



**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Glynneath Town Council  
In the Council Chamber, Bethania Community Centre, High Street, Glynneath  
at 7.00pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

Councillors Present: S Knoyle (Mayor)

D Morgan	J Collins
C Edwards	J Roberts
J Evans	S McMenamin
J Gregory	S Evans
M Powell	R Knoyle
R Simons	

Councillors Not Present: H Morgan, G Reynolds

Clerk: Mrs A Thomas

**1. Presiding**

The Mayor, Cllr S Knoyle.

**2. To receive item apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs G Reynolds (Personal) and H Morgan (Health)

**3. To receive members declarations of interest in respect of the business to be transacted**

Cllr C Edwards	NPTCBC Member
Cllr S Knoyle	NPTCBC Member
Cllr D Morgan	NPTCBC Member
	Potential work with One Voice Wales
Cllr J Evans	Trustee, Silver Valley Brass Band

**4. To approve item draft Community Plan**

Members considered the plan presented. It was noted that it set out priorities for the Town Council to deliver and these would be regularly monitored. It was agreed that progress would be monitored at least quarterly, however any Member could ask for the item to be considered at a meeting of the Town Council.

Members noted that the Community Plan would assist with meeting Well Being of Future Generation Act 2015 and the well-being objectives.

*(Cllr J Roberts arrived)*

Members sought clarification with regards to who would deliver the plan. It was noted that Council would be responsible for delivering the plan, however this would also be with the assistance of partnership working.

Following discussion

**Resolved: Glynneath Town Council agree to adopt the Community Plan and its objective and priorities set out and will regularly review and monitor its progress**

**5. To consider item Community Café:**

*Introduction of Standing Order 3(d) – by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted members of the press and public shall be excluded.*

**a) Environmental Health Report**

**Resolved: To accept the contents of the report and to continue to work towards the items identified within the report as soon as practicable**

*Conclusion of Standing Order 3(d)*

**b) To consider item Community Café costs to date 2019-2020**

Members discussed the costs presented. The Clerk clarified the figures. Members were informed that based on 10 months costs from the Community Café, the Town Council are subsidising the café in excess of £22,000 per annum.

Some Members expressed their grave concerns at the costs presented and it was suggested that the benefit of the community café did not justify the costs presented.

Members recognised that there was a need for a service within the area, however considered that it could perhaps be more efficiently provided.

Members were in general agreement that the costs need to be considered on a more detailed a basis and that a reduction in costs was necessary, however several different views were expressed with regards to how this should be carried out.

It was suggested that the parameters of what the community café offers should be considered in order to increase income to offset the costs of the café. Not

all members were in agreement and it was suggested that there should be an automated service offered.

It was noted that the cost to subsidise the café equates to approximately the same level of funds raised to replenish the reserves balance.

Members were advised that the closure of the café would not negate all the costs outlined.

Several propositions were put forwards.

Proposition 1:

*To close the community café kitchen with immediate effect. For the chairs and tables within the café to continue to be utilised with an automated service provided, subject to confirming liabilities with regards to staff.*

A recorded vote was requested:

For: Cllrs S Evans, J Collins, J Evans, M Powell  
Against: Cllrs D Morgan, C Edwards, J Gregory, S Knoyle, J Roberts, S  
McMenamin, R Knoyle  
Abstain: Cllr R Simons

The motion was not carried.

Proposition 2:

*To continue to retain the current position and services with the Community Café and continue to seek an additional casual worker. Alongside, to investigate alternatives, costs for services and reduce utilities costs. To receive a year end report outlining the full annual cost. To present information to the Full Council meeting to be held in April 2020.*

A recorded vote was requested:

For: Cllrs D Morgan, C Edwards, J Gregory, S Knoyle, R Simons  
Against: Cllrs J Roberts, S McMenamin, M Powell, J Collins, R Knoyle, S  
Evans  
Abstain: Cllr J Evans

The motion was not carried.

*Cllr J Evans left the meeting.*

Proposition 3:

A recorded vote was requested:

**Resolved:** To close the community café at the end of three months from this date. To immediately look at alternative options for a service to support the current users of the community café.

**For:** Cllrs R Knoyle, S Evans, S Knoyle, D Morgan, C Edwards, J Gregory, R Simons

**Against:** Cllrs J Roberts, S McMenamin, J Collins, M Powell

**Abstain:** None

*The meeting concluded at 9.00pm*