

Pontyclun Community Council

Environment Working Group

Minutes of the meeting of 02.02.22

Meeting was carried out virtually via Zoom

Attendance

Martin Ashford, Helen Green, Neil Holley, Mike Davies, Anne Jackson, Gwyn Jackson

Apologies

Apologies had been received from Paul Griffiths and Margaret Griffiths

Minutes of the meeting of 11th November 2021

The minutes were agreed to be accurate.

Matters arising

Request to use Cafe 50 for a Swishing event (April 2022)

Members agreed to endorse the request from Lisa Williams (Community Garden) to use Cafe 50 on a weekend in April (to be agreed) for a “swishing” event at which young people would be encouraged to swap used clothing. The facility will be provided at zero cost. Organisers to provide suitable and appropriate organisation, staffing and supervision. There were no objections to the suggestion that music be used to provide a “fun” environment.

Replacement of Lease of Land at Brynsadler with an Agreement between Pontyclun Community Council and Pontyclun Environment Group in order for PEG to undertake environmental works.

This document was unanimously agreed to be suitable for the needs of both parties. Members recommend that the Council instruct the Clerk to proceed accordingly.

Update from Pontyclun Environment Group

Helen said that Natural Resources Wales have been in touch about the proposed Community Hub near Tylagarw. This is no longer happening. Proposals to let horses graze on the Pant Marshes have also been stopped, for now at least. PEG is looking to organise a litter pick for some time in April. Neil asked for all information to be forwarded to the Community Council who will help with publicity. The Official Walk Maps are now live on the Community Council's website. PEG was hoping to organise an official “launch” at somewhere like Giles Gallery but there are some ongoing issues over footpath use which need to be taken into account. Gwyn asked Helen if PEG can exert some influence over Transport For Wales in respect of the rubbish around the railway platforms. Helen is friendly through her work with the sustainability officer for TFW and will make enquiries.

Campaign to encourage RCTCBC Pension Fund to divest from fossil fuel companies

MA informed the group that he had been contacted by Caspar Harris from Pontypridd Friends Of The Earth about a national campaign the group is undertaking to persuade Local Authorities' Pension Funds to divest from companies that have holdings/interests in fossil fuels. FOE are suggesting that Community Councils use their influence to put pressure on MPs, Councillors and interested parties to encourage Pension Funds to take appropriate measures to divest from fossil fuel companies. The group discussed the request at some length and members felt that, although sympathetic to the

principles behind the campaign, they are not in a position to make any sort of demand on RCT Pension Fund but would encourage the general move towards divestment from fossil fuel usage to be fully explored. Mike Davies noted that it should really be for the beneficiaries of the Pension Fund to be given the opportunity to consider this issue at length.

Any other business

There was no further business