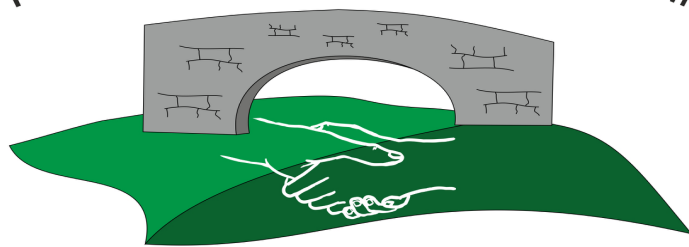


Risca East Community Council



...working with you

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Minutes of the meeting of Risca East Community Council held on 21st March 2019.

722. To sign the register and to receive apologies.

722.1. Community Councillors present: Councillors Rob Derraven, Deb Crahart, Zoe Davies, Nigel George, Arianna Leonard, Philippa Leonard and Christine Thomas

722.2. Apologies were received from Councillors John Blackburn and Sue Thorne.

723. To receive an update from Mr. Richard Owen on the proposed Ty Sign Community and Resource Centre.

723.1. Mr. Owen informed the meeting that Caerphilly County Borough Council had deferred the closure of Channel View Community Centre until 31st March 2020. He outlined the sources of funding for the proposed Community and Resource Centre. Caerphilly County Borough Council had approved the planning application. He confirmed that no trees would be removed as part of the development. He showed the meeting a drawing of the site layout and also the proposed centre identifying meeting rooms, a large hall, kitchen, etc. He said that solar panels would be fitted on the roof and a heat pump would be used for the central heating system. Once the Centre was opened and usage increased, then a caretaker and cleaner may be employed. It was hoped that the building would be built by late spring 2020. Mr. Owen asked if the Community Council would consider contributing half the cost of the architect fees which were estimated to be about £7,000. With regard to the suggested notice board, he agreed that this was a good idea, but until funding was available, his organisation could not provide the notice board.

723.2. The Chairman thanked Mr. Owen for his presentation and was advised that the Council would consider his request for financial assistance once the Clerk's Financial Report had been received and agreed.

724. To elect a Community Council representative to join the Trustees of the Ty Sign Community and Resource Centre.

724.1. None of the Councillors were prepared to put their name forward.

725. To receive representatives from the Police.

725.1. There were no representatives present at the meeting

726. To receive representations from the public.

726.1. Residents had submitted two questions to the Clerk.

- Parking on Elm Drive and Holly Road
- Closure of Public Toilets

726.2.Cllr. Nigel George confirmed that due to severe budget restrictions, Caerphilly County Borough Council had regrettably decided to close all public toilets from 1st April 2019. Some shops may allow the public to use their facilities and voluntary organisations and Community and Town Councils could consider taking over the responsibility for opening public toilets. The Clerk advised the meeting that the Community Council could not afford to take over the running of the public toilets unless it imposed a huge increase in its precept to the Borough Council.

726.3.With regard to the problems of parking on Elm Drive and Holly Road, it was accepted that this was a major problem but it was difficult to resolve without reducing the width of the pavements and grassed areas along the roads.

727.The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st February 2019 were **agreed**.

728.Matters Arising

728.1. Minute 716.1 – Defibrillator at St. David’s Church – The Clerk agreed to try and source alternative types of defibrillators.

728.2. Minute 716.4 - The Clerk informed the meeting that he was no further forward with sourcing a live tree to be planted in the grounds. It was suggested that he contact a member of staff from Caerphilly County Borough Council who may be able to provide names of suppliers.

728.3. Minute 720.1 – Cllr Nigel George agreed to make enquiries about the change of bus route.

729. Clerk’s Report

729.1.The Clerk provided a financial statement of the 2018/19 income and expenditure as at 21st March 2019 which showed a total spend of £33,155.42 with income received to date of £25,015.51 The bank balance was £32,205.21

729.2.The Council considered the request for financial assistance from the Ty Sign Community and Resource Centre. Upon a show of hands it was agreed by 4 votes to 2 with one abstention to donate £1,750.

730.The Clerk’s schedule of correspondence was received and the actions **agreed**.

731. To receive a report from Councillor Nigel George.

731.1. Cllr George informed the meeting that with effect from 1st April 2019, all users of the Civic Amenity Sites will have to show their driving license to prove that they are residents of Caerphilly County Borough Council. He added that four of these sites would be closing for 2 days per week.

732.Local Issues

732.1.Ty Sign Ward – The Clerk agreed to forward an application for financial assistance to Cllr. Christine Thomas.

Concerns were expressed by several Councillors about the anti-social behaviour on the Ty Sign Estate.

732.2.Pontymister Upper Ward – no report

732.3.Trenwydd Ward – Cllr Philippa Leonard enquired whether the Community Council would be taking part in the Risca Summer Fayre along with Risca Town Council. The Clerk agreed to raise this with his opposite number.

733.To Consider Planning Applications

733.1.19/0140/FULL – 15 Moriah Mews, Risca – erect detached garage

733.2. 19/0155/FULL – 78 Almond Avenue, Ty Sign, - carry out alterations to existing steps to accommodate an external platform for a disabled person's lift.

Signed.....Chairman 18th April 2019