

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council, held on Tuesday 28th of January 2025.

A hybrid meeting was held with Members and residents able to attend at the Field Study Centre, Amelia Trust Farm or remotely in accordance with the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the council Standing Orders.

Members present: Cllr I Perry (Chair), Cllr A Harris, Cllr M Hinton, Cllr I Forcada, Cllr M Farkasovska, Cllr G Ward.

Also present: MAR Governor, two members of the public in the room and six members of the public remotely.

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 19:04.

1. Chair's welcome and introductions

The Chair confirmed quorum and introduced members of the council to the public.

2. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr J Griffiths, Cllr C Volrath.

3. To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Perry and Cllr Ward declared personal but not prejudicial interests in relation to item 15a due to personal connection to applicants.

4. Co-option of Member

There were no candidates. The council should be made up of 6 representatives of St Nicholas and 4 from Bonvilston. There have been indications of interest from residents. The council has an informal procedure for application for co-option, with co-option determined by resolution of the council.

5. To appoint Minor Authority Representative (MAR) Governor to St Nicholas CIW Primary School

It was **resolved** to reappoint Geoff Howell as MAR Governor. The term of office is 4-years. The MAR Governor brings a different view to the governing body of the school to help it to fulfil its role.

Proposed Cllr Perry, seconded Cllr Farkasovska

The traffic cones on the A48 to prevent stopping were placed by the police. The school mini bus service was removed due to financial losses. The school was closed on January 27 because the heating broke down. There are numerous problems with the building, with guarantees running out, complicated by the administration of ISG (the contractor who built the school). The solar panels are not feeding into the schools' batteries, so no battery back-up for power.

Many schools are setting deficit budgets, St Nicholas is setting a balanced budget this year.

6. Vale of Glamorgan Council matters

There are concerns about school buses running on icy lanes that are not gritted. Risk assessments are made and on one occasion this year, the bus has not run.

The Vale Council is considering expanding the areas where parking charges apply.

7. To approve Minutes

a. Meeting of January 14 – approved

Proposed Cllr Forcada, seconded Cllr Volrath

The minutes were published slightly late due to a lack of Clerk and the volunteer writing them having birthday.

8. Review of Warm Up with a Cuppa

A successful coffee morning was held at Dyffryn Gardens. A barrier to residents living alone attending is that they don't wish to attend alone. Members of the Community Council will personally invite some of these residents to encourage attendance. Another coffee morning will be held at Baffle Haus. It was agreed to invite people of interest to residents, such as the PCSO, to attend and meet the residents.

9. Correspondence from organisations including One Voice Wales

None

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

A Locum Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer has begun work

a. **Memorial Paving and bench**

Work is ongoing – weather dependent.

b. **Warm up with a cuppa**

The next coffee morning is Wednesday, February 12 at Baffle Haus, 9:30 start. Leaflets to be circulated to residents.

c. **Forces Fitness**

April 23 has been agreed.

d. **Training update**

Cllrs Volrath and Ward to attend Code of Conduct Training. Training availability and dates to be circulated. Agreed for Cllr Perry to attend course on Internal Audits.

e. **VE80 – Thursday, May 8**

The council will hold an event, similar to VD80. The beacon will be lit early so that people see it, and fish and chips will be available. A piper and band will be sought. The council will ask residents for their memories of VE Day in 1945.



- f. **Remembrance Brass and Tea on the Green, Bonvilston – Sunday, June 1**
Barry Brass have been booked to perform.

11. **Planning decisions and updates**

Approval has been granted for Parc Worlton Solar Farm at Dyffryn.

12. **To Consider planning matters**

- a. **Dyffryn Gardens, Duffryn Lane, St. Nicholas**
Repair and replacement to existing railings and balustrading. Installation of vine wires.
No comment
- b. **Pant y Ffynnon Quarry / Seth Hill Quarry, Bonvilston**
Reconsult: 2nd Periodic Review following permissions 97/01084/FUL & 2009/00814/ENV
No comment

13. **To consider**

- a. **Purchase of living bollards** – yew beehives for St Nicholas Village Green
It was **resolved** to buy 18 yew beehives (living bollards) for St Nicholas Village Green, in front of the Memorial at a cost of £150 each.
Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Ward
- a. **Accessible gates at Tyn y Coed Farm**
It was **resolved** to purchase three accessible gates for Tyn y Coed Farm.
Bonvilston.
Proposed Cllr Forcada, seconded Cllr Hinton

14. **To consider financial matters**

- a. **Application for £500 grant to run children's bootcamp from Forces Fitness**
It was **resolved** to provide a £500 grant to Forces Fitness. The Community Council will hire the sports hall the Amelia Trust Farm.
Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Farkasovska
- b. **Application for grant from Value in the Vale**
It was **resolved** to provide a grant to Value in the Vale to purchase 48 tickets to Bonvilston Village Cinema (4/month over a 12-month period) to reward their volunteers.
Proposed Cllr Farkasovska, seconded Cllr Forcada



c. **Payments to approve**

- LGRC – Locum Clerk, 7 hours – £424.70
Cheque: 101141
- Plantscape – planter £355.00 + £71.00(VAT) = £426.00
Cheque: 101142
- Cowbridge Poppy Appeal – 3x wreaths @ £22.50 (£67.50); 25x lamppost poppies @ £3 (£75); 5x lorry poppies @ £10 (£50); 50x alter poppies @ £1 (£50) = £242.50
Cheque: 101143
- Amelia Trust Farm – 4 hours hire of sports hall for event, April 23 – £198
Cheque: 101144
- Damian McKenna (DM2404) – grass cutting and removal of arisings - £1,200
Cheque: 101140

Proposed Cllr Perry, seconded Cllr Harris

d. **Christmas honorarium**

It was **resolved** to pay £50 to three residents who claimed an honorarium for powering the Christmas tree lights.

Cheque: 101145, 101146, 101147

Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Ward

e. **Woodies Lodge Honorarium**

Volunteers at Woodies Lodge provided crocheted poppies for Remembrance.

Cheque: 101148

It was **resolved** to pay an honorarium of £75.

Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Hinton

f. **To appoint Internal Auditor**

It was **resolved** appoint Kerry-Leigh Grabham as Internal Auditor for 2023-24 and 2024-25. The cost is £250 per year

Proposed Cllr Farkasovska, seconded Cllr Hinton

g. **Draft Budget for 2025-26**

There was comment regarding the cost of Christmas Trees and withdrawing council trees that have been located outside the public houses at Bonvilston and other trees too to reduce Christmas expenditure. Sponsorship and reduce installation costs will be investigated.



15. Community Council Support Officer recruitment

Cllr Perry proposed, and Cllr Harris seconded, the council moving into part ii (section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972). Members of the public left the meeting. The council moved into part ii, excluding press and public.

a. **To consider applications and appoint Community Council Support Officer, incorporating the roles of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer**

It was **resolved** to offer terms to one of the candidates who had been interviewed by Cllrs Harris, Hinton and Volrath.

Proposed Cllr Farkasovska, seconded Cllr Hinton

b. **To consider payroll**

The new Clerk will be put on the payroll of the existing payroll provider. An hourly rate was agreed.

Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Forcada

c. **To consider employees membership of the SLCC and training (ILCA)**

The Community Council will pay for the new employees' membership of the SLCC and fund their ILCA and FILCA training.

Proposed Cllr Harris, seconded Cllr Forcada

16. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on February 11, 7pm.

The meeting ended at 20:50.

