



**Minutes of the Meeting of the St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council,
on Monday 7th June 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.
Vice Chairman: Councillor Sam Cockrell.
Councillors: Sophie Curien, Jane Griffiths, Phillip Moss & Gill Rawson.

In Attendance: Jackie Griffin, Locum Clerk;
Representatives of Sirius Renewables and Thirty4/7;
Mr G Howell, MAR (Minor Authority Representative) of
St Nicholas CIW School.
Residents: John Beadsworth, Ruth Evans

Item 1: Chairman's Welcome and Introductions.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the Members of the Public in attendance.

Item 2: To receive Apologies for Absence.

Councillor Andrew Brown.

Item 3: To receive Declarations of Interest.

No declarations received.

Item 4: Casual vacancy update.

The matter is in the hands of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, who should be issuing notices shortly.

Item 5: To consider Police Matters.

Bonvilston

- 03/05/2021 – Reported 3rd Party, possible burglary at Old Post Inn. No evidence of attempted break in.
- 10/05/2021 – Reported stolen vehicle (Sometime in the previous few weeks) – No suspects identified.
- 11/05/2021 – Sheep in carriageway reported near Mast. On arrival only 1 lamb the wrong side of fence. It quickly jumped back into the field.
- 15/05/2021 – Vehicle stopped/seized for driving with no insurance.

Dyffryn

- 12/05/2021 – Suspicious male on different properties. Male identified. Investigation on going.
- 16/05/2021 – 2 suspicious males at Dyffryn House (alarm going off) – no offences reported
- 20/05/2021 – Dog bite person...on public footpath through farm property. All parties spoken to and advised. No further action to be taken.

St Nicholas

- 2 domestic related incidents.
- 2 incidents of driving without due care and attention.

Community Speed Watch.

Community Speed Watch is an educational scheme to help people reduce speeding traffic through their community. The scheme enables volunteers to work within their community to raise awareness of the dangers of speeding and to help control the problem locally.

Community Speed Watch incorporates poster campaigns and a pledge system linked to direct action using speed detection equipment all under the supervision of the County Council. The use of the radar devices will not lead to prosecution – drivers will get a letter from the police instead – but will help to underline the community's commitment to reducing speed. A minimum of three volunteers from each village is required.

Councillor Cockrell advised Members that he is currently setting up a Neighbourhood Watch in St Nicholas.

Item 6: Oaklands Solar Farm Proposals – Thirty 4/7 Communications.

This item was brought forward in the meeting to allow the Representatives to leave the meeting earlier.

James Cook, Nick Davies and Mark Griffiths of Sirius Planning and Will Morgan of Thirty 47 gave a presentation to the Community Council.

Sirius Renewables was set up as a company in 2015 and are based in Llanelli.

The Company has constructed solar farms in Caerphilly, Pyle and Bridgend.

Sirius Planning is an experienced planning consultancy and a key part of Sirius Renewables.

The proposal for the Community Council's area is for a solar farm which will be sited on both sides of the 5-mile lane and with access off that road. The solar farm will have a 40-year life span and be connected to the National Grid. It will offset over 21,700 tonnes of Carbon dioxide each year and have the potential to supply 22,000 homes. 3 possible sites have been identified. The Company is in the process of carrying out an impact assessment to identify constraints

and to consider how to provide an acceptable scheme. The landowners of the sites are to be identified and the Company will require advanced agreement to lease the land from the landowners. The question of 'Community Benefit' was raised and Members were asked to consider what the Community needs as it was stated that there will be provision for community funds but it was impossible to give any figures at such an early stage.

The timescale of the project was given as approximately 18 months to the planning stage, then 12/24 months for construction so planning to energise during 2023/2024.

Examples of schemes from community benefit were given including; youth schemes (especially where youth unemployment is high); community halls; public spaces and sporting facilities etc.

Furthermore, the Company would be willing to assist with providing community facilities such as preparing a planning application.

Key documents of the project will be on the company website enabling the public to keep up to date with progress and the Community Council will be kept informed.

Historic landscapes on the western side of the proposed site will be referred to CADW, GGAT, Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Planning Inspectorate.

As this is a DNS (Development of National Significance) it will be referred to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration and ultimately approval or refusal.

There will be consultations at various stages of the development.

Item 7: Vale of Glamorgan Council Matters.

a. Obstruction of the Highway.

It was reported that the Vale Council has provided graphic information of what is expected with regard to overhanging vegetation etc.

b. Dropped kerbs.

Kerbs to be 'dropped' have been marked up ready for installation.

c. Big Fill & Highway resurfacing.

A new 3-year surfacing plan is to be produced and it is hopeful that the road to Llancarfan will be resurfaced soon.

d. Missing west-bound bus stop at Sycamore Cross.

It was reported that there is no funding available for the missing bus stop.

e. S106.

It was confirmed that S106 will continue to be utilised for affordable housing as according to the Vale Council, there is an acute need for housing in the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

f. To receive a report of the Vale Council Member.

No report.

Additional Items raised:

Councillor Cockrell recommended that the 'Big Fill' application on the website is used to report potholes.

