**Clyne and Melincourt Community Council - Cyngor Cymuned Clyne and Melincourt Community Council**

The Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting held by teleconference

on Wednesday 24th February 2021 at 6pm

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| **1.** | Record of councillors present and apologies for absence.  Present: Clerk; K Thomas  Cllrs G. Francis; C. Lake  NPT Cllr D. Lewis  Apologies: Cllr I. Jones and D. Rosser; M. Hopkins |
| **2.** | **Disclosure and confirmation of declarations of interest**  **None disclosed** |
| **3.** | **To Confirm the Minutes 27th January 2021** Cllrs G. Francis and C. Lake |
| **4.** | **To discuss the following from the minutes**  02/21/59 **Deposit of Tyre Bales at Lletty Dafydd Clyne.**  The Council has not yet received a conclusive report from NPT Enforcement.  Npt Cllr Dean Lewis reported that there is evidence of Knot Weed on the site. Council considered that potential development of this site would be complicated.  It was noted that the owner had offered the site for allotments. Council had noted that Allotments are subject to legislation. More information at the next meeting  02/21/60 **Report of Dumping at Residential Property**  NPT Cllr Dean Lewis advised Council that NPT Enforcement had informed that the waste carrier was to cease using this area as a transfer station and the site was to be restored as a residential property.  Cllr Dean Lewis advised Council that the operator does pay business rates to operate a business from this residence but is prohibited from dumping waste products at this site.  Council thanked Cllr Dean Lewis and NPT Enforcement for their persistence in achieving this successful outcome.  Cllr Dean Lewis requested that this item remain on the minutes because he considered that neighbouring properties needed to be reassured that any illicit development at this residence would continue to be monitored.  02/21/61 **Signage on Ynysnedd Hill, New Road**  This wasremoved by hedge cutting at Ynys Nedd Farm. NPT Cllr Dean Lewis instructed NPT Highways to remove debris. Sign has at last been restored since Autumn last year  Council thanked NPT Cllr Dean Lewis for resolving this protracted issue. A new sign has been installed with a concrete base. Council is hopeful that this will offer more resistance to the farmer in his flaying operation.  02/21/62 **Update from Melin Court Windfarm.**  Cllr D.Lewis advised Council that Muirhall Energy Windfarm to take out indemnity insurance to cover for legal contingency**.** Council to contact windfarm for update by next meeting planned to resubmit their application to NPT. Chair reported that Melincourt . Council received report that Muirhall Energy had been supportive to several local beneficiaries including £1,000 to the Canon Lewis Memorial Hall Roof Repair project. The energy company have also supported a film produced by local “Clickbox” to highlight the potential regeneration of the area.  Chair reported Ms Amanda Swann, Muir Energy , has requested to update the Council. Chair will provide further information at the next meeting.  02/21/63 **Bryn Golwg Park Refurbishment**.    Confirmation received from contractor that sealant had been applied to patched repair. Contractor pressing payment of balance outstanding. Council had requested a site meeting and request guarantee since the project had been beset by problems.  Council has settled the amount outstanding on this account  No response received from Council’s request to contractor/ NPT Grants Officer for meeting  02/21/64 **ROSPA report would be addressed by maintenance contractor.**  Council agreed report.  02/21/ 65 **Parking on pavement outside Tonclwyda SA11 4 BS.**  NPT Cllr Dean Lewis to follow up issue with NPT Highways Officer and requested a Highways Safety Survey to investigate curb side parking throughout community. Cllr D. Lewis met with residents. Further discussion with Highways officer recommended double yellow lines be installed from the cusp of the bend leading to the bus stop.  Cllr Dean Lewis reported to Council that he proposed to fund this development from money allocated to the ward. Cllr D Lewis to further discussion with Mr M **Brumby** Highways Office to investigate the feasibility of highway modification at this location. Council await progress. NPT Cllr Dean Lewis advised this would be deferred to new financial year.  02/21/66 Blocked **Culvert adjacent to Melincourt Car Park,** flooding adjacent area.  Site Meeting arranged for 3/10/20. (Work integrated in Small Woods Proposal N. Hinds)  Council advised that we reply to Mr Hinds advising him that after his  initial capital project we do not have the resources to maintain this site without continuing support.  