

# PELENNA COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED PELENNA

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup>  
January 2020, Tonmawr Community Centre at 7.00 p.m.

- 1 Present:** Chairperson – Cllr. Diane Evans,  
Cllr Janice Evans, Cllr Philip Lewis,  
Cllr Robert Jenkins, Cllr Malcolm Jones,  
Cllr David Hole, Cllr Desmond Sparkes.
- In attendance: The Clerk:** Mr David S Mackerras  
**NPTCBC Member:** Cllr Jeremy Hurley
- Apologies:** Cllr Patrick Davis, Cllr Lisa Hawkes,  
Cllr Christopher Jones.
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- 2 2020/003 Declarations of Interest**  
Nothing declared.

- 3 2020/004 To approve minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2019**  
Proposed by Cllr David Hole, seconded by Cllr Philip Lewis with all members of Council in favour, that the minutes of the Full Council meeting of 4th December 2019 are accurately recorded.

- 4 2020/005 Matters arising**
- There is still a problem with the blocked drain outside 32 Johns Terrace. Cllr Hurley has agreed to inspect the drain.
  - Proposed by Cllr Robert Jenkins, seconded by Cllr Desmond Sparkes with all members present in favour, that one set of keys used to secure the outside electrical sockets at Tonmawr SPO and Pontrhydyfen Community centre should be held securely in the Tonmawr Community centre safebox, and the second set should be held by the Clerk to the Council.
  - Christmas event income has been passed to the Clerk today. It was reported as follows:

Sale of Memorial tree stars	£585.00
Donations - Individual	55.00
Donations – Parade, Colliers Arms PH & Shop	53.22
Refreshment sale – Pontrhydyfen	23.50
Tonmawr	74.25
Total	£790.97

A further donation for Remembrance day      £ 90.00

**5. 2020/006 Questions from the public**

There were no members of the public present.

**6. 2020/007 Report and update on County Borough/Pelenna Community Issues – Cllr Jeremy Hurley.**

- Demographic information has been provided to Mr John Rawlinson as requested.
- A list of grants issued by Pen y Cymoedd was circulated at the meeting. Cllr Hurley agreed to forward a copy.
- Bushes have been cut back opposite Tonmawr school.
- Gulley sucker has been deployed in Blaenavon Terrace, Tonmawr.
- A resident has requested that the dog waste bin located on private land on Railway Terrace be moved.
- Dog waste bin at Rhyslyn field is overflowing and arrangements have been made to empty the receptacle.
- A bus shelter has been requested at the entrance to Dan y Coed to protect children waiting for school transport. Also, for safety, it is hoped to prevent cars parking opposite the stop.
- Cllr Hurley is seeking to add further land to the LDP to provide for community development.

**7. 2020/008 Finance**

**a. To approve Schedule of payments – December 2019**

Proposed by Cllr Malcolm Jones, seconded by Cllr Desmond Sparkes with all Council members present in favour, that the following payments are approved, and receipts noted.

**01/12/2019 – 31/12/2019**  
**All payments noted at pre VAT amount.**  
**Community Council**

**Payments**

Wages and Salaries at resolved Council rates	
Pensions – Dec 2019 – Ees contribution	82.09
Ers premium	502.90
HMRC – December Employees deductions	129.90
Employers NI	13.23
Bank Charges – December 2019	5.00
Vodafone	51.46
Clerk – Reimbursement for stamps	39.30
Clerk – November Travel expenses	120.60
Mr Ross Pugh – Christmas trees	216.00
Neath Port Talbot CBC – Memorial stars	165.50
Neath Port Talbot CBC – Ground Rent SPO	75.00
D S Mackerras – December travel expenses	138.60

**Receipts**

Lloyds Bank Interest – 9th December	0.04
SPO Rent – 2nd December	95.00
Donations – Remembrance day	50.00
Donations – Christmas events	40.00
Precept – third & final payment	12,921.66

**Macpelah cemetery**

**Payments**

Clerk – Travel expenses	34.20
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**Receipts**

Interment fees	250.00
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**b. To note closing balances – 31 December 2019**

The following balances were noted:

Pelenna Current Account	£ 26,523.13
Investment Account	£ 1,001.57
Macpelah cemetery fund	£ 9,260.53
Swansea Building Society	£ 23.45
Total balances	£36,808.68

**c. To compare actual finance performance to budget – April - December 2019**

Actual performance for Receipts and Payments for the period April-December 2019 was compared with budget and reviewed with the assistance of explanations. Proposed by Cllr Malcolm Jones, seconded by Cllr Philip Lewis and agreed by all members present that the variance report and explanations be accepted.

