

**DARRAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
CYNGOR GYMUNED CWM DARRAN**

Mr. G. O. Williams
Clerk to the Council / Clerc Y Cyngor

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Dear Member,

Your attendance is requested at the next meeting of the above Community Council which will be held at Parc Cwm Darran Visitor's Centre, Deri, on **Thursday 7th March 2019 at 6.30pm.**

Yours sincerely,

Geraint Williams
Clerk to Darran Valley Community Council

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest.
3. To approve and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th February 2019
4. Matters Arising from the February 2019 meeting of Council.
5. Planning Applications.
6. To receive Community Council Correspondence.
7. Approval of Community Council Cheques / Payments.
8. To receive report from Gwent Police and / or Caerphilly CBC Community Safety Team.
9. CCTV Deri. Update

DARRAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the last meeting held at Parc Cwm Darran Visitor's Centre, Deri, of the above Community Council on Thursday 7th February 2019 at 6.30pm.

Present

Cllr. R. Chapman (In the Chair)
Cllr. D. Hardacre
Cllr. A. Vincent
Cllr. H. Holifield

Cllr. G. Matthews
Cllr. P. Thomas
Cllr. P. Roberts

Apologies

Cllr. D. Nicholas

Cllr. K. O'Hagan

In Attendance

Mr. G. O. Williams Clerk
Mr. Mark Ward Commons Ranger

Two Local Residents (Mr. E. Blanche and Mr. J. Vincent) were also present.

75 Minutes and Apologies

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd January 2019, previously circulated to members were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chairperson Cllr. R. Chapman

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D. Nicholas and Cllr. K. O'Hagan. Apologies for absence were also received from Gwent Police.

76 Declarations of Interest

76.1 Cllr. D. Hardacre and Cllr. P. Thomas declared an interest in Planning Application 18/1086/FULL. Cllr. D. Hardacre and Cllr. P. Thomas left the room whilst discussions took place and did not vote on Council's determination.
Moved. Noted on file.

77. Matters Arising

77.1 Minute No. 22.7, 54.02 and 64.2. Request to purchase land at Cefn Road, Deri, Bargoed.

The Clerk updated Council that he had received advice from colleagues from Caerphilly and was now in a position to develop a process / proposal for the sale of land.

Moved. Clerk to progress and to agenda for discussion at the April meeting of Council.

77.2 Minute No. 43.6, 54.04 and 64.3. Community Councillor Training. Chairing Skills

The Clerk advised Council that owing to illness of the One Voice Wales Training Officer the above-mentioned training scheduled for January 16th was

postponed at short notice. The Clerk advised that he was yet to be notified of a revised date.

Moved. Clerk to work with One Voice Wales and to notify the Chair when a revised date for training is known.

77.3 Minute No. 68. First Responder Scheme

The Clerk and Cllr. A. Vincent updated Council on progress made since the last meeting of Council, which included the development and distribution / display of posters aimed at engaging the interest of local residents. Cllr. Vincent updated Council on her meeting with Mr. T. Rosetti (Welsh Ambulance Service) in which Mr. Rosetti advised on an awareness and first responder recruitment plan for Autumn 2019.

Moved. Clerk to progress quote / costings of essential item i.e. Defibrillator and to agenda for discussion at the April meeting of Council.

77.4 Minute No. 69. Vehicle Speed / Speed Survey. Brook Row, Fochriw

The Clerk advised that he had received a response from Officers at Caerphilly CBC and was now in a position to coordinate a site meeting. Mr. Blanche was invited by the Chair to provide Council with his insight into this matter and in particular the preferred location for the recording tapes.

Moved. Clerk to coordinate a site visit, communicating arrangements to Councillors and Mr. E. Blanche.

Moved. Clerk to confirm arrangements regarding at similar meeting at Groesfaen and to again communicate arrangements as appropriate.

Moved. Clerk / Councillors to report progress at the March meeting of Council.

77.5 Minute No. 71. Access to Capel Brithdir

The Clerk reported receipt of a response to Council's recent correspondence in which Cllr. E. Stenner highlighted the extent of local / organisational consultation and the purpose of the PSPO (Public Space Protection Order). The Clerk also reported receipt of a similar response provided to Mr. E. Blanche following his associated correspondence. Mr. Blanche was invited by the Chair to provide Council with his insight into how this matter impacted local residents.

