



**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Glynneath Town Council
In the Bethania Community Centre
At 7pm on Tuesday 10 July 2018**

Councillors Present

The Mayor, Councillor Dr Del Morgan
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Janet Gregory
Councillor Carolyn Edwards
Councillor Gerry Reynolds
Councillor Haulwen Morgan
Councillor Helen Williams
Councillor Jennifer Roberts
Councillor Lowri Francis
Councillor Marion Morgan
Councillor Richard Knoyle
Councillor Simon Knoyle

Council Employees Present

Clerk to Council: Michael Pugh

Absent/Apologies

Councillor Tony Pritchard
Councillor John Evans

1. Presiding

Mayor Councillor Dr Del Morgan

2. Mayor's Announcements

Councillor Del Morgan announced the Mayor's inauguration raised £250 for the Mayor's charity.

3. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Tony Pritchard

4. Declarations of Interest

Mayor Councillor Dr Del Morgan declared his interest as a County Borough Member and potential work with One Voice Wales.

Councillor Simon Knoyle declared his interest as a County Borough Member and Secretary of Glynneath RFC.

Chairperson:

Date:

Councillor Carolyn Edwards declared her interest as a County Borough Member.

Councillor Lowri Francis declared her interest as the Vice President of Glynneath RFC and Chair of Glynneath Community Events Panel.

5. Report on Crime/Policing

No report from the Police. The next PACT meeting confirmed at the Council Chambers in the Bethania Community Centre, on 25 July 2018, at 6.30pm.

6. Clerks report on public questions

Why is the cemetery in such a poor state? Long grass and risk of tripping in potholes etc?

The cemetery is currently being addressed, there has been substantial effort put in and plans are afoot to continue with the project to get the cemetery to an acceptable level. There are a great many ant hills, that have been treated and the groundskeepers are in the process of flattening. Clerk.

Why was the vote regarding the location of monthly meetings (TH v CC) was held in closed session?

Due to the interim Clerk accidentally placed the agenda item into closed session. Councillor Reynolds stated that in his view the matter could have been moved into open session.

Could the benches that were once in front of the pavilion (facing the tennis courts) be put back? People, including myself, used to like and sit there when walking through?

The benches were moved 15 to 20 years ago (so the clerk has been informed) when the new pavilion was erected, there have been no benches there since. The clerk has already inspected the area and 4 or 5 benches have been moved. However, all benches will need to be bolted onto concrete, therefore some time is needed to get all correctly in place. Clerk.

There are four tennis courts, but very few residents use them. Could the two courts nearest the brook be turned into a skate or basketball park? Would be far better for youngsters and would surely benefit the larger community and not just a minority.

Council to discuss in open session at the next Ordinary Meeting on 11th September 2018.

Has there been a Health & Safety inspection of the Bethania Chapel, if so when? Also, as the Council is committed to retaining the Chapel, what plans are there to undertake repairs and maintenance, and for it's further development?

Council to investigate any GDPR regulations on releasing a redacted report to the public.

What is the current valuation of Bethania Chapel?

Council to investigate the latest insurance valuation of the building.

Is Bethania Chapel adequately insured, against fire, damage, accident and vandalism etc? If so, how much is the insurance premium?

Yes, this will be answered with the previous question.

Has the insurance company been supplied with up to date Fire Inspection Report, a Health & Safety Report, a structural survey of the main Chapel building and a Risk Assessment in view of the café?

Council to investigate and advise further.

How many people can be accommodated within the Council Chambers?

60 people, in accordance with building regulations 2010 farthest point from an exit being less than 45 metres, maximum capacity is not based on room size. Inspection carried out at 3pm on 03 July 2018, Risk Assessment will be rewritten, then a final formal inspection will be carried out. However, the officer stated that the Community Centre, Council Chambers and offices exceeded regulations.

7. Amendments to the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Tuesday 12th June 2018

Resolved to accept the Minutes with the following amendments. Councillor Richard Knoyle pointed out it was he and not Councillor Simon Knoyle who requested extra time for public questions at the following meeting on the 10th July 2018.

8. Confirmation that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Tuesday 12th June 2018 are a true & correct Record. Resolved to accept the Minutes

9. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Tuesday 12th June 2018.

- a. GDPR is still ongoing.
- b. Councillor Lowri Francis stated there has been an increase in grass fires being started on purpose, particularly the Langy area, it was felt there were more Police patrols needed.
- c. Councillor Williams stated fire fighters couldn't access an area due to the lane in Pentre Street being blocked with cars.

10. Other reports

Trem y Glyn Action Group: The Swansea University projects relating to the Care Service should be completed in June/July 2018, with the report following soon after. Professor Verity from the University stated that she would be meeting with NPT Care Services to discuss the findings. Ongoing.

Community summer fun day in the Welfare Park, if the weather is inclement the event will be relocated to the Rugby Club.

11. Clerk's Report on Planning Applications

Application No: P2018/0492

Applicant: Mr Matthew Hall

Location: Land off B4242 nr Chain Rd, Glynneath.

Proposal: Details to be agreed in association with condition 2 (external materials) of P2013/0947 granted on 17/12/15.

No Observations.

Application No: P2018/0468

Applicant: Mrs Pauline Davies.

Location: 3 Ger Y Nant, Glynneath.

Proposal: Single storey rear extension.

No Observations.

Application No: P2018/0423

Applicant: Mr Gareth Waters

Location: 16 Woodland Park, Glynneath.

