



# Yscir Community Council

**Clerk:** position vacant

**Email:** clerk@yscir.net

**Tel. No.:** 01874 610514

## Minutes of Yscir Community Council Meeting held on 22 March 2023 at 7.30pm at Cradoc Golf Club

### Present

Cllr Jane Price [Chair]

Cllr Kevin Gore

Cllr Valerie Davies

Cllr Rebecca Watkins

Cllr Bob Wood

Cllr Geoff Watkins

County Cllr Iain McIntosh

Cllr Kate Dunning

**22/3/1 Apologies for absence:** None

**22/3/2 Declarations of interest:** none received.

**22/3/3 Clerk and Council matters:**

**22/3/3.1** Advertising for a new Clerk is to continue as there have still not been any applications. We may need to use a locum Clerk if it looks as though this is becoming a lengthy process.

**22/3/3.2** Cllr Valerie Davies has agreed to continue dealing with financial matters until such time as the situation is resolved.

**22/3/3.3** Cllr Kate Dunning will continue to take the minutes until such time as the situation is resolved.

**22/3/4 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 25 January 2023:**

The minutes were read and adopted as a true and accurate record.

**22/3/5 Information from the minutes and Clerk's report:**

**22/3/5.1** The Planning Application for landscaping by 68Degrees West has been passed.

**22/3/6 To review and approve the following council policy documents:**

- a) Risk Assessment
- b) Biodiversity and Resilience
- c) Information and Data Protection
- d) Email Contact Privacy Notice
- e) Data held by Yscir Community Council
- f) Document Retention Policy
- g) Financial and Business Risk Assessment
- h) Protocol of Public Participation at meetings
- i) Emergency Plan
- j) Information available under Model Publication Scheme
- k) Accessibility Statement
- l) Privacy Statement & Data Protection
- m) Asset Register

**22/3/6.1** Cllr Gore proffered the information that *Western Power* is now *The National Grid* and *National Grid Gas* is now *National Gas Transmission*. This will be corrected on item (i) *Emergency Plan*.

**22/3/6.2** All the other policy documents were approved.

**22/3/7 Internal Audit Review**

This was read and agreed.

## **22/3/8 Update on training courses attended by Councillors**

**22/3/8.1** Cllr Rebecca Watkins '*The Council as an Employer*' - This was a very interesting course, albeit with not a great deal of relevance for Councils as small as us. However, we should have Disciplinary and Appeals panels set up as all Councils have at least one employee - the Council Clerk. It was agreed that Cllrs Jane Price and Bob Wood sit on the Disciplinary Panel and Cllrs Rebecca Watkins and Kate Dunning would constitute the Appeals Panel.

**22/3/8.2** Cllr Jane Price '*Chairing Skills*' - This was a very interesting and thorough course covering absolutely every aspect of chairing a council meeting and run by an excellent course leader with a great deal of experience.

**22/3/8.3** Cllr Jane Price '*Understanding the Law*' - Again a very thorough and intense course covering, amongst other aspects, Data Protection, Freedom of Information, Recent Legislation, Statutory Duties & Powers, law-making powers of the Welsh Senedd, Delegation of Responsibility, Planning, Environmental Legislation, Compliance with Welsh Language Wales legislation, and several others.

**22/3/8.4** Cllrs Valerie Davies, Kate Dunning and Kevin Gore - '*Code of Conduct*' - Another interesting and thorough course which pulled together a lot of what we already understood into a comprehensive talk. The scenarios, to which participants had to apply what they had learned, proved a very interesting part of the course which showed how the principles of the Code of Conduct should be applied in practice.

**22/3/8.5** Cllr Valerie Davis - '*Basic Finance*' - which she found helpful as she is covering Clerk duties whilst we are without one.

**NOTE:** All the course notes will be collated and kept in the Councils Training Manual for access by all Councillors.

## **22/3/9 Financial Matters:**

**22/3/9.1** The following payments were approved -

- One Voice Wales Annual Membership £79
- One Voice Wales 2021-22 Audit fee £300
- One Voice Wales Training Courses £105
- Information Commissioner Annual Data Protection Registration £35
- Cllr Valerie Davies' expenses £16

**22/3/9.2** Online banking has been set up for the Chair, Cllr Jane Price and Cllr Valerie Davies. This was approved. Two signatories will still be required for cheques which will continue to be our preferred way of paying for the foreseeable future.

