



**Minutes of the Meeting of the St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council,  
on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 19:30.**

**The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities  
(Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020.**

**Present:** Chairman : Councillor Ian Perry.  
Councillors : Sophie Curien, Emma Del Torto, Jane Griffiths  
and Phillip Moss.  
Ms Sofia Hillman, Clerk  
3 Members of the Public.

*These Minutes were completed by the Locum Clerk on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 from a 'Zoom'  
recording provided by the Chairman.*

**Item 1: Chairman's welcome and introductions.**  
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced all  
present.

Councillor Perry announced the sad passing of a former Councillor,  
Mr Cec Mustow, an original resident of Maes-y-Ffynon in Bonvilston.

**Item 2: To receive Apologies for Absence.**  
Councillors Andrew Brown, Sam Cockrell, Colin Jones, Gill Rawson  
and Ken Ward.  
Vale of Glamorgan Councillor J Bird.

**Item 3: Co-option of a Member.**  
The Chairman introduced Ms Sophie Curien to the Members. Ms  
Curien had expressed an interest in joining the Council.  
**Proposed** by Councillor Perry, seconded by Councillor Griffiths and  
**resolved** that Ms Sophie Curien be co-opted onto St Nicholas with  
Bonvilston Community Council. The Chairman welcomed Councillor  
Curien to the Community Council.

**Item 4: To receive Declarations of Interest.**  
None.

**Item 5: To consider Police Matters.**  
No information provided by the Police.

**Item 6: To receive a report of the Vale Council Member.**  
No report.

**Item 7: To approve the Minutes of the EGM on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020, Ordinary  
Meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and Annual Meeting of 30<sup>th</sup>  
December 2020.**  
**Proposed** by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Perry and  
**resolved**

that the minutes of the EGM on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 be approved.

The approval of the Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> September was adjourned to the next meeting.

**Proposed** by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Moss and **resolved** that the minutes of the Annual Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020 be approved.

**Item 8: Matters arising from the Minutes.**

No matters arising.

**Item 9: To receive updates on completed and actioned projects.**

**a. Christmas Trees.**

The Christmas Trees are still up although the lights had been removed. There had been very positive feedback on the Christmas trees. Although disappointment was expressed by residents of Bonvilston at the lack of a Christmas tree in their village but regrettably there was no site suitable but, hopefully, that should be rectified next year.

**b. Water Pumps.**

Councillor Perry advised that work is in progress and the pumps should be back in situ later in the week.

**Item 10: Correspondence.**

No correspondence.

**Item 11: Public Participation.**

No items.

**Item 12: To consider matters arising from resident correspondence and participation.**

No matters arising.

**Item 13: Payments and Income.**

**Payments made:**

Clerk

- Salary and home allowance + tax - £156.50 (7 Jan).
- SLCC Membership - £78 (7 Jan)

Stationary items.

- Lever files and dividers - (7 Jan).

Training aids/reference books.

- The Councillor - £11.89 (18 Dec).
- Parish Councillors Guide - £19.56 (15 Dec).

Software.

- CBA Nitro PDF - £90.72 (Dec).

Grass Cutting Service.

- Damien McKenna - £540 (7Jan).

Christmas.

- Batteries - £40 (17 Dec).
- Baubles - £15 (16 Dec).
- Wire - £4 (16 Dec).
- Wooden decorations pack - £9.99 (16 Dec).

- Wooden decorations pack - £5.99 (16 Dec).
- Extra lights - £15.99 (15 Dec).
- Planter artwork - £114 (7 Jan).
- Banners - £252 (7 Jan)
- Battery lights - £137.92.

Meetings.

- Zoom £14.39 (9 Dec).

Website and email.

- Weebly - £72 (9 Dec).
- Domain - £11.99 (9 Dec).
- Email account - £5.28 (9 Dec).

Logo stickers - £129.60 (7 Jan).

**Income** – 3rd precept received from the Vale Council of £3,827.

**Bank Balance** currently £15,830.

Noted that the invoice for the planter is awaited and bank details for the Poppy Appeal to enable payment. Invoice for restoration of the water pumps due imminently.

**Item 14: To receive updates from other meetings attended.**

No updates.

**Item 15: To receive updates on planning applications.**

**a. St Nicholas School.**

The Chairman reported that to his knowledge that there was no progress on the application since November.

A Member of the public reported that he had been informed from a very reliable source that the planning application is going to the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Planning Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

There was no corresponding information on the website.

The Community Council was unaware of this so it was agreed that Councillor Perry should speak at the Planning Committee meeting on behalf of the Community Council.

A resident stated concerns that objections to the application by the Community had not been acknowledged at any time.

It was agreed that an enquiry should be made with the Vale Council to check if the application was definitely going to Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 and if so, a formal complaint made that no consultation with the Community Council had taken place.

