

**SULLY AND LAVERNOCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
CYNGOR CYMUNED ABERSILI A LARNOG**

**Finance Committee Meeting of the Council  
6.30pm Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Coronavirus)(Meetings)(Wales) Regulations 2020, the meeting was held by way of the remote participation (Zoom) of the members of the Council and public.

**Minutes 62/23**

**Present**

- Steve Oaten (Proper Officer)
- Robin Lynn (RL)
- Nicky Parry (NP)
- Vicki Judd (VJ)
- Kay Bowring (KB)(Chair)
- Martyn James (MJ)
- Jackie Payne (JP)
- David Cannon (DC)

**Apologies 63/23**

- No communication from Lino Scaglioni (LS)

**PART ONE**

**Declarations of interest 64/23**

- Councillors Parry and Judd declared an interest in item 8 on the agenda as they are both trustees of Sully Community Library Trust.

**To approve the minutes of previous meeting 65/23**

- The councillors present approved the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of the 30<sup>TH</sup> October 2023.

**To approve the schedule of payments 66/23**

- The councillors of the finance committee approved the schedule of payments as provided by the proper officer. The list provided to councillors gave details of the salaries of staff, but we have yet to receive the invoice from Sarah Francis. Details of that and any other outstanding invoices will be provided at a later meeting.

**Democratic Half Hour 67/23**

- There were no members of the public present at the meeting. The meeting was moved to the next agenda item.

**To receive any updates from councillors and discuss and resolve upon any further actions required 68/23**

- The councillors present provided updates where appropriate. Councillor Judd provided an update regarding the children's film night at The Old School. It was reasonably well attended with positive feedback and was held at minimal cost to the council. It was agreed that further events will be held on a similar format. The feedback from the youth forum held by

the councillor was minimal. The survey revealed a number of activities that the young people in the village would like to have. It is very much work in progress with further engagement needed. Councillor Payne has indicated that the VOGC representative, Councillor Mahoney was taking forward the possibility of a bus shelter at Cog Road for the school buses. He was also looking at the Culvert issues at the rear of Conybeare Road. There had been work to improve the drainage but did not involve the culvert at the extremity of the field. Councillor Lynn reported that the Big Garden Bird watch organised by the RSPB was due to take place at the end of January 2024. The RSPB Big Schools Birdwatch has already started. The councillor is keen to involve the whole community and is looking to combine all of them into a Big Village Birdwatch which the RSPB have shown an interest in. There will be further information and advertising following the holiday period, but the councillor is looking to organise a meeting after the event for people to share their sightings and thoughts on the event. Councillor Lynn also reported on a meeting he had with VOGC councillor, Wendy Gilligan regarding the idea of a linear park in Sully. This was discussed at the recent section 106 meeting in the village. The community council have agreed that a working group meet next week to discuss the subject of 106 monies and their distribution. The Proper Officer will make arrangements with the VOGC Section 106 officer for a meeting.

**To discuss and resolve upon the introduction of a Grants and Donations policy 69/23**

- The Proper Officer outlined to the committee the need for the introduction of this policy. The Finance Committee agreed in principal but suggested some amendments to the Grants and Donations policy which will then be distributed for ratification.

**To discuss and resolve upon a request from Sully Community Library Trust to extend the lease of the library 70/23**

- The Proper Officer had received a formal request from the Community Library Trust and had circulated it to the Community Council. The Councillors present agreed to the request from the Library Trust that the community council seek an extension to the lease for the library from the BP. This to be done on the terms that they have suggested regarding the costs, advice and assistance involved.

**To discuss and resolve upon additional benches for the Community Field 71/23**

- The Chair introduced the concept of a suitably identified bench that could be used by those in the community who may want some company, somebody to chat with. A brightly coloured bench that could be easily identified for that purpose. The councillors discussed the issue and agreed that the idea was sound and have asked the Proper Officer to identify a suitable location for the bench. It can then be agreed whether a new bench is purchased or an old one painted. The Proper Officer advised there is a need to replace the picnic table in the play park and this will be looked into.

**To discuss and resolve upon a donation to Calon Hearts 72/23**

- The councillors present agreed that an amount of £200 be donated to Calon Hearts. This as a result of two successful De Fibrillator training sessions that they ran on behalf of the community council. They do not charge for this valuable training, so a donation was felt appropriate in the circumstances.

**To discuss and resolve upon determination 6 in the draft report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales 73/23**

- The Proper Officer outlined to the council determinations 6 and 8 of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales draft report. This outlines various mandatory allowances that are payable to community councillors unless they opt out in writing. The Proper Officer

advised that he would comply and make arrangements for payment unless he was advised, in writing, that a particular councillor did not wish to receive this mandatory payment.

**To discuss and resolve upon the precept requirements for recommendation to the January full Council meeting 74/23**

- The councillors present, agreed to recommend to full council that next year's precept would be set at £99400.00. This as a result of the budget prepared by the Proper Officer, and previously agreed and accepted by the full council in November.

**Any Other Business 75/23**

- The councillors agreed a poster prepared by the Proper Officer regarding the Carol Service at The Old School. There are some amendments required but it can then be distributed. Councillors agreed that there needs to be a notice board sited at the new estate at Gwel Yr Ynys, Cog Road. Councillor Cannon will explore areas where it can be put and seek the relevant permissions whereas the Proper Officer will look at the costs involved. The councillors agreed that the SLCC need to explore options for the bowling green now that the club have vacated it. In the first instance the Proper Officer will make enquiries to establish whether there is an appetite from another club to rent/hire it. The council can then meet to discuss any further options. The Proper Officer provided updates regarding various house keeping issues. He is waiting on a quote for a new kitchen at the Pavilion. The new French doors have been ordered and he was also waiting on a quote for flooring in the hall. Quotes had also been received in respect of additional cladding at Jubilee Hall and Solar Panels for the Pavilion.

**The date of the next meeting of the council is a full council meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 76/23**

**PART 2**

**There were no members of the public present at the meeting so there was no need to make any declaration to exclude anyone.**

**To discuss and resolve upon issues of employment and the future use and maintenance of the playing fields, including the cricket square and bowling green and associated costs and training needs 77/23**

- The personnel Working group had met and there was further work to be completed regarding employment matters. The full council would be updated in due course.

**To discuss and resolve upon the recipient of the Millenium Shield 78/23**

- The councillors present agreed on this year's recipient of the Millenium shield which be announced, and the shield presented at the carol service in December

**To discuss and resolve upon any urgent actions required in respect of the bowling green and bowling club, cricket square and cricket club 79/23**

- The Proper Officer will make arrangements with the cricket club for a meeting in the new year.

**Any Other Business 80/23**

- There were no items raised under any other business.

**The meeting concluded at 8.30pm**

**Steven Oaten – Proper Officer**

.....**Chair**