**d. To consider a recommendation from the Finance committee in respect of the budget and proposed precept demand for the year 2020/21**

Proposed by Cllr Malcolm Jones, seconded by Cllr Diane Evans and agreed by all members present that the budget as amended by the Finance committee and now recommended by it, in an overall sum of £39,961 is approved. A precept demand for this amount will be sent to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.

**8. 2020/009 Planning applications**

No planning applications were presented for consideration.

**9. 2020/010 Community maintenance**

**a. CMO Report**

It was reported that the following work has been carried out:

- Christmas project support work
- Maintenance checks at playgrounds
- Litter picking
- Inside painting at Pontrhydyfen Community Centre
- Repair to notice board, Johns Terrace, Tonmawr

**b. Member comments/requests**

No requests.

**10. 2020/011 To discuss a response to the Boundary Commission draft proposal in respect of changes relating to the County Borough ward boundary involving Pelenna community.**

The Boundary commission has determined that the existing Pelenna ward should amalgamate with Bryn, Oakwood and Cwmavon.

Members considered it more appropriate if Oakwood and Cwm evan bach communities were linked to the existing Pelenna ward.

In the event that Pelenna is linked to Bryn, Oakwood and Cwmavon members felt that there would be a dilution of Services and that current protection for our Rural community will be lost. Pelenna community has already lost both of its well performing primary schools and it is inevitable that other services will also be lost. Pelenna residents believe that good representation will be lost and that a further decline will be felt. Three Councillors only, covering Bryn, Oakwood, Cwmavon and Pelenna will not provide adequate community representation and the statistics indicate that the Councillor/ elector ratio will be too high resulting in under representation. The above Community Council response will be sent to the Boundary Commission prior to the closing date of the current consultation period.

**11. 2020/012 To receive an update on the current vacancy in the Tonmawr ward of Pelenna Community Council.**

It appears that there has been no call from the Community for an election to fill the vacancy. It was therefore decided to declare that the Council intends to fill the vacancy by co-option and an advertisement will be published to this effect. One expression of interest has already been received.

**12. 2020/013 Attendance report to December 2019.**

All members in compliance with attendance regulations.

**13. 2020/014 Cemetery update.**

**Tree removal** – CMO is to inspect the tree at rear of Chapel building, currently causing concern to the Chapel trustees, to assess whether he is able to safely remove the

branches and foliage away from the building.

**Review of Cemetery charges** – Agreed that this matter will be considered by the cemetery committee at a meeting to be arranged for 6:00 pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

**Cemetery committee membership**

It was agreed that Cllr Christopher Jones will fill one of the vacancies on the Cemetery committee.

**14. 2020/015 Christmas 2019 ‘Lessons learned’ working party meeting.**

Agreed that this meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**15. 2020/016 To set a date for a meeting of the Media Engagement committee to commence work on a Community Newsletter.**

Agreed that this meeting will be held at 8:00 pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**16. 2020/017 To determine the Clerk’s weekly hours of work.**

The Clerk reported that his work load is increasing. Members agreed that the hours of work will be increased from 10 to 11 hours weekly with immediate affect. An allowance for this has been provided in the budget for 2020/1

**17. 2020/018 Correspondence**

- a. Age Cymru appeal letter – **Regret that PCC is unable to assist.**
- b. Pen y Cymoedd grants round 7 - **Agreed to apply for a grant to support Community Engagement and also presentation equipment.**
- c. Buckingham palace garden party – **Agreed to apply for a place for the Chair at a May Garden party.**
- d. VE75 – **Agreed to plan a commemoration event for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE day.**

**18. 2020/019 Date of next Full Council meeting**

Next Full Council meeting will be held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
February 2020 – 7:00 pm. at Tonmawr Community Centre.

Chair .....

*Meeting closed at 9:55 pm.*