Following discussion, it was requested the Clerk write again to reiterate Council's continued disappointment with the lack of consultation with the Community Council, elected to represent the views of the local electorate. Within Council's correspondence it was requested the Clerk highlight Council agrees and understands that everything possible must be done to maintain our countryside and guard against fly-tipping, although request that Caerphilly CBC reconsider their decision to introduce the PSPO and to revisit / review other available options. The Clerk was also asked to confirm what formal arrangements are in place regarding access to emergency vehicles and how this is coordinated between / across the various emergency services. Clarity on this matter being important in allaying the fears of local residents regarding the immediacy of access should an incident occur.

Moved. Clerk to report at the March meeting of Council.

78 **Planning Applications**

The Clerk confirmed two applications for planning had been received since the last meeting of Council.

Planning Application. 18/1086/FULL.

Location. 3 Plantation Terrace, Fochriw, Bargoed, CF81 9JR.

Proposal. Erect two storey rear extension to replace existing single storey extension and erect new front porch at 3 Plantation Terrace, Fochriw, Bargoed, CF81 9JR.

Moved. Council raises no objections to the proposal.

Planning Application. 19/0013/LA.

Location. Land at Grid Reference 310203 205523 Martins Row Fochriw

Proposal. Remediate the area of erosion within existing side slopes / embankments and to upgrade the existing site drainage infrastructure which includes a series of grass lined and masonry lined channels and concrete sediment basin with a four-metre-wide track for maintenance access.

Moved. Council raises no objections to the proposal.

79 **Correspondence**

79.1 HMRC

Full Payment Submission for period ending 5th January 2019.

Moved. Noted on file.

79.2 Don Elsbury Plant Sales Ltd

Invoice for the install and removal of Council's Christmas Lighting for the period December / January 2018-19.

Moved. Payment.

79.3 Caerphilly CBC

Letter from Mr. Carl Nesling Assistant Community Safety Officer regarding the annual review of the surveillance camera located at Fochriw.

The Surveillance Camera Commissioner has put a responsibility on Local Authorities to justify any deployment of surveillance cameras via a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). Such assessments are now required before deploying any new cameras and for assessing the continuing need for existing cameras. PIA's consider whether there is a justified need for the deployment of cameras, for example serious, frequent antisocial behaviour. It also considers the impact on those subjected to the surveillance, whether such actions are proportionate to the problem they aim to address and if other less intrusive measures have been considered. Within his narrative, Mr. Nesling made reference to the following statistics relevant the Fochriw camera in the period 01/04/2018 to 31/01/2019:

- 1723 targeted CCTV patrols carried out by Operators;
- 01 incidents reported to police by CCTV;
- 01 police requests to view retrospective CCTV footage after incident has already occurred; and
- 02 DVDs provided for evidential purposes.

Following discussion, Council agreed to support the continuation of this facility chiefly as a deterrent measure. Cllr. D. Hardacre abstained from the vote as he was uncertain on the impact of the camera on crime / anti-social behaviour when compared to the financial cost of retention.

