



**Minutes of the meeting of Darran Valley Community Council on:  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 6.30 pm (Deri Community Centre)**

**Present**

Cllr. D Johnson (Chair)  
Cllr. D Nicholas  
Cllr. E Blanche  
Cllr. M Gibbings  
Cllr. J Gibbings  
Cllr. R Chapman  
Cllr. D Roberts

**Absent and Apologies**

Cllr. P Challenger  
Cllr. R Freemantle

**In Attendance**

Ms. A Pallister (Clerk)  
Representatives from Gwent Police

- 73 Members of the public**  
No members of the public attended.
- 74 Declaration of interest**  
There were none.
- 75 To approve and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> Oct 23.**  
The minutes of the meeting were approved as an accurate reflection of the meeting.
- 76 Matters arising from the meeting of Council on 4<sup>th</sup> Oct 23.**  
**70. Remembrance Sunday**  
**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** The Clerk to order more poppies for 2024 and investigate the cost of purchasing the animal poppies to honour the animals who served.
- 77 Planning Applications**  
There were no planning applications. The Clerk to double check the portal as Councillors' thought there was a planning request in the ward.  
**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** The Clerk to check and update at the next meeting.



## 78 Darran Valley Community Council Crime Update

A representative from Gwent police attended. Throughout the month of October there was an overall decrease in both crime and anti-social behavior incidents. There were 10 crimes and 7 anti-social behavior incidents in the Darran Valley. The 'Anti-social behavior – your guide' leaflets were handed to members of the council, and some were left at the community centre for members of the public.

- The force wide operation harley is still on-going and targeting the antisocial use of off-road bikes.
- 1 male from Fochriw was remanded for drug supply and conspiracy to steal motor vehicles.
- 1 male from Pontlloftyn who's partner lives in Fochriw was remanded for drug supply.
- Five men, aged between 19 and 27 were arrested on suspicion of class A and B drug supply offences following a day of action in Fochriw.
- 1 male was arrested for 4 thefts of diesel in Pontlloftyn.
- Sur-ron E-bikes reported to be more frequent in Deri.

Engagement – Rhymney NPT attended the annual Heddlu Bach interview stages at Fochriw Primary (AM Dawn Bowden was also in attendance). All candidates passed their Q&A and were welcomed to the team.

## 79 To receive Community Council Correspondence

79.01 The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales sent a notification that Councils must either pay their members £52 a year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role, or alternatively Councils must enable members to claim full reimbursement for the cost of office consumables.

79.02 Participatory Budgeting (GAVO) – Cllr J Gibbings sent details to the Clerk.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** Following a discussion the Clerk will Set up a meeting before the December 2023.

79.03 The Clerk received an e-mail from 'One Voice Wales' regarding free webinars and training available to members.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** The Clerk to send details to members. The Councillors' will let the Clerk know if they are interested in a particular webinar or course so the application form can be completed by the clerk.

79.04 The Post Office e-mailed regarding the temporary closure of Deri Post Office consultation hub.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** The Clerk will post on our website and find out about the provision of a mobile post office.

79.05 Caerphilly CBC sent an e-mail regarding the restricting of on-street parking for blue badge holders at 40 Aelybryn Street, Fochriw. The order came into operation on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023.



**80 Approval of Community Council Payments**

There were none.

**81 Planning for Christmas events**

The Clerk shared the event posters and tickets with members of Council – there were a few changes suggested.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**

The Clerk to make recommended changes to the event posters and tickets and send to members for final approval before printing and advertising.

**82 Questionnaires received (ideas for the OAP trip)**

Cllr J Gibbings brought the Deri questionnaires to the meeting. The Deri Cohort liked the idea of a joint trip with Fochriw and expressed an interest in visiting the Gower during the summer season. Cllr Gibbings has the bus company contacts who may be able to offer a better price if the trip is booked earlier. The Fochriw questionnaires are still being collated by Cllr D Johnson.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** As soon as all the questionnaires are returned this item will return for discussion and agreement.

**83 Discussion and feedback re: the summer scheme.**

Councillors' would like to look at other options for next year to appeal to a wider range of children.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** Council members to investigate and suggest ideas for the summer scheme 2024. A decision will be required in the new year so a scoping exercise is needed in advance.

**84 Date and time of the next meeting:**

The next meeting is to be held at Fochriw Community Centre on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 6.30 pm.