

# PELENNA COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED PELENNA

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2022 at 6:30pm, Tonmawr Community Centre.

- 1 Present:** Chairperson – Cllr Lisa Hawkes  
Members – Cllrs Diane Evans, Carl James,  
Jason Jarvis, Jay Brightwater,  
Morgan Thomas, Peter Wilde, Philip Lewis

**Apologies:** Cllrs Eleanor Hole

**In attendance** – D S Mackerras (Clerk), Cllr Jeremy Hurley  
NPTCBC Member  
Mr. Tim Mockridge – Mynydd Fforch dwm  
development Company.

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## 2 2022/0148 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Lisa Hawkes & Diane Evans declared an interest as Chair and committee member respectively of Dan y Coed Community Association.

Cllr Lisa Hawkes & Jason Jarvis declared an interest as members of the Mynydd Fforch dwm wind farm Action group

## 3 2022/0149 Pen y Cymoedd wind farm community fund

Kate Breeze passed her apologies as she was unable to attend the meeting

## 4 2022/0150 To approve minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 22nd August 2022

Proposed by Cllr Jason Jarvis, seconded by Cllr Morgan Thomas, supported by all Members of Council that the minutes are accepted as a true record of the meeting.

## 5 2022/0151 Matters arising

A presentation by Mr Ian Hart, who proposed a wooden statue of Richard Burton be erected at Pontrhydyfen, has been deferred to the November meeting because of the crowded

agenda this evening. Written presentation will be circulated to members prior to the November meeting.

CMO travel claims continue within established weekly constraints.

Issue relating to Roadside seat/land at Railway terrace being pursued through legal channels.

Agreed that the demolition of the derelict garage at Johns terrace will be undertaken on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October. Volunteers will meet at 9:00am. and the waste will be removed to the recycling centre by Cllr Jeremy Hurley.

An application for a funded Orchard Package from 'Keep Wales Tidy' has been placed on a waiting list.

Agreed that a request from the CMO that his wages should be reviewed mid-term will not be considered.

- 6 2022/0152 To approve minutes of the Events committee meeting held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022**  
 Proposed by Cllr Diane Evans, seconded by Cllr Morgan Thomas, supported by all Members of the Events committee that the minutes are accepted as a true record of the meeting.
- 7 2022/0153 To approve minutes of the Finance committee meeting held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022**  
 This meeting was inquorate and didn't progress.
- 8 2022/0154 To approve minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022**  
 Proposed by Cllr Peter Wilde, seconded by Cllr Jason Jarvis, with all Members of Council that were present at the Extraordinary meeting supporting, that the minutes are accepted as a true record of the meeting.
- 9 2022/0155 To consider providing finance to print a Community information leaflet and its distribution to the Community**  
 Proposed by Cllr Diane Evans, seconded by Cllr Jay Brightwater, and supported by all Members of Council present, that the best value quotation received from Serol Printers at £239 for 5000 leaflets plus £40 proof design if required, be accepted and funded by the Community Council. Also, that up

to £200 should be provided by the Council towards leaflet distribution costs.

**10 2022/0156 To decide future start times for Council meetings**

Proposed by Cllr Morgan Thomas, seconded by Cllr Jay Brightwater, with all Members of Council present in favour, that Full Council meetings will continue to start at 7:00pm. but that meetings will end no later than 9:30pm. Any business not completed by 9:30pm will be deferred to a later meeting, or if remaining business is deemed to be too important to be deferred then a resolution will be proposed to the effect that the important remaining agenda items will be completed by defining an additional period of time necessary for completion. The necessary resolution to be put to a vote.

**11 2022/0157 Report & update on County Borough/Pelenna Community issues – Cllr Jeremy Hurley**

Two sets of damaged railings repaired – Efail Fach and Johns Terrace.

Major works starting in February 2023 opposite Bevans Terrace, Pontrhydyfen to repair weak bank. Work expected to cause congestion and traffic issues.

Welsh Water roadworks now completed at Afan Valley Road, Cimla. NPTCBC Members of Council have requested a dedicated contact for future reference.

Potholes at rear of Blaenavon Terrace and on the Garth road have now been repaired.

NPTCBC has offered to work with the Community Council in relation to grants to refurbish the playground at Johns Terrace. Pelenna Members of NPTCBC are liaising with its Estates department to provide a disabled friendly gate at the seconds rugby field to prevent access to motorbikes.

NPTCBC Members are working with the Road Safety team to establish a possible weight restriction on the road to Blaenavon farm.

NPTCBC Members believe they have now resolved historic rear Lane flooding issues at Cerrigllwydion, with Natural Resources Wales and NPTCBC drainage department.