Councillor Moss referred to road resurfacing and concerns that new surfaces can be noisy, although the Vale Council is acutely aware of this.

Councillor Rawson advised that Councillor Bird had not received any meeting documents.

Item 8: To approve the Minutes of the:

a. Meeting of 7th December 2020.

Proposed by Councillor Cockrell, seconded by Councillor Griffiths and **resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting of 7th December 2020 be approved as a true record and would be signed by the Chairman in due course.

b. Meeting of 11th January 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Cockrell, seconded by Councillor Griffiths and **resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting of 11th January 2021 be approved as a true record and would be signed by the Chairman in due course.

c. Meeting of 18th January 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Cockrell, seconded by Councillor Griffiths and **resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting of 18th January 2021 be approved as a true record and would be signed by the Chairman in due course.

d. Annual Meeting held 10th May 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Cockrell, seconded by Councillor Curien and **resolved** that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 10th May 2021 be approved as a true record and would be signed by the Chairman in due course.

e. Meeting of 10th May 2021.

Proposed by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Cockrell and **resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting of 10th May 2021 be approved as a true record and would be signed by the Chairman in due course.

Item 9: Matters arising from the Minutes.

Councillor Moss referred to item 4 (Notification of 2 Casual Vacancies) in the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 10th May 2021 and stated that the wording of the item did not express the controversy of the procedure which had been followed and had resulted in the disqualification of two Members of the Community Council.

Item 10: To receive updates on completed and actioned projects.

a. Community Engagement

Meeting to be held on Thursday 10th June.

Noted that the planters have not yet been planted up.

b. Accessibility to the countryside.

Councillor Cockrell advised that he had completed a detailed plan with photographs of the stiles in and around Bonvilston and will do a similar plan for St Nicholas next.

c. Defibrillator maintenance.

Councillor Cockrell had made an enquiry with the Church with regard to the relocation of the defibrillator there. Discussion to continue.

Members were asked to consider suitable locations.

d. Employment review and employment of a new Clerk to the Council.

Councillor Perry advised that he had contacted One Voice Wales to discuss reviewing the Clerk's terms of employment. He was advised that the cost has now increased to £399 for their services.

It was reported that DCK are completing receipts and no monies had been spent.

Item 11: Correspondence.

11.1 Complaint of potholes on A48, Bonvilston received.

11.2 Complaint of potholes on A48, St Nicholas received.

11.3 Complaint of noise nuisance caused by workmen had been received.

11.4 Query related to the speed limit through Bonvilston.

11.5 Bonvilston Exchange – switching off of copper-based network –
5.10.2021.

11.6 Ewenny Community Council had advised that they wish to have a Rural Roads Policy.

Item 12: Matters not on the agenda – Discussion Forum.

Mr Howell advised that the School had arranged for a small area of land outside the school to be tarmaced.

In recognition of World Environment Day, Year 1 and Reception classes had carried out a litter pick and were now drawing up a chart to display the types of litter collected.

There was no news on the new school. The Headteacher has asked for a meeting. The Council has said that options are being explored.

A meeting had taken place on 27th May to discuss policies.

- Item 13: Finances.**
- 13.1 Payments and income.
The Council currently has no access to the bank account as an updated bank mandate is required. Mandate to be completed as soon as possible.
- 13.2 Applications for financial assistance for consideration.
Not all of the Members recalled the paperwork in relation to the applications so the item was adjourned.
- Members discussed reverting to meetings in the Village Hall soon. As meetings are now required to be hybrid, it was reported that until this is possible, meetings will have to be held via Zoom as there is no Wi-Fi facility at the Village Hall.
- 13.3 Insurance renewal.
Reported that the insurance had been renewed with Zurich Municipal.
- Item 14: To receive updates from other meetings attended.**
No reports.
- Item 15: To receive updates on planning matters**
- a. **The Forge Cottage, Cowbridge Road, St Nicholas – 2021/00189/FUL.**
Approved.
- b. **The Old Manse, Chapel Lane, St Nicholas – 2021/00094/FUL.**
Approved.
- Item 16: To consider Planning Applications and Matters:**
- a. **Doghill Farm, Dyffryn – 2021/00679/FUL.**
No objection.
- b. **Woodlands House, Bonvilston – 2021/00712/FUL.**
No objection.
- c. **Bolston House, Bonvilston – 2021/00423/FUL & 2021/00423/FUL.**
The Community Council has previously objected to the proposed demolition of the existing property and building of new dwellings in an area subject to high road noise levels, access on to a road with a 40mph speed limit and accessed from poor quality footways. These objections were reconfirmed, and the density/number of dwellings was considered. Whilst the Community Council is in favour of lower density development, it was thought this site warranted a few additional dwellings, particularly as a plot within the site is shown as vacant. **Proposed** by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Council Cockrell and **resolved** that the points raised are reported to the Vale Council Planning Department.
- d. **2 Merrick Cottages, St Nicholas – 2021/00728/FUL.**
No objection.

Item 17: Announcements.
No announcements.

Item 18: Next Meeting.
Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6th July 2021 at 19.30 via Zoom.

These Minutes were approved at the meeting of September 6, 2021



ClIr Ian Perry
Chair