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Betws-y-Coed Community Council
Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held on the 11th October 2021

Present – Gareth Wynne Chairman, Gwawr Jones, Janet Charlton, Beth Thomas, Cllr Elizabeth Roberts, Caerwyn Roberts, Clerk.

Apologies, Catherine Williams, Neil Pringle, Mari E M Mathews

Declaration of interest. Janet Charlton declared an interest in minute [2.7 a] and took no part in the discussion

Minutes of the meeting of the 13th September 2021, read and approved.

Matters Arising

[1] Police Matters

No Police presence

[1.1] Proposed Footbridge upstream from Pont-y-Pair

The clerk reported on a meeting with CADW who disappointingly are not supportive of the proposal, advising that a footbridge would have an imposing presence on the old bridge. Cllr E Roberts advised that she would seek the views Dylan Jones Conwy CBC'S Traffic Division and report to the next meeting of the Community Council

[1.2] Miners Bridge/ New Bridge following flood damage

Cllr Elizabeth Roberts advised that she would seek an update of the timetable from Conwy CBC

[1.3] Conwy CBC Station Road Toilets

The Chairman reported that he had contacted Steven Teale regarding issues relating to the toilets and was waiting a response

[1.4] CCTV Pentre Du

The clerk reported that no further information had been received from Conwy CBC regarding costs of a CCTV system at Pentre Du. Clerk to send a reminder.

[1.5] Climber & Rambler Empty Shop

Cllr Elizabeth Roberts reported that no further information had been received from SNPA and advised that she would contact Conwy CBC to seek an update regarding the possible demolition of the building

[1.6] Repairs Memorial Hall

The Chairman advised that Conwy CBC were considering community value against costs and that The Conwy CBC may not meet the costs of repairs to the gable end of the building. Discussions are continuing at present

[1.7] Affordable Housing /Group Cynefin

Noted that discussions are ongoing regarding the funding of the development and the forming of a local lettings policy.

[1.8] Miniature Railway Café

Noting the concern regarding the condition of the railway carriage café, Cllr E Roberts agreed to contact Conwy CBC'S Regulatory Services for their observations including food hygiene standards Clerk to also write to the café proprietor regarding the condition of the carriage.

[1.9] Parking Issues Bro Gethin, Pentre Du

Noted that no response had been received from Andrew Bowden of Cartrefi Conwy, despite a reminder sent on the 14th Sept .Clerk to send a further request for a response.

[2.] SNPA Planting of Trees

The clerk advised that Conwy CBC had agreed to plant a few alder trees in Erw Hedd cemetery Clerk to contact SNPA regarding arrangements.

[2.1] Vegetation Growth/ Pont-y-Pair

The clerk reported that Conwy CBC was seeking the advice of CADW on verifying the need for ancient monument consents/conservation approval to undertake the work.

[2.2] Surgery Entrance/ Road Traffic Safety

Noted the response from the practice manager that the landlord would need to be consulted and that road markings may be put in place following the completion of the affordable housing development.

[2.3] Betws in Bloom

The clerk advised that Cllr Neil Pringle was preparing a funding application for new flower tubs.

[2.4] Man in a Van

Noted that Cllr Neil Pringle was progressing the matter.

[2.5] Tough Runner UK

The clerk referred to a response from Adrian La Trobe Events Manager Conwy CBC that no prior notification had been received from the event organiser and that the matter was being taken up with the organiser

[2.6] Fir Tree Island/ Clearing of Debris

Noted the response from NRW that possibly the island was in the ownership of Conwy CBC. Clerk to enquire with Conwy CBC.

Main Agenda

[2.7] Planning Applications

[a] Change of use of dwelling known as Fron Heulog into additional serviced accommodation to serve existing guest house known as Summer Hill.

Resolved to raise no objection to the above proposal

[b] Old Surgery Mill Street, Betws-y-Coed

The clerk reported on concerns passed on to the Community Council by residents on Mill Street, who were seeking the Community Council's support at an apparent serious breach of planning consent at the Old Surgery, Mill Street.

Resolved to contact SNPA that the Community Council is opposed to any further development and that work in breach of planning consent should be reversed.

[2.8] Financial Matters

[a] Resolved to approve the receipts and payments for the period 1st Sept – 30th Sept 2021

[b] The clerk reported that admissions to Swallow Falls were lower than in Sept 2020, but that generally admissions had increased compared to the summer of 2020.

[2.9] Retirements/Swallow Falls

Noted that Mr George Field and Mr Philip Green were retiring from their duties as kiosk attendants at Swallow Falls at the end of October 2021. Clerk to pass on the Community Council's appreciation for their service.

The clerk advised that Mr Michael Roberts, 23 Bro Gethin, Pentre Du had been appointed to the post of kiosk attendant in accordance with the current living wage of £8.91 per hr, and will assist over the winter period before taking up the duties for Spring/Summer 2022.

Noted that one vacancy now exists at Swallow Falls.

Gareth Wynne, Chairman. _____