this meeting, there was nothing else to discuss

**8 Community Hall and CHAOSS**.

The Clerk reported that the Ombudsman had rejected our complaint re Corona Energy. She said the Ombudsman appeared to state that NPTCBC had paid for the gas during the relevant period, but this was incorrect. The Community Council had paid for the supply but at a preferential rate under the umbrella of NPTCBC. Mr Parfitt will check the minutes from 2008 regarding this agreement and the Clerk will appeal the Ombudsman’s decision.

Mr Parfitt said a pump had been changed in the central heating system and the Chairman had approved expenditure of £510 for this. Councillors endorsed his decision.

The Clerk said a company which deals with local councils had approached her offering their services to gain preferential rates for the utilities. They wanted to do this now, although the contracts were not due for renewal for another two years. It was agreed to wait until approximately six months before the renewal date.

Mr Parfitt said Carol needed more tables and, although CHAOSS could buy these, they could not reclaim the VAT. It was RESOLVED that the council should purchase these.

The Vice Chairman said a Gardening Club had started at the hall and at least six people wanted allotments in the village. It was thought there could be a plot of land suitable for this, but they would have to apply to the Borough Council first.

Mr Parfitt said Carol had reported the defibrillator was buzzing. Clerk to report this.

**9 Recreation Ground**

Mr James said another combination lock was needed for a different gate. It was agreed the Clerk should purchase this.

The Chairman reported that a gate from Martyn’s Avenue to the ground was being used for motor bikes to enter the area. A discussion followed as to whether this gate was needed or could be welded shut.

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Mr Francis said he had spoken to Welsh Water regarding the fence that needed to be replaced and was told we must provide an exact location. The Chairman said he would call Welsh Water the following day.

Mrs Smith said a young man had been working voluntarily in the Cwm and other areas in the village, cutting back trees and clearing rubbish, to enhance the appearance and help wildlife.

Clerk to write and thank him. Cllr Hunt would obtain his name and Mr James his address.

**10 Brynbedd Cemetery**.

The Chairman said the cemetery was looking tidy and the logs were being taken away. He had discovered a trap, and this had been destroyed.

Cllr Hunt said he would arrange for a sweeper to attend during the week before 28th March to clear some rubbish away.

**11 Meetings Attended by Members**.

Cllr Hunt and Mr Parfitt had attended a Governor’s meeting. Also a complaints meeting a the school joined by Mr Totterdale and Mr James

**12 Planning Matters**.

 Application No. P2020/180

Mrs Christine Stepien, 19 Church Place, Seven Sisters

Conservatory to the side of bungalow

 Councillors had no objections

**13 Correspondence**.

One Voice Wales offering membership for 2020/21. This was rejected

**14 Clerk’s Report**. Noted

# Income £ p

# Cemetery 350.00 Accounts for payment

L Oliver, February 339.60

C Freeman, February as per contract

L Oliver, expenses 82.06 inc VAT

NPTCBC, School Crossing Oct-Dec 19 1546.75

Eric Collier, Boiler repairs 516.00 inc VAT

NPTCBC, AEO 297.21

NPTCBC Cemetery Rates 1498.00

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**15 Doctor’s Surgery**.

The Vice Chairman said they were preparing for an outbreak od the Corona Virus and there was now a sanitiser in the surgery. He said, in the event of someone coming into the surgery contaminated, it could lead to staff being isolated for 14 days. Due to this the surgery has ‘buddied’ with a Glynneath surgery. He said they are making all arrangements as instructed.

**16 Bus Stop Mary Street**

Cllr Hunt said there had been no complaints from residents to NPTCBC and these would help. It was agreed this item should be removed from the agenda.

**17 Test Tracks, Onllwyn**

The Clerk read out a reply to her letter from Mr S Phillips

Cllr Hunt explained the procedure for the three planning applications

**18 Recycling Collections**

Mr James said he was still complaining about the hessian sacks as he believes they are not fit for purpose. Mr Francis said rats were being encouraged particularly after the flooding. The Vice Chairman said the community needs to complain before anything will be done

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**19 Any Other Business**

Cllr Hunt reported that a live bomb had been found in the village and was being dealt with

Cllr Hunt said he had received a notice for Councillors to explain to villagers why we are not going to purchase the Soar Chapel site. This had been prepared by NPTCBC Legal Department. The notice needed to have some values inserted and he would forward these to the Clerk who would then post the notice on the website and circulate it to Councillors.

Mr Francis was concerned about dog fouling near the school and in other areas and Cllr Hunt said people need to be educated about the dangers.

The Chairman said there was still water coming through the wall at the Soar Chapel and Cllr Hunt said he would arrange for it to be surveyed again and apologised for not having done this sooner.

The Chairman then closed the meeting

Chairman : Mr L C Jenkins Date 27th July 2020

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