

CYNGOR CYMUNED DINAS POWYS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

COSAC Committee

Minutes of Meeting, held in the Old Library
Wednesday, 13 October 2022 at 6.30pm

27. Register of those Present:

Cllr A Asbrey (Chair)	Cllr M Phillips
Cllr D Evans	Cllr K Hatton
Cllr A Cooke	Cllr V Driscoll
S. Davies (Footpaths warden)	N Gaskell (Allotments Rep)

28. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr C Franks, Cllr K Shaw

29. Declaration of Interests

Cllr A Asbrey declared an interest in item 38 on the Agenda.

Cllrs K Hatton & D Evans declared an interest in items 33 & 38 on the Agenda

30. To Confirm Minutes of Meeting held on 28 July 2022

Minutes of the meeting held on **28 July 2022** were taken as read, and on the Motion of Cllr M Phillips and seconded by Cllr K Hatton, it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes be **APPROVED**.

31. Matters Arising from Minutes

Item 19 a) Ash Path

Horses have been seen using the footpath now that the kissing gates have been removed. Is this permissible?

Footpaths Rep will contact the Vale PROW officer

32. To Receive Footpaths Report / Update

a. Footpath Clearance by Valeways

Valeways personnel cleared the steps on the footpath leading to the Hill Fort ahead of a guided walk on 23 August. Thanks were expressed by Members

b. Update – Footpath S/1/1 to Mill Field

The Vale have appointed a contractor to undertake the works. The 3 week programme will start end Oct / early Nov. The footpath will need to be closed and a diversion put in place. Information for **NOTING**

c) Ash Path / Tesco – bottles and other rubbish

The car park and start of the footpath are often subject to litter, even though there are bins in front of the shops. For this reason, the Vale's Cleansing Department are not

prepared to install an additional bin at in the car park / ash path area. Should DPCC wish to purchase and have a bin installed, VOG would be happy to empty at £15 per empty.

Following a recent litter pick, we were called and informed of a considerable number of bottles deposited in the car park.

The Car Park is in the ownership of Tesco and it has been suggested that they should take more responsibility for their immediate environs. If evidence (photos) of the state of litter in the car park can be provided, it would provide the Vale with reason to enforce action. It was **REQUESTED** that members assist by taking photos and sending them by email to the Clerk.

33. To Receive Allotments Report / Update

a) Report from Allotments Representative

The long hot summer required lots of watering.

There is a rat infestation on the site; many plots affected. Allotments Rep to meet Pest Control company on site on 24 Oct.

b) Feedback & actions following Allotments Inspection

There is a policy in place which requires allotment holders to maintain their plots in a productive state. There is a waiting list of 57 aspiring tenants.

A number of letters are to be sent following the inspection which took place on 7 October.

2 x eviction letters

2 x final warnings

4 x first warning letter

2 x general tidy-up letter

c) Change of billing cycle

The current billing cycle follows the municipal financial year, hence the filling of vacant plots where tenancies have been rescinded take place in the growing season, with site clearance and preparation using up the majority of the remaining summer.

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the next tenancy renewals would be for a 6 month period (March to August), after which the tenancies would revert back to one year (1st Sept to 31st Aug)

d) Hedge Repair

A section of the hedge between the allotments and Keeper's Cottage field was damaged by a previous tenant of one allotment. An attempt was made to repair by planting whips, but due to the very dry summer and vigorous growth of nearby couch grass, the whips failed to provide the desired effect.

This will now be rectified by an element of ground clearing and preparation before more established specimens are planted.

34. Updates on Progress (for information)

a) Caerleon Rd Playground

The playground is now fully installed and operational. There have been some problems reported – some of the bolts holding the equipment together are being removed. The

incidents have been reported to the PCSOs, but without an official complaint being logged (direct to 101 via email or social media) there is little that can be done.

The CCTV is not as effective as it could be as it is often pointing in the wrong direction.

Dragon play have so far attended the site to put things right and removing equipment if necessary, but this is beyond what they would normally do and have stated that in future they will have to charge us – as it is the result of deliberate actions, not equipment failure.

NOTED

b) Mowing arrangements

The clerk agreed for one of the local residents to undertake the mowing on a regular but ad-hoc basis for the remainder of this growing season.

Ahead of the next year, we will go out to tender for a contract.

35. To Receive Annual Playground Inspection Report - DP Common

The last Annual Inspection was undertaken in July. The items requiring attention have largely been addressed. One piece of equipment fall outside of current standards, as these have changed since it was installed and they are not retrospective.

Additional signage is needed for the adult exercise equipment.

The information was **NOTED**.

36. Audit of Benches in DPCC control

A schematic was provided for members showing the benches in the village that are the responsibility of the Community Council.

The information was **NOTED**

37. Planting of (2) replacement trees on DP Common (St Andrew's Rd)

The two trees that were removed from the common as a result of the actions required following the last tree survey will be replaced with a Gingo Biloba and a Prunus – both have a more columnar growth and impressive foliage. These were recommended to us based on their growth habits and the environment in which they will be located.

The information is for **NOTING**

38. Seel Park Update

An EOI for the transfer of assets has been sent to the Vale.

The information is for **NOTING**

39. Request by DP Cricket Club

The Dinas Powys Cricket Club have requested permission to install an artificial pitch measuring 30m x 2.75m on the Common. This will involve a sub-structure with excavation up to about 150mm (6 ins). Planning permission will be required and it may also require oversight by the Glamorgan & Gwent Archaeological Trust.

It is requested that the Clerk seeks the views of Cadw (ref proximity of Scheduled Monument) and also the Vale's Bio-diversity Officer.

Questions were asked as to the permanency of the development – is it reversible? Is there a requirement to consult?

It was **RESOLVED** to delay the decision until a fuller picture was available.

40. Urgent Items from the Chairman

There were no urgent items from the Chair.

41. Matters Members wish to bring before Council

a) Ardwyn Development s.106 Artwork fund

It was requested that clarity is sought on the s.106 funds for artwork from the Ardwyn Development - balance and spend to date.

b) Playground Improvements

Picnic Benches are to be installed in both Drylla and Seel Park

c) Forward Planning

Members of the Committee were requested to consider any items that would require considerable spend over the next few years, in order to aid forward planning and budget setting. For example:

- Additional bins / benches / notice boards
- Fencing between allotments and new section of cemetery
- Village Xmas Decorations

It was requested that such items are brought to the attention of the Clerk **BY THE END OF THIS MONTH.**

Date of Next Meeting – 19 October 2022

Signature: Date: