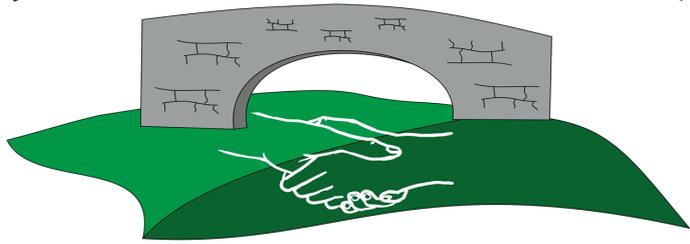


# Risca East Community Council



...working with you

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Minutes of the meeting of Risca East Community Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020. (Virtual meeting using MS Teams)

866. To sign the register and to receive apologies.

866.1. Community Councillors present: Councillors Rob Derraven, Deb Crahart, Rosemary Creedy, Zoe Davies, Nigel George, Christine Thomas and Sue Thorne

866.2. Apologies were received from Arianna Leonard and Philippa Leonard.

867. The Chairman welcomed Dawn Derraven and Tarra Holloway from the Covid19 Volunteer Support Group.

- Dawn explained that the charity was founded at the start of the lock-down in March of this year. It has 190 volunteers helping vulnerable people in the Risca area. The organisation is currently using the St. John's Hall but is hoping to move to the former Rolling Mill premises. She thanked the Community Council for providing the loan at the start of the project which helped resolve cashflow problems that they had.
- Tara explained that they were hoping to set up a school uniform support scheme and also provide help with school meals packed lunches.
- The group is registered with the Russell Trust and Crosskeys College want to go into partnership with the support group.
- They also hope to set up community allotments in the future – probably in 2021 – Cllr George suggested they contact the Friends of Waunfawr Park.
- Caerphilly County Borough Council initially set up the “buddy scheme” to help vulnerable people using staff that were seconded from other posts within the Council. As the Council has gradually taken the staff back into their regular jobs, then the resources provided by the Covid19 Support Group have become more important.
- Cllr Zoe Davies said that a leaflet inviting people to download a “next door neighbour app” has been distributed on the estate. Dawn was unaware of this leaflet of the app. Cllr George asked if he could have a copy of the leaflet.
- The Chairman asked what level of support the group wanted from the Community Council. Dawn replied that once the group has moved to the Rolling Mill they would be asking for financial support. She also confirmed that they had received limited financial support from Risca Town Council.
- The Chairman thanked Dawn and Tara for their presentation and they then left the meeting.
- Cllr Nigel George questioned giving significant sums of money to an organisation based outside the Risca East Community Council area. Concerns were also expressed about

funding the improvements to the Rolling Mill. Many thought that these improvements should be funded by the owner.

- Cllrs Zoe Davies and Nigel George felt that Risca Town Council should match-fund the project.
- Cllrs Sue Thorne and Deb Crahart felt that Risca East Community Council should give serious consideration to providing financial support for the group.
- It was agreed that once the support group has submitted an application form, then the Council could consider providing financial support.

868. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were **agreed**.

#### 869. Matters Arising

869.1. Minute 859.1 – Cllr Nigel George informed the meeting that the lighting columns near the Welsh Oak belonged to Newport Borough Council and they would agree to Risca East fitting Christmas lights to them. The Clerk advised the meeting that we had now left it too late to extend the Christmas Lights for this year. The Council could consider this in the new year.

#### 870. Clerk's Report

870.1. The Clerk provided a financial statement of the 2020/21 income and expenditure as at 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 which showed a total spend of £8,272.48 with income received of £27,790.42 The bank balance was £53,408.26

870.2. The financial report and schedule of cheques produced by the Clerk was **agreed**.

870.3. Cllr Christine Thomas asked whether Risca Senior Citizens Group could receive further financial assistance. The Clerk confirmed that he would forward an application form to Cllr. Thomas.

871. The Clerk's schedule of correspondence was received and the actions **agreed**.

#### 872. To receive a report from Councillor Nigel George

872.1. Cllr George had received numerous complaints about cars parking at Ty Sign Primary School.

872.2. The Caerphilly County Borough Council Cleansing Crew were visiting the area in November.

872.3. Cllr Zoe Davies reported that there was a problem with graffiti at the Skate Board Park.

872.4. Cllr George reported that the Covid19 infection rate within Caerphilly is not dropping and is expecting further restrictions to be imposed.

#### 873. Local Issues

##### 873.1. Ty Sign Ward –

- It was reported that youngsters were causing problems on the estate. Resources were being brought in to address the problem. ASBOs have been issued.
- It was noted that the Borough Council still hasn't replaced the crossing patrol person at Ty Sign Primary School. Cllr. Rosemary Creedy asked why Risca East Community Council couldn't provide financial support for the provision of the service. The Clerk explained that the Community Council could not take on such a significant financial

commitment.

- It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Caerphilly County Borough Council expressing the Community Council's concerns about the lack of a crossing patrol person at the main school gate.

873.2. Pontymister Upper Ward – Cllr Sue Thorne reported that there were a lot of complaints posted on the Risca East Community Council Facebook page about the problems with parking at Ty Sign Primary School. Cllr George confirmed that the School Governors had discussed this at a recent meeting.

873.3. Trenewydd Ward – Cllr Christine Thomas reported the unauthorized use of the Council notice board at the junction of Holly Road and Elm Drive.

Cllr Zoe Davies suggested that Clerk contact a local firm to get the notice board repaired.

874. To Consider Planning Applications – none

The next meeting will be the AGM and will start at 6:30 followed by an ordinary meeting at 7:00

Signed.....Chairman 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020