



MINUTES OF MEETING

BEDLINOG & TRELEWIS **COMMUNITY COUNCIL** **MEETING**

MONDAY, 12TH JULY, 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Searl (In the Chair)

Councillors J Beard, Frayne, Jago, Preston and Thomas

Officers:

Ryan James (Clerk to the Council)

Outside Bodies: South Wales Police

In Attendance: Rebekah Stone

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
141	Welcome and Apologies	The Chair, Cllr Richard Searl, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllrs Brown, Evans, and Matthews.
142	Declarations of Interest	There were none.
143	Police Report	Police Sergeant Edmunds attended the meeting. Sergeant Edmunds advised that himself or the Inspector would attend the meetings going forward, in the absence of a PCSO or Police Officer.

		Cllr Jago raised that PACT meetings were organised in the past, but nobody turned up and it was a waste of Police resources. Cllr Jago suggested that PACT could be incorporated to Community Council meetings as part of an Agenda item going forward. The Community Council could ask residents what their priorities are, then these could be an area that PCSO focusses on e.g., anti-social behaviour, motorbikes on the mountain. Sergeant Edmunds was happy to support this. PCSO Gareth Perry provided the following PACT figures for the period 15th June – 9th July 2021: Bedlinog <i>Crime</i> 21/6/21- Damaged house window. 1/7/21- Theft of parcel from doorstep. 4/7/21- Stolen Vehicle. 5/7/21- Shed burglary. <i>Anti-social Behaviour</i> 1/7/21- Drug's misuse and noise nuisance at a property. Trelewis <i>Crime</i> 11/6/21- Theft of scrap washing line from driveway. 19/6/21- Theft of bank card from property, numerous transactions made. 23/6/21- Theft of money from Trelewis Community Centre. 25/6/21- Theft from vehicle on Wimpy estate. 26/6/21- Stolen vehicle, Stormtown. <i>Anti-social Behaviour</i> No ASB for Trelewis. A vehicle (yellow Ford Transit) has been brought to our attention with the driver acting suspiciously, slowing down, and looking into gardens in the Bedlinog area. No reports were made to police, although this information has been submitted as intelligence by PCSO Perry. Cllr Beard left the meeting at 18:34. Sergeant Richie Edmunds left the meeting at 18:36.
144	Minutes of Previous Meeting	Resolved, Cllr Thomas proposed, and Cllr Frayne seconded.
145	Matters Arising & Clerk's Report	Item 132 – request for more bins in Stormtown, Trelewis – Cllr Jago advised that if there is a need, MTCBC can put them onto the schedule for collection. A small consultation with residents in Stormtown is required to understand where

