**CEIRIOG UCHAF COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

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| **COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**  **6th DECEMBER 2022** | **Present:**  **Cllr Benning (Chair),**  **Cllr D. Berriman,**  **Cllr S. Berriman,**  **Cllr S Biddulph**  **Cllr. Claybrook,**  **Cllr Evans Swogger**  **Cllr Jones,**  **Cllr Morris**  **County Cllr Bates,**  **Clerk: Miles Matile.** |

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| **1** | **APOLOGIES** | **NONE** |  |
| **2** | **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS RELATED TO ANY AGENDA ITEM** | **NONE RECORDED** |  |

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| **No** | **AGENDA ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **ACTION**  **WHO/WHEN** |
| **3** | **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**  **1ST NOVEMBER 2022** | **APPROVED**  **PROPOSED** Cllr Evans Swogger  **SECONDED**: Cllr D Berriman |  |
| **4** | **MATTERS ARISING**  **1st NOVMEBER 2022** |  |  |
| **4 (i)** | **HUW MORUS MEMORIAL** | The Clerk confirmed that the Grant from CADW had been approved and the owner Martin Obbard, was making a contribution of £300. The Council had previously approved underwriting the project to an amount of £453. This will now be reduced to **£153** | **CLERK** to continue to liaise with CADW, Martin Obbard and stonemason to project lead the restoration. |
| **4 (ii)** | **VILLAGE FINGER POST** | This has now been completed and looks wonderful. The Council thanked the Davies’s of Tithe Cottage for all their work.  Cllr Benning confirmed that at the October 2021 meeting the Council had approved the payment of £200 to ‘Chirk and Ceiriog Partnership’ for the restoration of the sign. This now needed amending to **Rob Davies**.  **PROPOSED:** Cllr Evans Swogger  **SECONDED**: Cllr Biddulph |  |
| **4 (iii)** | **CENTENARY** | Cllrs D Berriman and Claybrook provided feedback on the first meeting of the Steering Group held on the 14/11/2022 which was very successful. There were many representatives. There is lots of enthusiasm and ideas. Cllr Claybrook is updating the community Facebook page to gauge the level of public support.  A further meeting of the Steering Group will be convened in early January 2023 | **CLERK** to arrange meeting.  **Cllr Claybrook** to update Facebook |
| **5 (iv)** | **NATIONAL RESOURCES WALES** | The Clerk informed the Council that a representative from NRW – Joel Rees-Jones will attend to make a presentation of the work that is being completed along the Ceiriog, on the 10th January 20023  This will be a partial public meeting and an advert has been placed in GC News | **CLERK** and **Cllr Evans Swogger** to advertise locally with posters |
| **5** | **REPORTS** |  |  |
| **5 (i)** | **WREXHAM CBC**  **Cont.** | Cllr Bates reported:   * **4 X4** Cllr Bates reported on a recent road/track closure and disruption around Tregeiriog. As a result of Cllr Bates’s intervention, Ken Skates MS will meet with police in the valley. * **Elderly and Vulnerable Residents**. Cllr Bates outlined concerns that WCBC may not be communicating well with residents who do not access the internet. A letter has gone to the Chief Executive. The Council confirmed its concern in so much that we have a number of isolated homes and farms.   Cllr Claybrookconfirmed that she had convened a first meeting of the **Warm Spaces initiative at the Centenary Hall**   * **Community Energy Scheme**. Cllr Bates confirmed that a feasibility steering group will meet 6th January 2023. * **Ceiriog Community Christmas** lunch to be held on the 18th December | **CLERK** will write to WCBC Chief Executive |
| **6** | **FINANCES** |  |  |
| **6 (i)** | **PRECEPT PLANNING** | Cllr Benning updated the Council on proposed items for the 2023-2024 Precept. Upon the basis of previous years, the Council will need to submit its request by early January 2023.  The Clerk presented a proposed budget which would allow the Council to maintain existing services and develop its ability to make grants to support local initiatives subject to the Legislation.  Cllrs D & S Berriman made proposals for specific projects which will be factored into the budget.  Overall, the Council agreed that given the current economic circumstances facing the Country it would be appropriate to keep the Precept submission to the 2022/2023 level. ***The 2023/2024 Precept will remain the same this year as it was in 2022/2023’***  This would represent a 10% real term cut however the Council was confident that resources could be managed appropriately. The cost per household would approximately £37pa.  **It was proposed that the Precept for 2023/2024 be set at £6,000.**  **PROPOSED:** Cllr Evans Swogger  **SECONDED**: Cllr S Berriman  **Agreed** Nem. Con. | 1. **CLERK** to finalise budget for 31/03/23 2. **CLERK to** submit to WCBC |
