

BRACKLA COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes of the Full Council at 6:30pm on Thursday, 21st April 2022

This meeting was held on a remote basis in accordance with the provisions of The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

Members Present

Cllr T Walsh – Chairperson
Cllr E Caparros
Cllr T Giffard
Cllr I Hibble
Cllr K Hughes
Cllr A Pucella
Cllr J Spanswick

Officers Present

Mr P Ley – Responsible Finance Officer
Miss H May – Admin Officer

191. To receive Apologies for absence

Cllr D Aston
Cllr K Rowlands

192. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest in respect of the business to be transacted

Cllr J Spanswick declared a prejudicial interest in relation to item 203, Planning, as he is a Member of Bridgend BCB Development Control Committee. He agreed to leave the meeting for this item.

193. Public Questions (limited to 10 minutes – S/O 3g)

There were no questions raised

194. To agree Minutes of the Full Council Meeting – 17th March 2022

Resolved:

The minutes were approved, this was proposed by Cllr J Spanswick and seconded by Cllr K Hughes.

195. To note Matters arising not addressed elsewhere on the agenda – *Clerk's report*

The Admin Officer informed Members that the Community Council had entered the Wales in Bloom Competition and the One Voice Wales Membership had been renewed.

It was also advised that one of the seesaw's in the park outside the Community Centre has been broken and a quote has been requested. It was agreed to bring this quote to the next meeting of Full Council. It was agreed that if the seesaw could be repaired and made safe, this should be the first option before purchasing a new one.

196. Matters pertaining to Community Centre

The Admin Officer shared that all the groups had now returned to the Centre and getting back to normal following the pandemic. Parties were also returning within the coming weeks. A new schedule will be created with the returned groups and new groups that have started recently and shared onto the notice boards and Council Website.

It was agreed that a Community Centre forum should be re-established in the coming months to meet with Centre users to discuss future plans and any concerns.

The responsible Finance Officer commended the Community Council for allowing the Centre to remain open to Banana Moon Nursery during the Pandemic as this allowed children of Key Workers have somewhere to go while they worked. Without this opportunity, many would not have been able to continue to work and therefore could have had a huge impact not only on Brackla residents but for everyone.

197. Matters pertaining to Finance, Governance and Administration

a) To receive YTD Financial Accounts as at 31 March 2022

Resolved:

The Council's Accounts were approved, this was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr T Giffard.

b) To note Bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2022

Resolved:

The bank reconciliation was approved, this was proposed by Cllr E Caparros and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick.

c) To note Payments made during the previous month

Resolved:

The list of payments were approved, this was proposed by Cllr I Hibble and seconded by Cllr K Hughes.

d) To approve Payment schedule as presented

The following schedule of cheque payments for authorisation was presented

Resolved:

The schedule of cheque payments were approved, this was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick.

198. Donation Requests

Resolved:

It was agreed to defer the donation requests until the next meeting while awaiting further information. It was also agreed that donations would not be considered unless the form had been received.

199. To discuss and consider group usage in Community Council storage containers

Resolved:

It was agreed that the Lads and Dads group would be able to store a small amount of equipment within the storage container with the understanding that it would be temporary, and that any equipment would be stored at the groups risk and the Community Council would not be responsible for any loss or damage.

200. To appoint the Community Centre Cleaner

Following interviews for the cleaner vacancy at Brackla Community Council, Members were presented with recommendations which outlined the skills, knowledge and flexibility of the candidate.

Resolved:

It was agreed to go accept the interview Panel's recommendation and appoint the new Cleaner for a total of 9 hours per week with the wage matching the National Real Living Wage. This was proposed by Cllr T Walsh and seconded by Cllr E Caparros.

201. To consider Community Council Events

a) Brackla Funday

The admin officer explained that Brackla Primary School had been contacted and Saturday 2nd July was agreed with the time being confirmed after this meeting. Previous vendors and quotes were presented to Members and it was advised that updated quotes have been requested but only a few have come back so far.

Resolved:

It was agreed that the time for this year's Brackla Funday would be 1pm-5pm and that where possible, any vendor/entertainment/etc that was booked previously, should be booked again.

b) Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Resolved:

It was agreed to look further into getting a plaque to mark the Queen's Jubilee which replicates the one near the Haywain but also looking at work that was included in a letter shared from Michael Gove. It was also agreed to hold off on any tree planting until further information can be sourced and permission gained, this was proposed by Cllr K Hughes and seconded by Cllr J Spanswick.