		they should be sited, also residents need to report dog fouling, so MTCBC recognise the area as a hot-spot area. Open recycling containers – recycling trolleys with fixed lids, are these going to be trialled in top Bedlinog and Trelewis. Cllr Jago queried this with MTCBC and advised that the original scheme for the trolleys was funded by WG and there were only enough trolley boxes for a trial in each ward. Feedback from residents was that they were difficult to store, residents did not want to carry them through their houses either. Blue bags are staying, and the design is going to be improved with extra Velcro. The Council are also trying bags with different weightings and residents can order the blue shower caps for the boxes. RJ will promote the free shower cap covers on social media that can be ordered from MTCBC. Cllr Ian Thomas advised that the Community Pay Back Scheme was approved at MTCBC Full Council so there will now be a 21k contract, that only works out as 2k per annum, per Ward, so MTCBC will need to look at allocation of resources for each Ward. Signpost to Trelewis on the Mountain Road – Cllr Jago agreed this was a good idea - it can be installed but will need to be organised via Martin Stark, Engineers Department, MTCBC. The estimated cost would be £670 for purchase and installation. We would need to seek permission from Caerphilly CBC first as it is on their adopted road. Item 135 – The planters and baskets have been installed within the community. We have two benches left over – one for Bedlinog and one for Trelewis. Cllr Jago advised that it would be useful to have one at Bedlinog Recreational Ground for when parents are watching their children play rugby. Cllr Preston suggested one in Stormtown, Trelewis. It was agreed that we would ask residents where they wanted the benches placed. RJ and Cllr Searl are now Co-opted Trustees of Bedlinog Miners Welfare Association, no official response from CISWO on the Community Council becoming the charitable trustees yet, but we can progress with some work. RJ and Cllr Searl are meeting St. John's Ambulance at the Pavilion 13/07/2021 to discuss brining the building back into use. It was agreed to consult with the community as to whether they wanted the Tennis Courts to remain as they were or to be turned into a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) if funding allows. RJ made enquiries with MTCBC regarding the old rugby fields at Nant Llwynog Park being used as a dedicated dog walking area – we need to provide a plan identifying the extent of land we are interested in, confirmation as to who will manage and maintain the land and the length of lease
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		required. An in-house consultation will then be carried out before providing the community council with a decision. Cllr Jago proposed that we do not proceed with this project, seconded by Cllr Searl. Resolved, not to proceed. Cllr Jago update on safer route to school issue – there is overgrowth and crumbling walls, and the green line has been painted at the top of the village but has not been done from Commercial Street up. Cllr Jago advised that she will chase this with MTCBC as it is in the interest of public safety. The CCTV is installed at the Community Centre – the final cost was £590. Cllr Preston asked if we could encourage people to use the community centre car park on rugby days. RJ will update on social media. Item 136 – a letter of Congratulations has been sent to Cllr Malcolm Colbran on his election as Mayor of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough. Item 137 – Planning Department have been informed of the concerns raised about Planning Application P/21/0198. Item 138 – A response was sent back to Class 2 at Bedlinog Community Primary School advising them that Cllrs would be happy to meet to discuss their presentation about litter problems in the area. Item 139 – The nomination form for the People Awards has been published. 7 nominations so far, RJ will promote it some more on social media and ask the community to vote for their winner(s). Item 139 – RJ contacted MTCBC about the hazardous step at Stormtown bus stop but there is no record of land ownership. Would need to go to land registry but there is a charge for this. Item 139 – RJ contacted MTCBC about the over-flowing skip in the vicinity at the bottom of Stormtown bus stop – MTCBC cannot do anything about this as it is private land. They have no reason at this present time to contact the landowner to establish what their plans are for it as whilst the community are saying it is causing a disturbance, MTCBC say the landowner is not doing anything wrong. RJ obtained costs for communicating with the public – a Newsletter would cost 4p per side in mono print; 44p per side for colour print. Costs for Merthyr Express advertisement would be £1200 for a qtr. page over a 12-month period. It was agreed that we would produce a 6-monthly newsletter. It can be placed in Bedlinog doctor's surgery, shops in Trelewis and Bedlinog (with owner's permission). Cllr Jago also suggested that we provide the Newsletter in Welsh. In terms of agreeing costs for producing the Newsletter
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		including printing, Cllr Jago proposed, and Cllr Frayne seconded. Resolved.
146	County Councillors Report	Cllr Ian Thomas advised that MTCBC is trying to improve the quality of services and approved the creation of a new Commercial Unit. The unit will look at how MTCBC can raise some money and improve finances - a Commercial Manager and two other staff to support the team will be appointed. MTCBC has also approved the appointment of a Tree Manager - there is a big problem in the borough called Ash Dieback and it will require resources put into it to control it, cut down affected trees etc. The newly appointed Tree Manager will oversee this over a 5-year plan. Cllr Jago advised of the workshops that she has attended over the last month within MTCBC. Also, casework is very busy with day-to-day reporting of issues. There have been no referrals to the foodbank this month, so this is a positive sign. Cllr Jago is also supporting Trelewis Bowls Club with funding and Bedlinog RFC for future projects they have. Cllr Jago asked if we could re-establish outreach in Bedlinog and Trelewis with Citizens Advice for a two-hour slot once a month – this will be explored when COVID restrictions allow. Lots of residents are still having issues in respect of Rights of Way at Tyr y wen Farm. When COVID restrictions allow the Community Council will hold a workshop for the community and have a definitive map of where the Rights of Way are for the local area and ensure they are fully accessible – we can invite Beth Jones, Rights of Way Officer. We will try and organise this for September time – if restrictions allow. Lots of residents still angry that toilets are not open all the time at Parc Taf Bargoed, this has been escalated to the Leader of the Council and will be raised with the parks department 13/07/2021. The whole community has been sprayed with weed killer and a second spray will be carried out within the whole community - every single street will be done by end of August. Gelligaer and Merthyr common project – going very well and they have planted 2015 trees so far across the common. Joint patrols are taking place with the Police and the Ranger. The plans for the build of the pre-school have been submitted. The work is going out to tender by the end of July, and it is hoped to have a contractor appointed and ready to start in November 2021. Aiming for completion by May 2022. Ebenezer Close, Trelewis - a few months ago there was an incident where the fire service was called to Trelewis Primary School but could not gain access. Fire Service took

