**Seven Sisters Community Council**

**Cyngor Cymuned Blaendulais.**

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held Virtually via Zoom on 4th January 2021**

Present: Chairman: Mr. L C Jenkins

Councillors: Mr J Davies, Cllr S Hunt,

Mr. G. James, Mr D John, Mr L Parfitt, Mr M Rivers,

Mrs. G. Smith, Mr D C Thomas and Mr P Totterdale

Clerk: Mrs L Oliver

**1 Apologies for Absence**.

There were apologies from Mrs Herdman and Mr Francis

**2 Declaration of Interests**.

There were no declarations

**3 To Receive the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held virtually on 7th December 2020**.

After an alteration it was RESOLVED that the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

**4 Matters Arising**.

Cllr Hunt said, with regard to item 12, when Councillors are using zoom the public are allowed to watch. We would have to issue notices prior to the meeting. The Chairman said they could watch only. He asked what everyone thought. Mr John said people should be asked to email the Clerk who would then invite them to the meeting. Mr James said it should only be Seven Sisters residents. It was agreed this was a good idea, but Mr John said we need to hold some more meetings first because of technical issues. The Vice Chairman asked why we suddenly wanted to invite people. Cllr Hunt said we are legally obliged to allow people to observe but if we need to go private Mr John can arrange this. Mr Parfitt said there had been a circular from the Welsh Office re virtual meetings, which did not recognise zoom due to security issues. Mr John felt that no-one would want to hack in as we are transparent, also he has extra security.

It was agreed to continue with zoom with a notice to the public in April. The Chairman said we should allow people to attend from April, but they would have to apply 7 days before.

**5 Policing Matters**

Mr Parfitt said there had been a break-in and Cllr Hunt said it was youngsters from the old Castle Care premises, two had been caught and one got away. He said he was in touch with Inspector Otteson and would report back when he had more information. Mr John said they were caught on his CCTV, they have been charged and bailed for twenty eight days to addresses outside Dulais Road. He said the police did know the third person.

**6 Community Hall and CHAOSS**.

Mr Parfitt said the hall was closed and the Christmas dinner had been cancelled.

The Clerk said that Corona Energy were threatening legal action regarding the overdue account. It was RESOLVED to offer £5000 in full and final settlement.

**7 BMX Track**

Mr Parfitt said Ian Davies had not attended as yet so he had asked Marko. Mr Davies said it was a high risk area but it was decided Mr Parfitt should keep chasing the contractor as the track was closed at the moment.

**8 Planning Matters**.

There were no planning matters to discuss

**9 Correspondence**.

There had been no correspondence

**10 Clerk’s Report**. Noted

# Income £ p

2020/13

# Accounts for payment

L Oliver, December 333.80

C Freeman, December as per contract

L Oliver – Flowers E Burgess 50.75

Wired Up Wales – Domain and Website Hosting 100.00

CHAOSS – Xmas Dinner – Chairman’s Allowance 50.00

**11 To Consider the Budget for 2021-2 and Set the Precept**

After discussion it was RESOLVED not to increase the precept

**12 To Consider How to Hold Future Meetings**

This had been discussed under item 4

**13 To Consider How to Publicise Future Meetings**

This had been discussed under item 4

**14 Doctor’s Surgery**

The Chairman outlined the position to date and going forward regarding the surgery and Covid vaccinations. He said vaccinations would have to be run by strict appointment and those that do not attend would have to wait for another appointment.

He apologised for not being able to present the flowers to Elaine Burgess and said that, at the moment, he would not be able to make any commitments during surgery hours.

**15 Parking on Dulais Road**

The Clerk said she had received dates from PC Wallen when he was free to attend but had not as yet had a reply from NPTCBC

**16 Any Other Business**

Mr James said that Peter Thomas was buying the field opposite his house and down to the river. He needs to erect a fence but there is a public right of way down to the river and up to the black bridge. Mr Thomas thought the top half of the field belonged to the community council, but this is incorrect, he is intending to put a gate there so people can walk through. Cllr Hunt said NPTCBC owned the field and Mr Thomas was erecting a fence so that people could use the right of way. Everything is being carried out legally.

Mr Rivers said Elaine Burgess had complained on social media that we had made her work over the Christmas holidays. Cllr Hunt said the local authority sets her hours and she was asked to work as children of essential workers and the vulnerable were attending school over the break. Mr James said he would have a quiet word with her.

Cllr Hunt said Nant Helen had made available £500 each to Fire Cadets, Welsh School, YPFA, Silver Band, Friends of Seven Sisters and Onllwyn Old Age group.

The Chairman asked Cllr Hunt if bollards by the surgery could be removed as people could not drive for 15 minutes after a vaccination and they would need extra parking. Cllr Hunt said he would arrange this when needed.

Cllr Hunt said poppies were still on the lamp posts as a number of council staff were self-isolating, but they would be removed as soon as possible.

Mr James reminded Cllr Hunt about the removal of foliage by the Salim Chapel. Cllr Hunt apologised and said he would arrange this. The Chairman asked if the gritter could cover that area as well.

The Chairman then closed the meeting

Chairman : L C Jenkins at virtual meeting Date 1st February 2021

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