We would welcome further discussion with you to address this issue. Council await reply.  02/21/67 **Broken Picnic Table at Melincourt Car Park** removed for repair. NPT Cllr requested to investigate the replacement. Cllr. D. Lewis advised that this was unlikely to be replaced during Corvid restrictions.    02/21/68 **Foot Path No. 7** (Maespwll leading to Ynysbwllog Acqueduct) report of path erosion and trees down. Clerk and Cllr Lewis visited site. NPT Rights of Way staff cleared trees.  Council requested NPT Access to make good the path especially since it is important to the local community walkers and those residents accessing the public bus service from Ynysarwed. As noted in the ROW policy statement that Footpath maintenance is essential to linking the local travellers not only for tourism but also for essential travel to Neath and beyond.  Reply received from NPT Footpaths Officer. Inspection report from NPT Footpaths November and whilst it may look precarious with the uprooted tree, the actual stability of the path is fine, however there is a sharp decline on the path as you approach from the main road which could be quite slippery with the current climate and fallen leaves.  NPT Officers have agreed to install some steps and widen the path slightly (on the other side) to make access a bit easier, although no timescales have been provided as to when the work will be undertaken as technically the footpath is no different to how it has always been – it just looks more precarious. Council await for this work to be completed  02/21/69 **Stone Theft Melincourt Chapel**. Cllr Dean Lewis contacted NPT Finance Director. Funding is available to restore burial area. Council will investigate further when weather permits, and Corvid restrictions are relaxed. Cllr Dean Lewis informed police who have contacted the Chapel administrator.  02/21/70 **Waterfall Country Report**.  Council is represented on this recently formed group who are investigating opportunities to promote the visitor attraction area for community benefit.  The organisation exists to benefit the communities it serves. It will be community-led with a broad representation from sectors and individual communities from across the Waterfall Country area.  Through its activities the organisation will seek to:   * Derive community benefit from the high number of visitors to the area including increasing visitor spend in the area. * Work with partners to mitigate visitor impact and promote sustainable, environmentally aware tourism through information and community-based solutions.   Chair advised Council that she has been appointed to the board of trustees and will continue to update Council.  02/21/71 **Ty Banc Canal Project**  Volunteers continue to work from Resolven to Abergarwd  This group which is continuing to restore the Canal from Resolven to Abergarwed have received a welcome boost in the form of a support from Cardiff University and much promotion from “Clickbox”digital design agency represented locally by Matt Young. Councillors to be provided with preview of this film.  02/21/72 **Bank Erosion causing subsidence to pavement adjacent to Tonclwyda Bus Stop (opposite to Ynys-yr-Afon)**  Report passed to Cllr Dean Lewis for NPT Engineering investigation  02/21/73 **Hazardous Conditions on New Road Approach to Tonna**  Council reports of several incidents arising from the poor drainage, icy conditions and trees falling on the highway.  NPT Cllr Dean Lewis to work with Tonna representative to address these issues.  02/21/74 **Collaboration proposal - Glynneath Town Council**  A proposal has been put forward to the upper communities of the Neath Valley to enter a joint venture to access the balance on the European Leader Funds with the view to funding the appointment of a grants officer (part Leader Funds and part Pen y Cymoedd)  Chair and Clerk attended the meeting. Council agreed to support the proposal initially but would advise council further on affordability.  02/21/75 **Deterioration Railway Bridge at Clyne**  Reference: SN8000   The Chair reported that this bridge appears on website being described.  [SN8000](https://www.geograph.org.uk/gridref/SN8000) : B4434 crossing “rusted railway bridge near Clyne taken 3 years ago”. The photograph shows the dilapidated structure. This is hardly conducive to attracting tourists to the area.  Reports from residents concerned by the community impact of the laden construction vehicles involved in the housing development of  at the former Clun school site.  Cllr Dean Lewis had approached Network Rail last year and agreed to request a further assessment from the Network Engineering. |
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**Keith Thomas**

**Clerk to the Council**

**24th February 2021**