| **6 (ii)** | **ACCOUNT BALANCE** | Cllrs had copies of the balance of accounts up to 06/12/2022. This showed that the Council held reserves of £6,232.85. In addition, the Council held £390.80 belonging to the Centenary Hall Management Committee. |  |
| **6 (iii)** | **PAYMENTS** | 1. Cllr Benning confirmed that a donation of £50 had been paid to the Youth Club as previously approved. |  |
| **7** | **COMMUNITY AGENT** |  |  |
| **7 (i)** | **EMPLOYMENT OF COMMUNITY AGENT** | * The Council had a further discussion about the possible employment of a Community Agent. The Clerk produced an amended paper to collate ideas and options. * It was recognised that the offer by WCBC brings the potential of an additional 350 hours a year of support into the Upper Valley. * This will be solely funded by WCBC. * That the legal, employment, management and financial responsibilities would not rest with CUCC. * It was likely that an existing Community Agent will be asked to extend their hours. * However, CUCC would be able to determine how the time of a Community Agent could be used with regular information feedback. * The Council was concerned about responsibilities and the vagueness of the role as currently defined and that this would require development. * The Council also recognised that in addition to periodic meetings with the Council, any applicant would need a single point of contact which would be the Clerk. * The Council would reserve the right to terminate any arrangement if the outcomes and delivery of the role were not as required.   **It was proposed that a Community Agent be appointed for 8 hours a week and operate within the conditions detailed above.**  **PROPOSED**: Cllr D Berriman  **SECONDED**: Cllr Evans Swogger  **FOR**: 4  **AGAINST**: 2  **ABSTENTION**: 2 | **CLERK** to liaise with WCBC and Clerk to Glyn Ceiriog CC. |
| **8** | **AOB** |  |  |
| **8 (i)** | **TREMYGLOG FIELD** | Cllr Benning informed the Council that he had received contact from Patrick Meier the owner, who would wish to plant an orchard and site a storage shed. Mr Meier will make contact with WCBC to determine if Planning Regulations are applicable. |  |
| **8 (ii)** | **MILESTONE** | Cllr Evans Swogger confirmed that she had not received any updates about the restoration of the milestone. She confirmed that she would make one further contact. | **Cllr Evans Swogger** to write to WCBC |
| **8 (iii)** | **BURIAL GROUND SIGNAGE** | Signs for information will now be updated and the cost of this has been included within the 2023/2024 budget | **CLERK** to action |
| **8 (iv)** | **CEMETERY AUDIT** | Cllr Evans Swogger informed the Council of a scheme to allow for the audit of graveyards/ cemeteries /burial grounds under the ‘God’s Acre’ scheme.  Cllr Biddulph has volunteered to liaise with another Councillor on this. |  |
| **8 (v)** | **METEOROLOGY STATION** | Cllr D Berriman confirmed that he had taken responsibility for collating information. |  |
| **8 (vi)** | **WCBC TOILET SURVEY** | Cllr Benning confirmed that the Clerk had circulated information about the provision of toilet facilities. Everyone was encouraged to reply to the survey. |  |
| **8 (vii)** | **GLYN NEWS** | The Clerk confirmed that GCN was going to have a regular article about Council decisions, with the first appearing in the December edition. |  |
| **8 (viii)** | **CONTACT DETAILS** | The Clerk confirmed that the Website would be updated for the start of the New Year. | **CLERK** to action |
| **8 (ix)** | **ELINOR EDWARDS** | The Council was saddened to hear of the death of Elinor and the Clerk confirmed that her interment will take place on the 15th December. |  |
| **8 (x)** | **RESIGNATION** | Cllr Benning confirmed that Cllr Biddulph had indicated that due to personal circumstances, she could not continue as a Councillor. She was whole-heartedly thanked for her contribution. The Clerk will commence notification of Election in January 2023 | **CLERK to action** |
| **9** | **NEXT MEETING** | **TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY 7.00**  Initial agenda items to include:   * NATIONAL RESOURCES WALES | **MEETING DATES FOR 2023 ATTACHED** |