		over an hour to gain access to the school because of the obstructions so bollards will be placed in the close to enable access and to ensure safety of the school children. Bedlinog Fence on B4525 – contractor has obtained quotes; the local authority is having difficulty obtaining timber at the present time. Inspection of playgrounds has been completed and proposal now is a 285k capital programme be invested in playgrounds across the authority. It has been agreed Lewis Street Playground will be one of the first to be completed by the end of March 2022. Defibs were to be available through South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, but they have not come to fruition, Cllr Jago would like to have further defibs across the community. Potentially one at Coed Yr Hendre, one near the shop in Hylton Terrace, one in Stormtown, and one in Trelewis High Street. RJ will obtain pricing for defibs and investigate maintenance contracts in readiness for the next meeting. County Councillor Colbran was invited to the meeting but declined the invitation, and sent the following email report: From: "Colbran, Malcolm (Councillor)" <malcolm.colbran@merthyr.gov.uk> Date: 6 July 2021 at 18:27:50 BST To: "Ryan James (BTCC Clerk)" <clerk@bedlinogcommunitycouncil.gov.wales> Subject: Re: BTCC Meeting 12-07-21 Mr James, I won't be attending the meeting of Bedlinog & Trelewis Community Council on 12/07/21. This is a copy of the report I provided to residents for June. During June I attended the following online meetings. MTCBC: Full Council Licencing Committee Planning Committee Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Committee Age 3-16 New School briefing Planning Workshop Independent Group meeting x 2 South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority AGM Llywdcoed Crematorium Joint Management Committee Greenfield School Governors Staffing Committee A book launch at Stephens & George Charitable Trust A meeting regarding names missing from Merthyr Tydfil War Memorials Litter Picking Hub Manager Training As Mayor I attended: The opening of the Reuse Shop in Pentrebach.
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		The raising of the flags at the Civic Centre for Armed Forces Week with other Councillors.. A lunch with Jeff Edwards, the High Sheriff, along with the Leader of the Council, Lisa Mytton, and the Mayors and Leaders of RTC & Bridgend Councils. The funeral of Major Tudor Price MBE along with other Councillors. I took part in litter picks with Merthyr Valleys Homes around the Wimpy Estate in Trelewis and with Restore The River around Parc Taf Bargoed. I met on site with representatives of Trelewis Bowls Club, local residents and the Estates & Parks Departments to discuss some of the ongoing problems in Trelewis Park. Issues I've helped with residents include: - Weed control - Planning queries - Grant applications - Pot holes - Fly tipping - Replacement recycling containers - Redundant street furniture - The reopening of the toilets in Parc Taf Bargoed I continue to work with the Bedlinog & Trelewis Community Action Group. This month we've mainly concentrated on grass cutting and path clearance and we repaired the Bedlinog Fox at the entrance to the village. Games Night is increasingly popular and the event for National Picnic Week had a record turnout. I now run a Keep Wales Tidy litter picking hub in Bedlinog where residents can borrow equipment, this has proved a great success with over 20 bags of rubbish being collected so far. Cllr. Malcolm Colbran Bedlinog & Trelewis Ward
147	Correspondence	We received a grant from The Big Lottery to the sum of £2500 to arrange a Summer Pantomime for the children of Bedlinog Community Primary School and Trelewis Primary School. Due to ongoing COVID restrictions and classes being limited to bubbles, The Big Lottery confirmed that this grant could be used to pay for pupils to attend The Climbing Centre. £1250 was paid to each school for this cost. A further grant of 25k has been awarded to each Local Authority by Welsh Government specifically for allotments. The Community Council is successful in obtaining the full amount of grant – works for repair fencing and security lights at Bedlinog Allotments will take place. Part of the grant is to create new allotments also, so following a previous request for allotment beds to be placed behind Trelewis High Street car park, we will be able to proceed and conversation is ongoing with MTCBC about obtaining a licence for the land.

148	Cases	To consider approval of the grant application from Bedlinog Rugby Football Club: The Community Council own the changing rooms so would need to maintain the building. However, three quotes will be required for the works. Cllr Jago proposed that the cost of repair is paid pending the supply of three quotes. Cllr Frayne seconded. Resolved. To consider approval of the grant application from Taf Bargoed Angling Association: Cllr Jago proposed, Cllr Preston seconded. Resolved. £500 awarded. Cllr Frayne - To approve replacing the public refuse bin at the end of Station Terrace, Bedlinog: Obtain reassurances from MTCBC for it to be emptied. Cllr Searl proposed, Cllr Preston seconded. Resolved.
149	Date of Next Meeting	The next meeting will be held Monday 13 th September 2021 at 6.15pm.