NPTCBC Members would like to work with the Community Council to establish a local Climate Change strategy. It was

suggested that we should consider a Pelenna community transport scheme.

Cllr Hurley has offered to take the concerns of the Mynydd Fforch dwm Action Group to Welsh Government via the relevant minister, Lee Waters, and our local Assembly Members.

## **12 2022/0158 Mynydd Fforch dwm wind farm presentation**

Mr. Tim Mockridge representing the developer answered questions from Community Councillors, and members of the public, concerning the intended development.

The height of the three-turbine group has been reduced from 200 metres – the middle one to 165 metres, and the other two to 185 metres.

The draft impact statement will be ready in November, and it is likely that a planning application will be submitted in the new year.

The Community Council complained that the interim consultation report drew attention to the fact that it had not responded to a consultation request. I was agreed with Mr. Mockridge that insufficient notice had been provided to Council. Feedback from the public meeting was said by complainants to be unacceptable, as the questions were leading, as they encouraged respondents towards an answer desired by the developer.

It was said to be unclear that there were two discrete turbine locations. There should have been greater care in naming the locations.

The role of Tim Mockridges' company was defined by him as a Sub-contractor to the developer.

It became evident that a risk assessment has not been undertaken on the transport of materials.

It was stated by Mr. Mockridge that procedures relating to Medical and Fire emergencies occurring during road closures will be consulted with South Wales police.

Mr Mockridge stated that the developers will primarily be liable if there is an accident or emergency which is unable to be properly dealt with as a result of road closures.

It appears that no vibration assessment has been carried out.

It was claimed by Mr. Mockridge that there will be a transport and noise review prior to construction.

It was further said by Mr. Mockridge that Environmental impact will rely, at least in part on data already collected by the Pen-y-Cymoedd developer.

It was clarified that the 20-hectare Solar field will be located in front of the turbines.

Mr. Mockridge said that the mining survey has been carried out on the land relying in part on historic maps.

Typical vehicle movements post construction was said, by Mr. Mockridge to be approximately one van per day. There could also be additional vehicles, perhaps an infrequent crane.

It was suggested by a local resident that land at Pelenna Close should be carefully examined as it is already unstable, and could be made more unstable as a result of heavy construction traffic movement. There was no specific response from Mr. Mockridge to this comment.

It was reported by a local resident, that his neighbour, at Efail Fach was informed by a surveyor acting for the developer that his house will need to be demolished to facilitate movement of turbines to construction site. Mr. Mockridge was apparently unaware of this incident.

Mr. Mockridge said that he is confident that large loads can be brought safely to site.

It was stated by a resident that the road is subsiding at the end of Railway Terrace and there will be a need to be protection against land slippage.

It was also stated by a resident that sensors may need to be attached to homes along Railway Terrace.

There was no specific answer to a question as to who provides the cost of policing road movements.

### **13 2022/0159 Planning applications**

No planning applications presented for consideration.

### **14 2022/0160 To receive a commitment from Council members to act as marshals for the Christmas parade – 17<sup>th</sup>December 2022**

A list of committed parade marshalls was provided at the meeting.

**15 2022/0161 To discuss the Christmas grotto**

It was agreed that this year the Christmas grotto will be set up and run by Dan y Coed Community Association. The grotto will be located in Tonmawr Community centre, and the operating surplus will benefit the Community Association.

**16 2022/0162 To receive an update on Heads of Terms offered by Neath Port Talbot CBC in respect of Miles Field, and to reconfirm lease.**

Heads of Terms have been received from NPTCBC on 2<sup>nd</sup> September. The terms were noted.

It was particularly noted that the County Borough requires that the demised land, including any boundary walls and fences shall be insured in the joint names of the Lessee and the County Borough Council on a comprehensive basis to full reinstatement value, plus two years rental subject to annual index linking. The Community Council will obtain a cost for this cover from the current insurer.

It was also noted that the lessee will be responsible for paying a contribution towards the Council's professional and legal costs in respect of the lease, plus charges for any stamp duty thereon. It is understood that the Estates' department professional fees will be £125.

The cost of legal fees will be obtained from the Head of Legal Services.

It was reported that a finance grant has been applied for from NPTCBC to assist with the cost of rent for the field.

**17 2022/0163 Roadside seat/land at Railway Terrace**

Agreed that the Council will seek legal assistance to resolve this matter from County Borough solicitors, rather than dealing with private sector lawyers

**18 2022/0164 Date of next meeting**

Events committee Tonmawr Community Centre Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – 6:30pm.

Full Council meeting – Tonmawr Community Centre

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022 - 7:00pm.

Full Council meeting – Pontrhydyfen Community Centre

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 – 7:00pm.

Meeting ended – 10:00pm.

Chair .....