**b. Applications approved by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.**

- The Old Post to be converted into a Hotel.
- Coach House, St Nicholas.
- Linhay Barn, Dyffryn.

**c. Maes y Ffynnon Village Green Application.**

The Village Green application for Bonvilston is to go to Public Enquiry. Preliminary hearing at the end of January, however the Vale of Glamorgan Council has requested more time to prepare their information. The actual Hearing was scheduled for the end of March.

- Item 16: To Consider Planning Applications and Matters.**
- a. Greenland Farm, A48, Bonvilston – 2020/01454/FUL**  
Erection of polytunnels; portaloo cabins within a wooden hut; a shop/café kiosk.  
The Community Council had no comment to make on the application.
- b. 1 Merrick Cottages, St Nicholas – 2020/01456/FUL**  
Proposed front porch and double storey rear extension.  
The Community Council **objected** to the size of the development, and flat roof, on a terraced property which is within the Conservation Area.
- c. Kingfauns, Cowbridge Road, St Nicholas – 2020/01531/FUL**  
Household extension to include conversion of existing garage to living accommodation with first floor bedroom above and new single garage adjoining.  
The Community Council expressed concern at the proposed windows.
- Item 17: Chairman’s Report.**  
Councillor Perry expressed concern that, despite several meetings, no progress had been made on ‘Reshaping Services’ and would therefore be seeking a meeting to find out what was happening on this.  
Councillor Del Torto pointed out that Covid had likely changed those plans to offload non-statutory services to Town and Community Councils.
- Item 18:**
- a. Community Councils professional support needs:**
- i. Roles and hours needed.  
Councillor Perry advised that the Clerk has been working 18 hours per month, however One Voice Wales has estimated that for a Council of this size, 26 hours per month would be more appropriate. Councillor Perry had forwarded some documents to Members for their consideration.
- ii. Employment of a Responsible Financial Officer.  
Members discussed the role of the Clerk and the Clerk expressed her view that a Responsible Financial Officer needed to be a ‘job specific post’.  
It was suggested that the finance be outsourced to an Accountant but One Voice Wales had advised that the work could not be outsourced.  
**Resolved** that the advice of One Voice Wales was sought for clarity on the matter.
- iii. Planning Officer Support.  
Councillor Perry had asked One Voice Wales if there was someone who the Council can go to for advice on Planning Applications.
- b. Christmas Tree Planter Storage and/or use.**  
Councillor Perry asked for views on what to do with the planters over the year.  
Whether to store them or plant them up with summer bedding later in the year.

It was **resolved** to remove the banners, get the Christmas trees recycled and place them together on the gravel area where one is already located and then decide on what to do with the planters later in the year.

**c. Community Asset (and service) Transfer.**

The Community Council had previously agreed to take over the maintenance of Maes-y-Ffynnon. It was suggested that the Community Council should ask the Vale Council for their land to be returned. It was reported that the grounds maintenance person who carries out work for Community Council charges a minimum call out fee only and does not charge by the amount of work that he undertakes. Members debated the transfer of assets and it was pointed out by a Member, that the Vale Council were referring to buildings. Grass cutting was debated and conflicting views were expressed over the matter.

Councillor Moss expressed his concern at the arguing between Members of the Community Council and how unprofessional it appears to Members of the Public present at the meetings. Councillor Moss asked that the behaviour be stopped and that meetings be run properly without 'bickering' and that he is not happy with the conduct of Members who appear to have personal vendettas against other Members, that every meeting is the same and it is not appropriate for a Community Council.

The Clerk expressed concern that money had been budgeted for certain projects which had not been carried out. Councillor Del Torto gave background on consultations which had previously been carried out. An action plan had been drawn up with residents' input. Some work from the action plan was completed.

A Member of the Public suggested that another consultation was held as the villages have almost doubled in size since the last consultation. Members discussed how difficult it can be to get the community involved in engagement.

It was agreed that St Nicholas is lacking a Village Hall/Community Hall or meeting place. It was mentioned that a 'Place Plan' could help with giving indications to what the community requires/could benefit from.

Councillor Moss asked if there is anyone who the Community Council could refer to in order to get things done. Councillor Perry mentioned the Community Liaison Committee at which items can be raised.

Councillor Perry explained about the Charter between the Vale Council and Town and Community Councils which had recently been updated.

**Item 19:**

**To discuss:**

**a. Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill.**  
Outlined.

The training policy was suggested.

Some books have been purchased to assist Councillors.

**b. Action Plan.**

Members were asked to look at the Action Plan prior to the next meeting and to discuss with other members before the next meeting. It was felt that professionals should be employed to do work for the Community Council.

Councillor Moss suggested that the agenda is shorter and that the Action Plan is an item on its own at the next meeting.

**Item 20: Announcements.**  
No announcements.

**Item 21: Next Meeting.**  
Next meeting to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

These Minutes were approved at the meeting of June 2, 2021



Cllr Ian Perry  
Chair