**MERTHYR CYNOG**

**CYNGOR CYMUNED COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Monday 28th February 2022,**

**Upper Chapel Hall at 7.30 pm**

**Present**

Mr Kevin Williams (Chair), Mrs Emma Small, Mr Andy Jones, Mr John Davies, Mr Kevin Parry Mrs J Eckley (clerk)

**1. Apologies**

Mr Anthony Lewis,

**2. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24th January 2022, were agreed as a correct record. Proposed Mrs Emma Small and Seconded by Mrs Sheila Prosser.

**3. Matters Arising**

Mr John Davies advised the meeting that Pontfaen YFC had held a successful pre- Lambing Sunday lunch fundraiser on 20th February 2022, at Upper Chapel Hall. He wished to thank those who attended, including Cllr Iain McIntosh and Fay Jones MP. Donations were made to The Stroke Association Wales, Wales Air Ambulance Charity and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Iain McIntosh and Mr Sheila Prosser reported that the Protest Walk for the “Save & Rebuild Cradoc School on Saturday 29th January 2022 from Cradoc School to the Council Offices at Neuadd Brycheiniog, Cambrian Way had been well attended. The atmosphere had been uplifting and had been an enjoyable morning despite walking to save a much-loved school.

Iain McIntosh reported that impact assessments had been amended and he was looking into the finer details of these. The next meeting for the “Save & Rebuild Cradoc School” would be the 11th March 2022, where Iain advised he would attend and continue to support Cradoc School fully. This being where the final decision would be made regarding the future of the school.

Mr Kevin Williams thanked the Clerk for putting forward a letter regarding the proposed closure of Cradoc School, on behalf of the Community Council.

**4. Correspondence**

Correspondence received would be dealt with under their particular headings.

**5. Roads, Bridges and Highways**

The Clerk reported that an email confirming receipt from a resident had been received, this was following a matter that had been recently reported to PCC and feed back had been necessary.

Mrs Emma Small advised that the culvert between Bailybach & Bailybrith Farms had been cleared.

Clerk advised that she had reported the stone in the ditch outside of Pontfaen village heading to Merthyr Cynog. She was awaiting a response from Dai Lewis.

**6.Finance**

The Clerk updated members on the financial position of the Council.

The Budget Sheet 21/22 was passed round with updated figures. Out-going expenses to date had been the Hire of the Hall for £900.00. The budget sheet was confirmed, proposed by Mrs Sheila Prosser and seconded by Mr Kevin Parry.

The clerk advised that £399 remained outstanding for donations in line with the Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 – Section 137. It was proposed by Mr Andy Jones and seconded by Mr John Davies that a donation of £100.00 be made to Brecon Mountain Rescue. Mrs Sheila Prosser proposed and Mrs Emma Small seconded a donation of £100.00 to Dial a Ride Brecon. And lastly Mr Kevin Parry proposed and Mrs Sheila Prosser seconded a further £100.00 be made to the Wales Air Ambulance Service.

The Clerk submitted an Invoice of 90.48 for Fasthosts, which is the organization that deals with the Merthyr Cynog Community Website. It was proposed by Mr John Davies and seconded by Mr Kevin Parry that this be paid.

The Clerk advised that she wished to go on some training with One Voice Wales, regarding the financial aspect of the Community Council. The cost of this would be £30.00, as Merthyr Cynog Community Council was a member of the scheme. Clerk to go ahead and book.

The Clerk advised that the annual membership of £42 for One Voice Wales, was now due for 2022/2023. It was unanimously agreed that the clerk could go ahead and pay the membership.

The clerk advised that she had recently had to purchase Microsoft Work for the new lap top to enable her to complete her work. This amounted to £119.99. It would be placed under the IT section in the budget plan.

**7.Planning and Environment**.

The clerk reported back regarding the Jubilee Celebrations on Sunday 5th June which would be held at Castel Madoc, by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Millard. Merthyr Cynog discussed that should a lottery grant not be granted that a donation would be made towards this event, this would be discussed nearer the time. Feedback regarding the commemorative gifts was that perhaps it would be better to concentrate on making memories rather that presented gifts. Further meetings to be held regarding Jubilee Celebrations.

Mrs Sheila Prosser advised that the cabinet had arrived for the defibrator to be placed at Pontfaen. She advised that the residents at School House, Pontfaen had kindly offered that the defibrator be place their boundary wall. Therefore, there are two possibilities, School House or the wall of Pontfaen Chapel. Mr Kevin Williams will speak with the electrician as to the best possible siting of the heated case and defibrator.

Councilors are continuously concerned regarding the Broadband service for the Community. The recent pandemic has highlighted how important the service is, with many working from home, home schooling and keeping in touch with family and friends. Councilor Iain McIntosh advised that Voneus, the satellite service is due to be upgraded, in the near future. But many are still relying upon Open Reach for their internet. Currently this Community has not been updated for many years and are being left behind. Fibreoptic broad band still remains unavailable to us. Mr John Davies advised that he would look into this.

As with the Broadband services the electric infra structure for the Merthyr Cynog area has not been updated for many years. With more electricity being need in the area due to the growth in

1. **Any Other Business**

Mr Kevin Williams took this opportunity to offer the Community Councilors congratulations and best wishes to Mr John Davies, who had recently stepped down from his role as President of NFU Cymru. Mr Williams thanked John Davies for all the hard work and commitment that John had given NFU Cymru and the farming community for a number of years.

**Next Meeting**

TBC

Signed……………………………………………………………

Dated……………………