202. To receive Members' reports and outgoing addresses

Members took in turns to thank each other and staff (past and present) for the work they have undertaken within the past 5 years and especially during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Each shared their well wishes and good lucks for the future.

Members said a particular thanks to Cllr I Hibble and Cllr D Aston who would not be standing again in the upcoming elections for all the hard work and dedication over the years they have been Councillors.

203. To consider Planning Applications received since the last meeting

a) P/22/188/FUL – 10 Hazeldene Avenue, CF31 2JW

Single storey front/side extension

Resolved:

There was no objection to this application

b) P/22/175/FUL - 12 Gwaun Coed, CF31 2HS

Remove rear conservatory and construct single storey extension

Resolved:

There was no objection to this application

c) P/22/171/FUL – 14 Cwrt y Coed, CF31 2ST

Retention of static caravan as annex to dwelling

Resolved:

Cllr K Hughes invited Members to share their opinions on the planning application and all Members present at the meeting agreed to make the following objection;

1. Firstly, we appreciate that the retrospective nature of this application has created a number of additional sensitivities and considerations that under normal circumstances would possibly have been clarified during the planning application process prior to the siting of this static caravan.
2. More specifically the fact that the people live in the static caravan may bring in considerations that are beyond our remit as a Statutory Consultee. We are unsure how much weight, if any, this will carry with the Case Officer but we shall be guided by her decision or that of the Development Control Committee should the application be referred.
3. In addition a number of other points we feel will need to be considered that are inter-connected with this particular application
4. **Relevant History /other considerations:**
 - **T/21/45/TPO –Brackla Community Council** supported this application based on the report by ArbCymru. We understand that whilst the four Hawthorn trees have been removed Condition 1 of the Permission for works to protected trees has not been met and this will need to be addressed;
 - **T/04/51/TPO..T/06/53/TPO ..T/10/54/TPO** which relate to Trees on the Amenity Land adjoining 14 Cwrt Y Coed .(**P/97/349/RES** Condition 7).These TPO Applications were paid for by Brackla Community Council and the latter application (T/10/54/TPO)clearly indicates that we own the Trees .In addition we have maintained this grass area either through our previous gardener or our current Grass cutting contractor. We are currently looking into whether this Land was gifted or adopted from the Developer Persimmon Homes;
 - The main section of side fence of 14 Cwrt y Coed was removed some time ago and the adjoining land gives the impression of being an extension of the Applicants property. Its removal enabled the static home to be installed in their back garden. No formal access has been agreed and this will need to be resolved and the boundary fence/s replaced in their original position once the future of the static caravan has been decided;
 - The land is currently being used as an access route by the occupants of the static caravan and we are unsure if they live independently of the main building;
 - In addition the future of the existing tree swing, goal posts and temporary Bar located on this land will also need to be clarified especially as this Area is a designated Amenity area for all residents at Cwrt y Coed;
5. All of the Brackla Community Councillors at our FCM/Planning meeting of 21 April 22 agreed unanimously that they felt that Static Caravans, especially full size static homes should not be permitted to be installed in gardens at all throughout Brackla. We felt that that there was a conflict with Strategic Policy SP2 criteria 2 whereby such caravans would have an adverse impact on the local character, distinctiveness and landscape character especially as this caravan is also visible from Brackla Way.
6. Whilst we recognize that the Restrictive Covenants and the legal conditions/terms laid down by Persimmon for homeowners are not material planning considerations and that BCBC Planning are unlikely to take this into account. We accept that your final planning decision will not supersede any covenants in place.

7. We have not considered the implications of the Caravan Sites and Control Development ACT 1960 in our deliberations but in conclusion we feel that we cannot support this Application.

d) P/22/214/FUL- 43 The Chase, CF31 2JJ

Demolition of utility/store/garage & construct single storey rear/side extension

Resolved:

There was no objection to this application

e) P/22/36/FUL- 45 Badgers Mead, CF31 2PZ

Retention of driveway and small boundary wall to front [amended description]

Resolved:

The Community Council felt comments made previously were still relevant and therefore did not wish to make any further comments regarding this application.

f) P/22/233/FUL - 4 Fenwick Drive, CF31 2LD

Demolish existing conservatory and construct new sunroom extension to rear of dwelling

Resolved:

There was no objection to this application

204. Date of the next meeting – Thursday, 19th May 2022

Meeting closed at 8:30pm