

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council,
held on Wednesday 10th of January 2024.**

The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the council Standing Orders.

Members present: Cllr I Perry (Chair), Cllr M Sexton, Cllr J Griffiths, Cllr I Poveda, Cllr M Farkaovska, Cllr M Hinton.

Also present: One member of the public

Meeting started at 7:30pm

1. Chair's welcome and introductions

The Chair confirmed quorum, welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the council members to the resident.

2. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr C Devonish, Cllr S Clarke.

3. To receive declarations of interest

None

4. Casual Vacancy

It was resolved that a member hasn't been present for 6-months and is therefore disqualified as a member of the council. A casual vacancy will be advertised.

Proposed Cllr Sexton, seconded Cllr Hinton

5. Police Matters

Members will seek more detail of the "theft from property" incident in St Nicholas reported in the agenda. A PCSO is expected to be present at the Community Councils coffee morning on 27th January.

6. Vale of Glamorgan Council matters

- The Vale Council faces further cuts to services and an increase in Council Tax to cover central government funding shortfalls.
- The campaign to save the historic Cowbridge Girls School was unsuccessful in demonstrating incorrect process in the Vale Councils decision-making at Judicial Review. The reported comments of the Deputy Leader suggest that people from outside of communities can make better decisions for those residents than the

residents themselves. Residents of Cowbridge have to find £7,500 to pay the councils costs.

- The planting of sycamore trees and wild flowers at Sycamore Cross has been put forward to Vale Officers for consideration. The layby opposite Cottrell Gardens was intended for use by the Go-Safe traffic safety camera vehicle.

7. To approve Minutes

a. November 1

Proposed Cllr Sexton, seconded Cllr Griffiths

b. December 6

Proposed Cllr Griffiths, seconded Cllr Hinton

8. Updates from other meetings attended and One Voice Wales

None

9. Clerks' activity report and updates on Community Council projects

a. Newsletters

Newsletters circulated and positive feedback received from residents – including an expression of interest in the casual vacancy.

b. Christmas Trees

The trees were well received by residents. The tree on Duffryn Lane was subjected to the battery lights being turned off repeatedly, and when action was taken to stop this reoccurring, baubles were deliberately smashed.

c. New Planters at School Lane

The new planters have been installed and planted for winter and early spring.

d. Defibrillator Installation

Two defibrillators have been installed in Bonvilston. The remaining three cases will be installed as soon as the groundworks contractor has time – recent bad weather has put them behind schedule.

e. Coffee Morning

The Reading Rooms has been booked for Saturday, 27th of January.

f. Community Ward Boundary Review

The Review is due for publication this month.

g. St Nicholas Memorial Paving

It is hoped to proceed in March.

h. Update on training

Members who have not undertaken Code of Conduct Training since May 2022 will attend a remote training session with One Voice Wales as soon as possible.

10. Correspondence

None



11. Discussion Forum – Matters not on the agenda

- The closure of School Lane in St Nicholas was raised. Work to repair the stone wall is expected to begin on 22nd January and take about fortnight to complete.

12. To consider staffing matters and appoint members to Staffing Committee

It was resolved to take the meeting into part ii, and the member of the public was put into the waiting room.

The member of the public returned to the meeting

A Staffing Committee of Cllr Perry, Cllr Sexton & Cllr Hilton was formed.

The vacancy of Clerk and of Responsible Financial Officer will be advertised this week.

Proposed Cllr Griffiths, seconded Cllr Farkaovska

13. Finances

a. Bank Reconciliation up to 31st December

Deferred

b. Budget vs Actual

Deferred

c. To approve payments

Scheduled Payments

- PR Accountancy (Gocardless) – Payroll – £10.00 (direct debit)
- Adobe – Acrobat DC subscription – £19.97 (card)
- Enwau – Clerks email – £10.26 (card)
- Giff Gaff – phone and data – £6 (card)
- Enwau- Clerks email- £11.99 (card)

Cheque payments

Ian Perry – Reimbursement for payment of Clerk December salary – £639.16

Cheque number #####

d. To appoint an Internal Auditor

It was resolved to reemploy Jo Howell as Internal Auditor for 2023-24

Proposed Cllr Griffiths, seconded Cllr Sexton

14. To consider Community Projects for 2024-25

The list of potential projects was discussed, along with opportunities to involve residents in the decision-making process.

15. Stronger Communities grant

The council has no projects to put forward for grant funding at this time.



16. Budget & Precept 2024-25

a. To approve the Budget

Members discussed the budget, particularly the budget for Christmas Trees and particularly whether the council should be providing trees at village pubs. The costs of the council's administration were also raised.

	Held in Reserve	24-25 budget
Civic and Democratic		
Councillor Remuneration		3,200
Meeting Costs		600
Elections	500	500
		4,300
Administration		
Staffing		9,500
Office/Stationary/IT		1,700
Subscription/memberships		500
Training		1,000
Audit and accountancy		1,270
Insurance		500
		14,470
Professional/Legal		8,000
Community Services		
Publications / Newsletters		600
War Memorials	350	1,000
Christmas		6,000
Engagement & Place Plan		6,000
Village Green + Planters		4,500
Remembrance + D Day		3,000
Public Health		1,000
Financial Assistance		1,500
Community Projects		17,000
Total		67,770

Proposed Cllr Hinton, seconded Cllr Sexton



b. To approve the precept for 2024-25

The precept demand was set at £67,770

Proposed Cllr Hinton, seconded Cllr Sexton

17. To receive updates on planning matters

a. Planning decisions

There were no comments on the planning decision circulated on the agenda.

18. To consider Planning Applications and Matters

a. Land west of Old Rectory, Bonvilston

Erection of agricultural building and associated hard standing area.

No comments.

19. To consider use of S106 money

Members discussed the options provided for use of the remainder S106 money for Sustainable Transport in St Nicholas. The council will investigate possible agreement with land owners or purchase of land to facilitate the building of bus shelters eastbound at St Nicholas (and Trehill) and widening the footway, providing a planter.

Improvements at the top of Duffryn Lane and dropped kerbs at Ger y Llan were also raised.

Local construction companies are to be approached to quote for the work.

Proposed Cllr Hinton, seconded Cllr Poveda

20. Co-option of Member

Kathryn (Kate) Reid of Bonvilston was coopted as a Member of the Community Council

Proposed Cllr Griffiths, seconded Cllr Farkaovska

21. Next meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Community Council is Wednesday, 7th February.

The meeting ended at 20:58