Proposal: Single story rear extension, roof lantern to roof of existing single storey rear extension, first floor side/rear extension with rear balcony, first floor landing window in side elevation of existing dwelling, raised platform and steps.

No Observations.

12. Clerk`s Report on Written Correspondence

Request from a local resident:

Asking the Council if they may hold a charity football event on Sat 14th July in memory of the late Philip Thorpe. The resident has agreed to ensure everything is tidied up after the event, including rubbish etc. Agreed by all members.

We have received a number of correspondences from residents basically asking the same thing. All to do with the Community Café, asking for a full and comprehensive breakdown of takings and expenditure. The letters will be answered in due course by the Clerk, time permitting obviously. Clerk to obtain a summary of all buildings.

Ongoing.

Request from the Children`s Therapy Centre Wales (treating children with cerebral palsy), charity No 1010183, asking for a donation. Councillor Reynolds questioned whether children of Glynneath receive assistance from this charity.

Clerk to investigate.

Request from the Peniel Silver Lining, charity No 1050636, asking for a grant of £200, however, if this is not possible any amount would be appreciated. Council decided to discuss at the next Ordinary Meeting on 11th Sep 2018.

13. Reports from the Cemetery Committee:

No reports.

14. Reports from the Human Resources Committee:

No report.

15. Reports from the Parks & Open Spaces Committee:

No report.

16. Reports from the Town Hall/Community Centre Committee:

No report.

17. Reports from the Project Action Group Committee:

Councillor Del Morgan read out the report. It was decided a further meeting is needed to move forward with plans, in particular the Welfare Park.

18. Reports from the Finance & Audit Committee:

No report.

Councillor Richard Knoyle again questioned the 2015/16 accounts and its importance, Clerk to investigate.

19. Reports from Town Councillors

Chairperson:

Date:

- a. 3rd Groundsman. Agreed in March that the Groundsman would be regularly reviewed to determine the needs and requirements. Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Richard Knoyle.
To be reviewed as a matter of urgency.
- b. Christmas lights. Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Haulwen Morgan. Councillor Haulwen Morgan has costs, the item will be discussed in more detail in closed session.
- c. Cemetery Drive drainage works. Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Haulwen Morgan.
From Richard Coleman, Drainage Officer, NPT, who Attended site Monday 9th April

The access road has adequate drainage, well designed with approximately 10 evenly spaced gullies across its length. A separate carrier pipe runs down the centre of the access road which outfalls via our highway carrier pipe at the bottom of Waun Gron. 2 lower Chambers contain a mass root infestation, causing water to hold in the pipe. The carrier drain will need a root cutter to clear this blockage across the entire length followed by a CCTV camera survey to establish the damage caused.

The water tends to flow down the centre of the road during heavy rainfall, with evidence of potholing in the centre of the access road which leads me to believe the water is missing the gullies at some locations due to the poor condition of the tarmacadam and levels/camber on the road not encouraging the water to flow alongside the kerb line and ultimately to the gullies. Re-profiling the road at certain locations could improve the runoff issue.

A small amount of water was seen to flow from a side lane half way up the access road on the left. A channel has been naturally carved out by flows during intense rainfall and potentially added to by breakout from the stream that runs adjacent to property Gwynedd above the cemetery. This will be very difficult to control at source as another source may appear at any time. Instead additional drainage should be looked at to be installed at the bottom of this lane where it joins onto access road to reduce the runoff affecting the cemetery.

The access road is un-adopted so any works required here will need the Glynneath Town Council to arrange. It is also worth noting that our gully machine has cleansed gullies on this road on a good will basis from time to time while in the area cleaning the adopted highway gullies on Waun Gron.

Councillor Simon Knoyle and the Clerk to investigate further inc costs.

- d. Community Centre. Arrange a working party to clean the chapel portion of the Community Centre, moving some items upstairs for storage. Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Haulwen Morgan. Ongoing.
- e. Discuss the influential historian Ian Curry being honoured in some way. Submitted by Councillor Carolyn Edwards, seconded by Councillor Del Morgan.
Agreed in principle.
- f. Review the Community Café takings. Submitted by Councillor Richard Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Simon Knoyle.
To be placed on the next agenda as a full discussion item.
- g. Discuss 'pre-reading' of the minutes from the previous Council Meeting. Receive the minutes and info pack at least 3 days prior to the meeting ensuring ample time to read and check for accuracy and content. This will save going through line by line and item by item, we can then only discuss the pertinent items that are brought up by Cllrs. This will save time and make the Council look more

Chairperson:

Date:

professional to the members of the public and residents. Submitted by Councillor Simon Knoyle, seconded by Councillor Richard Knoyle.

Councillor Simon Knoyle retracted his question as the minutes are more concise than previously.

20. Reports from County Councillors

No report.

21. Date, time, venue & proposed agenda items for the next meeting:

At 7.00pm on 11th September 2018 at Council Chambers, Bethania Community Centre.

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting but can only address the meeting (subject to Standing Orders 1d, 1e & 1f of the Town Councils Standing Orders, which can be viewed on the Council's Official Website) if they have confirmed the specific topic, in writing, to the Clerk (Note: all requests of this nature must be received at least seven days before the date of the meeting).

Councillors resolved to enter closed session to discuss strategic review and personnel matters in accordance with Town Council Standing Order number 1c and Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972. (The Act states that the public may be excluded from the meeting for the following business because it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information and the public interest not to disclose the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it).

The public were thanked for attending the meeting and for their interest in the proceedings of Council.

The meeting with the public closed at 9.15pm and Council resolved to enter closed session to discuss personnel issues and other closed session items.