- 79.4 Community Foundation in Wales
Confirmation of Council's application for grant funding – Application Ref. OGA171428. Council should expect to hear back regarding whether you have been successful or unsuccessful with this application by the 31st March 2019.
- 79.5 Gwent Now
Notification of the development of a fortnightly newsletter which will keep residents in the Gwent Policing area up-to-date with activities of the Police and Crime Commissioners Office.
Moved. Noted on file.
- 79.6 Western Power Distribution
Temporary Unmetered Connections for Festive Lighting Christmas 2018/19.
Moved. Noted on file.
- 79.7 Royal British Legion
Reissued invoice for Armistice Day Wreaths 2017/18 - £37.00.
The Clerk confirmed that owing to an administrative error at the Royal British Legion Council's payment made in March 2018 Cheque No. 001824 had not been banked and had since been lost / destroyed. The Clerk confirmed that cheque had not been presented / banked.
Moved. Payment.
Moved. Clerk to cancel Cheque No. 001824 with Lloyds Bank Plc.
- 79.8 Darran Valley History Group
Letter advising on ambitions to purchase and site a memorial bench within the Memorial Garden in Deri and seeking Council's thoughts on an approval to do so.
Moved. Council raise no objections to the proposal.
Moved. Clerk to advise Mrs M. Button as appropriate.
- 79.9 Wales Audit Office
Report detailing the Auditor General's overall conclusions from his audit work in the Town & Community Sector for 2018/19.
Moved. Noted on file.
- 80 **Approval of Community Council Cheques**
The attached list of Community Council cheques was approved by members and amounted to **£02,450.82**.
- 81 **Community Council Precept & Draft Budget 2019/20**
Following discussion, it was agreed that Council would freeze the Community Council precept at £12,480.00 for 2019/20.
Moved. Clerk to notify Mrs. N. Roberts, Interim Head of Corporate Finance as appropriate.

Community Council Draft Budget 2019/20

The Clerk shared with Council a copy of Council's Budget for 2019/20 Following discussion, it was agreed that Council work within these values.

Draft Income & Expenditure Budget 2019-20				
Income		Expenditure		
Approx. C/F 31/03/2019 Mainstream	£05,557.00*	Clerk's Salary & On Costs	£04,500.00	
Precept	£12,480.00	Chairperson's Allowance	£00,300.00	
Anticipated VAT Reclaim 2018-19	£00,650.00	Out of Office	£00,250.00	
Wind Turbine	£04,597.00**	Telephone & B/band	£00,200.00	
High Sheriffs Fund	£04,000.00***	Room Hire	£00,200.00	
<p>* Includes £2,000.00 from Wind Turbine Asset Management Company. Second payment not yet made nor guaranteed.</p> <p>** For use in 2020/21. Not guaranteed.</p> <p>*** Subject to grant approval</p>		Insurance & Subscription	£00,600.00	
			Stationery & Postage	£00,300.00
			Website	£00,600.00
			Section 137 Grants	£02,000.00
			Section 137 Trip	£01,000.00
			Schools 137	£00,600.00
			Christmas Lighting	£01,500.00
			Audit	£00,600.00
			Councillor Expense / Allowance	£00,300.00
			Wind Turbine CBF	£02,000.00
			Summer Scheme	£04,000.00
	Total	£27,284.00	Total	£18,950.00
Projected Balance Year ending 31.03.2020			£08,334.00*	
* Of which £04,597.00 in Wind Turbine 2020/21			Net £03,737.00	

82 **Quarter 3 Income and Expenditure Report**

The Clerk provided Council with a detailed report of the financial expenditure incurred during Quarter 3 of 2018/19 (October to December 18). Within his report, the Clerk advised Council of the following income and expenditure values.

Darran Valley Community Council. Quarter 3 Expenditure Report

Expenditure Heading	Budget	Quarter 3 Expenditure	Percentage of Budget	Variance with Budget (Explanation)
Clerk's Salary & On Costs	£04,500.00	£03,114.65	69.21%	Under profile owing to cancellation of December meeting (December salary paid in Q4).
Chairperson's Allowance	£00,300.00	£00,300.00	100.00%	On profile.
Out of Office	£00,250.00	£00,250.00	100.00%	On profile.
Telephone & Broadband	£00,200.00	£00,100.32	50.16%	On profile. Second payment payable in January / February 2019.
Room Hire	£00,181.50	£00,181.50	100.00%	On profile.
Insurance & Subscription	£00,600.00	£00,482.08	80.35%	Under profile. Projected underspend of £117.92
Stationery & Postage	£00,300.00	£00,289.89	96.63%	On profile. Includes £190.49 for Armistice Poppies / Wreath / Ties.
Website	£00,600.00	£00,600.00	100.00%	On profile.
Section 19 & 137 Grants	£02,000.00	£01,649.68	82.48%	Under profile. Projected

