

CYNGOR CYMUNED DINAS POWYS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

COSAC Committee

Minutes of Meeting
7 July 2021, at 6.30pm (ZOOM)

Present:

Cllr A Robertson (Chair)
Cllr A Asbrey
S Davies (Footpaths Warden)

Cllr C Franks (Vice Chair)
Cllr V Driscoll
N Gaskell (Allotments Rep)

Also in Attendance:

Eileen Wood (WAND)

Hilary May (WAND)

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

It was proposed by Cllr C Franks and seconded by Cllr V Driscoll that Cllr A Robertson remains as Chair for 2021-22

It was proposed by Cllr A Asbrey and seconded by Cllr A Robertson that Cllr C Franks remains as Vice-Chair for 2021-22

2. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr M Hartrey
Cllr R Williams

Cllr S Kear-Smith
Cllr E Jenkins

3. Declaration of Interests

Cllr C Franks declared an interest in item 11 on the agenda.

4. To Confirm Minutes of Meeting held on 21 April 2021

Minutes of the meeting held on **21 April 2021** were taken as read, and on the Motion of Cllr. C Franks and seconded by Cllr A Asbrey, it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes be **APPROVED**

5. Matters Arising from Minutes

There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda

6. To Receive Footpaths Report / Update

a) Report from Footpaths Advisor

i. Footpath S1/28c/2 – Aberdovey Close to Murch Crescent

The Footpaths warden has visited the site and will take the matter up with VOG officers.

The area has many older residents who struggle with the current arrangement. The footpath is used to access the Medical Centre.

- ii. Footpath over Golf Club land
The footpath in the vicinity of the Golf Club is very overgrown VOG have been contacted twice, with no response.
- iii. Footpath from Twyncyn to St Andrews
The stile by Garn Hill has completely disintegrated.
- iv. PROW across Woodland Trust land
Clerk to contact Michaelston-le-Pit suggesting a joint approach to put pressure on the County Council to improve maintenance of the PROW in this area.

[Sue Davies left the meeting]

The order of items on the Agenda was altered to enable WAND members to leave should the wish.

7. Orchard at Scout Park – Request from WAND

Having received a request to establish a community orchard in the scout field, WAND were invited to put their case before Committee.

As the planting season begins in the autumn, it was requested that a response is forthcoming in sufficient time to take advantage.

Whilst the Committee felt this was a good idea, concerns were expressed regarding the longer term management and maintenance of fruit stock and that the responses from the survey undertaken were too few to be considered representative.

8. To Receive Allotments Report / Update

a) Update from Allotments Representative

- A notice board and new fire hazard signs have been installed.
- Most newcomers are enjoying their plots.
- Allotment 3A - whilst there was a little activity in early May following correspondence and assurances that progress will be made, there is no evidence of any further activity. It was requested that a final warning letter be sent to the tenant. Should that not result in significant progress, the tenancy would be terminated.

b) Allotment 10A – update on issues

Following complaints from allotment holders regarding activities being undertaken on plot 10A, the Chairman and Clerk met with the plot holders on site and are satisfied that there is no breach of any regulations nor cause for concern.

9. To Receive Cemetery Update / Report

a) Burials

A list of recent Burials was provided to members for information.

Chair and Clerk to visit the new part of the cemetery to consider concerns raised by a local resident in relation to the 'disconnect' with the main cemetery.

b) Tree Works

Trees and shrubbery on the right hand side of the old cemetery have grown to such an extent that some graves are completely hidden. One tree in particular has branches that appear to be unsafe.

It was agreed that a professional is asked to make an assessment and works to be undertaken if necessary, in consultation with the Chairman of COSAC and Finance.

10. Play Equipment Repairs

The basket swing in the play area on DP Common was removed as it came to light during regular inspections that some of the connecting parts were worn and would need replacement ahead of the annual inspection.

The swing has now been cleaned, repaired and re-installed.

11. To Consider Commemorative Benches strategy

Members were consulted on various aspects in relation the installation of commemorative benches on DP Common and St Andrew's Cemetery.

This resulted in the formulation of a draft Benches Policy, providing a framework for responses to requests for commemorative benches.

It was unanimously **AGREED** to accept the policy.

12. Collapsed Wall on DP Common

A section of wall bordering the Common has collapsed into the driveway of a neighbouring property. Attempts to clarify ownership / responsibility have been unfruitful. Legal advice sought from VOG recommends that a party wall approach is taken.

This matter was discussed by the Finance Committee on 6 July and the decision was to proceed along the lines outlined above, subject to agreement by the COSAC Committee.

It was unanimously **AGREED** to share with the property owner, the costs of repair, **limited to the collapsed section only.**

13. Tree works at:

a) Scout Park / Cadoxton River

Finance Committee agreed to the allocation of funds, subject to agreement by the COSAC Committee.

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the works to the trees be undertaken.

b) DP Common / Westra

Finance Committee agreed to the allocation of funds, subject to agreement by the COSAC Committee.

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the works to the trees be undertaken

14. Local Nature Partnership (LNP) – Site Visit

A site visit has been arranged to meet with representatives of the LNP to discuss the options for improving the bio-diversity of DP Common. Wednesday 14th July, 2.30pm. Meet in car park of the Athletics Club.

15. Scout Park – Chestnut Trees

A neighbour of the Scout Park has contacted the Council regarding the installation of a flood wall between their property and the Scout Park which would necessitate the cutting of roots to the two large chestnut trees adjacent to the property.

Committee is **NOT SUPPORTIVE** of this proposal and is of the view that the flood waters came from the road and not the Scout Park. The overdue Section 19 report on the flooding may be helpful in determining what prevention measures would be appropriate.

16. Updates on Progress

a) Caerleon Rd Playground

- Minor amendment to the Lease were proposed by our solicitor, which are being considered by the housing association.
- The Vale's Landscape Architect who was going to undertake the design and management of the project has left his post.
- We have only just received (today) the final search from Welsh Water

The Chairman has asked that a time-plan be produced to indicate the steps and timeframe to completion.

b) CRUZ site

- The most recent communication with VOG indicates that a site visit might be possible shortly.
- VOG need to draft a lease
- Report needs to be submitted to Cabinet
- DPCC are still waiting further details from Barratts / VOG regarding commitments relating to the protected habitat.

Meeting of the CRUZ sub-committee be arranged.

17. Urgent Items from the Chairman

There were no urgent items from the Chair.

18. Matters Members wish to bring before Council

a) Planting of crocuses (AR)

The DP Rotary club have asked if they could plant crocuses around the village in an awareness raising exercise of prostate cancer.

WAND have requested contact details in order that a liaison can be maintained and conflicts avoided.

b) Vehicular pull-in on DP Common (VD)

It was suggested that a pull-in on Mount Road would be beneficial as the roadway becomes congested and traffic flows restricted.

c) Extension of footpath – Mount Rd (VD)

Currently the pavement from the village ends part way along Mount Road. Residents living on the Mount either have to walk on the grass verge or in the roadway to get to their properties.

It was suggested that s.106 funding from the Bryneithin allocation could be utilised to fund this.

d) Additional Play Equipment - DP Common (VD)

s.106 funding could also be used for providing additional play equipment on the Common.

Date of Next Meeting - 20 October 2021

Signature: Date: