Coychurch Higher Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on

10th March 2025

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| Present: |  |  |
| Chairman: | Cath Reape | CR |
| Vice Chairman: | John Holmes | JH |
|  |  |  |
| Councillors: | Tracy Boxall | TB |
| Councillors: | Mary Goodman-Edwards | MGE |
|  |  |  |
| Via zoom link | BC Richard Williams | RW |
|  |  |  |
| Member of Public | Mr Stephen Bird |  |
|  | Mr Darren Hughes |  |
|  | Mrs Linda Gore |  |
|  |  |  |
| Clerk/RFO: | Antoinette Chislett | AC |
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ACTION

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| Start Time: 18:48 | | | |
|  |  | CR officially opened the meeting. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | CHCC welcomed Mr Darren Hughes who wished to speak to members regarding Cennin’s pre-application for Mynydd y Gaer Wind Project. In summary, Mr Hughes discussed how he had made the decision to live in Coychurch Higher because of the rich biodiversity and spends a lot of time on Mynydd y Gaer. He referenced a Biffa scheme in recent times which brough improvements to wildlife and flora on Mynydd y Gaer. It is due to this biodiversity that he believes the proposed location for the wind farm is not right. He expressed his concerns that the development will have a negative impact on wildlife in the area.  Mrs L. Gore delivered a copy of a letter from The Coal Authority identifying sites of probable mine entries located in the proposed area.  Mr D. Hughes and Mrs. L. Gore left meeting. |  |
| Meeting re-started 19:48 | | |  |
| 1 |  | Apologies: Received and accepted from BC’s A. Ulberini-Williams |  |
| 2 |  | Minutes:  Minutes of the January meeting had been read.  JH proposed they be accepted; seconded by MGE and agreed by all. |  |
| 3 |  | Police matters:  No information received. |  |
| 4 |  | Declarations of interest:   * CR – Sports and Social Club * MGE – RFC * TB - Allotments * All CHCC attendees - Welfare Hall |  |
| 5 |  | Matters arising: |  |
|  | 5:i | Publicity/PR/Newsletter: who confirmed  No further information from the two people interested in the Councillor role. |  |
|  | 5:ii | Landscape project:   * AC queried item 3 on the maintenance quote regarding daily rate labour costs. Awaiting response from G. Wittington. Purchase Order to be raised following satisfactory response. * Comment from member of the public to TB that path is breaking up. MGE and JH have been on site recently and state that it looks OK at this point – no action to be taken. | AC |
|  | 5:iii | Development- Travellers:   * Update received from BC A. U-W. Members reviewed the update and were disappointed that enforcement had not taken place. |  |
|  | 5:iv | Signage:   * BC RW had no further news regarding signage from the Borough Council. Awaiting update |  |
|  | 5:v | Active Travel Plan:   * No further update. * There was a suggestion from Cenin during initial meeting with CHCC that they would put in a path on the old railway line towards Bryncethin. The route Cenin will take to get to Mynydd y Gaer has now changed. CHCC awaiting confirmation if the suggested railway line path will go ahead or not. |  |
|  | 5:vi | Miners Footpath   * Members agreed to remove this item from the forward work plan which will reduce final costs for year * All members agreed to remove item from next months Agenda | AC  AC |
|  | 5:vii | Traffic Speed:   * PSCO Speed Scoping results - average speed at the time (15:38 in the afternoon) of the exercise was 25.4 MPH (sample size 20 vehicles) in a 40 MPH speed limit area. * As per JH advice, AC has requested survey conducted at other times, such as commute times (7:30am - 8:30am) in the weekday mornings and weekday evenings (4:30pm - 5:30pm) and weekends - particularly late night/early mornings on Friday and Saturdays. Awaiting response | AC |
| 6 |  | Millennium site:  Cardiff Conservation Volunteers on site on 23rd February – invoice for £200 received. All members agreed to pay invoice | AC |
| 7 |  | Cenin/Hybont: -   * Members agreed to remove “Hybont” from item title. * AC to summarise feedback from Coychurch Higher residents and prepare a response to the Mynydd y Gaer Wind project pre-consultation | AC |
| 8 |  | HeolyCyw Welfare Hall:   * Committee plans to look for grants for improvements to the Hall | All members |
| 9 |  | Christmas:  No actions |  |
| 10 |  | Training and Code of Conduct Training:  No actions |  |
| 11 |  | Correspondence and planning: |  |
|  | 11:i | Correspondence (see attached correspondence list) :   * Electoral Services - proposed changes to boundaries and electoral arrangements – 12 week consultation ending 7th April 2025.   + AC to post on CHCC Facebook site for feedback from residents | AC |
|  | 11:ii | Planning   * ITEM 8 - Planning application consultation P/25/68/FUL Maes Y Gwaelod Pencoed CF35 6NA.   + All members agree to not object to planning * ITEM 25 - HCRLAW - Commons Act 2006 – Section 38 Application for consent to construct works on common land. representations should be sent in writing ON or BEFORE 11th April 2025 to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW)   + CR and AC to review plans at Pencoed Library | CR/AC |
| 12 | 12:i | To receive reports from:  Representative on school governing body –   * Meeting attended by TB.   + School plans to move to agency for cleaning staff   + Plans for new astro turf, lights and outside toilets which will enable clubs to use facilities outside of school hours. |  |
|  | 12:ii | Representative on the board of Conservators:   * Next meeting on 19th April * CR met with Board of Conservators, discussed plans for them to:   + Clear stream on Pant Hirwaun to prevent surface water   + Clear bamboo at end of Pant Hirwaun   + Look into using boulders to prevent people driving on common ground | CR |
|  | 12:iii | Representative on One Voice Wales   * Meeting has been cancelled. |  |
|  | 12:iv | Representative on the town and community council:   * No meeting |  |
| 13 | 13:i | Finance:   * Payment of Audit Wales outstanding invoices for 2018/19 = £292.45 and 2019/20 = £227.35 * Invoice received from BCBC Liam Ward for Christmas lights = £1529.47, may include VAT * Invoice received from Board of Conservators donation £500 * Invoice received from CCV for £200 * Invoice received for Welfare Hall hire – Jan and Feb * OVW membership fees = £175 due by 30th June 2025 |  |
| 15 |  | Matters for the clerk   * Foot bridge in woods has not be cordoned off as stated on BCBC site notice. CR to follow up with Andrew Mason. * Clerks meeting will take place on 20th March at 10:30am * ‘No Dogs Allowed’ sign in Heol-y-Cyw park not legible. RW to follow up | CR  BC RW |
| 16 |  | To consider any other item of business which the person presiding as the meeting, as of the opinion should, by reason of special circumstances, be transacted as a matter of urgency: |  |
|  |  | Meeting closed: 21:22 |  |
|  |  | Signed: |  |
|  |  | Dated: |  |