				underspend of £350.32 (Payment for Banner & Leaflet Printing under Grant Aid Project)
Section 19 & 137 Schools	£00,600.00	£00,000.00	0.00%	On profile. Payments to be issued in Quarter 4
Section 19 & 137 Trip	£01,000.00	£00,880.00	88.00%	Under profile. Projected underspend of £120.00
Christmas Lighting	£02,000.00	£00,007.62	0.00%	On profile. Projected underspend of £500.00
Audit	£00,600.00	£00,200.00	33.33%	External Audit billed in Quarter 4. Projected underspend of £135.00
Councillor Expense / Allowance	£00,150.00	£00,150.00	100.00%	On profile.
Election 2017	£02,693.48	£02,693.48	100.00%	On profile.
Renewal of Council IT	£00,600.00	£00,000.00	0.00%	On profile. To be purchased in Quarter 4.
Summer Scheme	£02,000.00	£00,000.00	0.00%	Billed in September.
Christmas Lighting (Purchase)	£01,000.00	£01,065.60	106.56%	Over profile by £65.60.
GAVO Wind Turbine	£07,097.00	£07,097.00	100.00%	On profile.

Darran Valley Community Council. Quarter 3 (Cumulative) Income Report

Income Heading	Anticipated Income 2018-19	Actual Received (YTD)	Percentage of Anticipated	Variance or Narrative
Precept	£12,480.00	£12,480.00	100.00%	On profile.
VAT 2017-19	£00,541.40	£00,541.40	100.00%	On profile.
Community Benefit Fund		£02,000.00	N/A	Awaiting contribution from second asset management company circa. £02,597.50.

83 **Presentation from the Commons Ranger. Mr Mark Ward**

Mr. Mark Ward provided Council with a verbal overview of his role, its funding source and outlined measures of success. Within his presentation Mr. Ward highlighted plans to address anti-social behaviour (fly-tipping and off-road vehicles), to educate (working with a range of local schools and community groups) and to develop materials and signage relevant to highlighting key features of the common. Mr. Ward then answered questions from Councillors. The Chair Cllr. R. Chapman thanked Mr. Mark Ward for his presentation and for attending the meeting.

84 **School Governor Vacancy. Fochriw Primary School**

Following discussion, it was agreed the Clerk prepare a public notice and associated timescale, encouraging local residents of Fochriw to express an interest in the available position, detailing their suitability for the role.

Moved. Clerk to prepare and circulate notices as appropriate.

Moved. Clerk to agenda for discussion at the March meeting of Council.

85 **Caerphilly CBC Countryside.**

To receive report from Peter Lewis Senior Ranger Parc Cwm Darran.

A written report was received from Mr. Peter Lewis within which the following was referenced.

Visitor Centre/Café/Campsite

Our Fire Risk assessment works to the centre have now been completed. We are also upgrading our automated barrier to the campsite to include movement sensors to ensure campers safety.

Our RDP Team will be designing and building our first camping pod this summer.

Site Works

- Ongoing litter picking in the park and on the cycle-route.
- Cutting back overhanging trees/branches along cycleway completed
- Checking and clearing ditches/culverts after storms.
- Contractors completed high pruning to our damaged large oak trees along the cycleway and also finished thinning out the lake inflow channel.
- The new interpretation panels to our LNR Meadow, Wild Boar Amphitheatre, Fisherman's Car Park and the Memorial Garden is progressing well.
- I have placed an order for a new swing lakeside and repairs to our roundabout opposite the centre.
- I have also placed an order for new fencing opposite the Deri Community Centre.

School Visits

We have started to take bookings for spring/summer visits.

Events

Heavy rain had a major impact on our "Big Garden Bird Watch" event with only 35 people attending. However, those that did attend had a very good time.

We have put together our summer events program which should be out in March.

Nature Conservation

- What time the birders did net on the Big Garden Bird Watch event they were very productive getting good numbers and lots of species.
- We are due to put up 5 new bird boxes in April along the cycleway.

Date of Next and Future Meetings

Full Council. Thursday 7th March 2019, 6.30pm

Full Council. Thursday 4th April 2019, 6.30pm

Annual General Meeting. Thursday 2nd May 2019, 6pm

Full Council. Thursday 6th June 2019, 6.30pm

Meeting Closed at 7.50pm.

_____ **Chairperson**