

Merthyr Mawr Community Council

Cyngor Cynuned Merthyr Mawr

Minutes of Merthyr Mawr Community Council held on
Monday 14th December, at 7pm Via Zoom

Present:	Apologies
Cllr C. Taylor (Chairman)	Cllr D. Unwin
Cllr. C. Ball	Cllr. I. Mclaggan
Cllr. A. Morgan	
Cllr. N. Smith	
Cllr W. Willis	

50/20	To receive apologies for absence from the meeting: Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Cllr D. Unwin and Cllr I. Mclaggan
51/20	To receive Declarations of Interest and the nature thereof: (Cllr Anne Morgan) South Wales Youth Trust Trustee.
52/20	To receive the minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting which took place on Monday 9th November 2020 The following amendment was made to the minutes: 46/20 The chair was unable to attend the Town and Community Council Forum. The error was then accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were then signed by the chairman Cllr, C. Taylor.
53/20	Matters arising from the minutes 9th November 2020 44/20 The Council discussed its concerns regarding the right hand turn on to the A48 from Merthyr Mawr Road South. The Council has been notified that the work is on the list awaiting repair.

Signed:

Date:

	44/20 P/20/423/RLX Newton Down Windfarm, Stormy Lane, Porthcawl. The application was successful, and the lease extended from 25 to 40 years. 45/20 Cllr Morgan has kindly researched data protection policies and received information from One Voice Wales. The Council still awaits further information prior to completing this document. The Council discussed an email received from One Voice Wales regarding retaining the electoral register for the Council. A suggestion by Cllr W. Willis that the Council look at the Data Protection act 2018. The Council asked the Clerk to contact BCBC for the electoral register and request any policies / restrictions that we may need in place to retain the register. 46/20 The Clerk wrote to One Voice Wales regarding module 5 the Council meeting, module 10 Chairing skills and the Councillor. One Voice Wales replied saying that they plan to have these training modules available in January. 46/20 Cllr Christine Taylor and Cllr David Unwin attended a low key remembrance service on behalf of the Council. Cllr Taylor notified the Council that the use of one time non recyclable material wreath isn't environmentally friendly. The Council will discuss next year if a homemade wreath could be used and a donation still be made to the Royal British Legion. 47/20 The Auditor for the 2017 Annual Audit had written again to Cllr Unwin regarding matters arising from the 2017 Audit. The Clerk to provide the Council with the letter and receive an update from Cllr D Unwin on its outcome.
54/20	To Consider Correspondence. Members reviewed the items presented and noted them with the following: Correspondence period reviewed: 1st November 2020 to 6th December 2020 16 Cllr Morgan noted that BCBC made a quick response to our request regarding repairing the signs at Merthyr Mawr Road South. 40 Footpath at Tythegston. Cllr Christine Taylor has visited the area in question and will take photos of the area and update the Clerk to make the

	arrangements for the stile to be repaired. The Council would like to note that in future, we must be clear on how we look at the footpath maintenance, how we decide what work needs to be done, how the Council chooses its contractors with detailed invoices for the Council to check the work has been done to the correct standards before payments are made. The Council discussed the thought of a footpath policy to be created in future for this reason. The Clerk to circulate the invoice to the Council. 46 Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Annual Return. A return has been sent. The Clerk to ask Councillors during the March meeting if any remuneration would be made. 48 No response has been received from PCSO's regarding South Wales Police Trust. 60 The Clerk attended a Local Government Finance session on 7th December. The Clerk found the course interesting with the following comments made to Council: The internal Audit must be produced by someone who is independent of the Council. The Council should have an annual review of risk policy for the finance. The Council discussed the possibility of creating a 3 monthly spreadsheet for the Council to review the finances.
55/20	To consider financial matters: Balance on account: £0000000 (A) MMCC Budget 21/22 The Council discussed reducing the Councils Precept for this year, 2 options were discussed to the value of £3000 or £3500 for financial year 2021/2022. The Clerk left the meeting for Councillors to discuss an increase to the Clerks salary. The Clerk rejoined the meeting and was notified in recognition of the Clerks service an increase of 2.5% to the Clerks salary was agreed by Council. Clerks Salary set at £147.60 per month or £1771.20 per year. The Council unanimously agreed to accept a precept of £3,500.00 for financial year 2021-2022. Cllr A. Morgan proposed and Cllr C. Taylor seconded. (B) MMCC Donations Cllr Wendy Willis proposed that the Council put on its website a notice for the community to suggest and request donation ideas. The Clerk to update the website with this information. Cllr Anne Morgan Circulated a document to Councillors and paraphrased it for the meeting.

	Cllr A. Morgan provided a brief history of Charitable donations being allocated in the past. A number of years ago the Council chose to change its policy meaning anyone wishing to apply for funding from the Council must provide full audited accounts. Since then the Council has not had the response from donations as it once did. The Council to discuss changing its donation policy in future meetings. The Council discussed the proposal made by Cllr Anne Morgan to donate a sum of money to the South Wales Youth Trust. Cllr Wendy Willis kindly presented a report specifying what criteria were required for providing donations. Cllr Anne Morgan was removed from the meeting. The Council proposed a vote to donate £50 to South Wales Police Trust. After a lively debate it was decided to await a response from the Community PCSOs regarding any work carried out from the charity within our area. Cllr Anne Morgan rejoined the meeting.
56/20	To consider planning applications: There were none
57/20	To receive Members reports and any issues of concern: (A) The Council discussed that Councillors are required to attend the code of conduct session within 6 months of taking up office. The Council has agreed that Cllr Colin Ball, Cllr Christine Taylor and the Clerk to attend the code of conduct module 9 training dated the 16/12/20 to the value of £30 per person. (B) Cllr Colin Ball notified the Council that the residence of Stormy Down has received a lot of flicker from the Wind Turbines at Parc Stormy the Cenin site. The Clerk to contact environmental health make them aware that the residents are experiencing flicker from the Cenin site.
	Date of next meeting: Monday 11th January 2021 - Monthly Meeting at 7pm.
	The Meeting closed at: 21:10 pm

Action matters - highlighted in red.

Signed:

Date:

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