**22/3/9.3** The financial position of the council as contained in the cashbook and budget monitoring was noted and Cllr Davies explained that we have a larger amount in our bank account for several reasons - for example, no election held last year and no clerk to pay at present. Cllr McIntosh asked if there was an upper limit on this to which Cllr Davies replied she would investigate.

**22/3/9.4** Cllr Davies updated councillors on the Independent Remuneration Panel Annual Report 2023. This allows Councillors to claim a tax-free £156, + £52 for stationery, per year. Nobody on this council will claim for this year.

**22/3/9.5** All councillor's expense claims for 2022/23 (see item above) were confirmed and all forms were completed.

## **22/3/10 Spring 2023 Newsletter:**

Cllr Kate Dunning has produced a draft of the Spring 2023 Newsletter from articles provided. Councillors approved the draft and Cllr Kevin Gore provided the extra details for the proposed coronation Bonfire & BBQ. Councillors will deliver the newsletters by hand using lists to be drawn up by Cllr Davies.

- 22/3/11 Speedwatch and Policing**  
Our new PCSO Ryan Kenny has now moved onto his training as a full constable and therefore we are without a Community PCSO. Before he left however he was able to get our Speedwatch permission up and running again and Cllr Davies will be allowed to enter the data we collect directly into the Police Speeding Data Base.
- 22/3/12 Litter Picking**  
It was agreed that the next community Litter Pick will be on Saturday 22 April at 10am till 12pm. We will meet at the Golf Club and refreshments will be provided at the end. A local resident, Sue Goodhead, has asked to borrow some of our litter-picking equipment to use on their local walks. This was approved unanimously.
- 22/3/13 Coronation of King Charles III celebration:**  
Cllr Kevin Gore confirmed the BBQ and Bonfire on Aberyscir Common will be on Saturday 6 May and start at 7pm. The bonfire will be lit at 9pm. This information will be inserted in the Newsletter draft. A risk assessment will be needed for insurance purposes.
- 22/3/14 Correspondence re. the re-categorisation of 30mph zones to 20mph in towns & cities throughout Wales**  
This is due to happen on 17<sup>th</sup> September this year. We have previously requested either a re-siting of the 30mph at the top of Cradoc Road or the provision of a warning sign that the speed limit will be changing. Therefore we will write to Powys Highways to remind them of these requests and ask that they be taken into consideration when the 20mph comes into force.
- 22/3/15 Issues to be reported to Powys County Council and updates re. previous issues:**
- 22/3/15.1** Several councillors complained of potholes. Cllr Iain McIntosh requested that details be sent to him and he will forward to the relevant department. Cllr Davies said she had come across a council officer who was logging and photographing all the potholes in a specified area. Although he said it was seventy roads, he did not specify which.
- 22/3/15.2** Cllr McIntosh said The Council had responded to his request that something be done to protect the Aberbran bridge from damage. The response disappointingly said that, apart from repair, there was nothing else that could be done as the bridge was listed.
- 22/3/15.3** The grit bins Cllr McIntosh had previously requested had been installed but Cllr Watkins pointed out there were one or two more places that they were needed. He will follow this up.
- 22/3/15.4** Re: Cradoc School, Cllr McIntosh reported that The Campaign is still fighting the closure, despite the refusal of a judicial review. Some factual anomalies regarding numbers of pupils have been discovered in the PCC's Proposal Consultation Report. He is trying to get our SM, Jeremy Myles, involved, which will hopefully put more pressure on the Ruling Group of the PCC. It was decided to make it clear in Cllr McIntosh's item in the Newsletter that the physical school will still remain open and functioning on its present site for some considerable time.
- 22/3/16 Consideration of planning applications received after the agenda was circulated:**  
There were none received.
- 22/3/17 Information for discussion at the next meeting**  
None suggested at this point.
- 22/3/18 Confirmation of date and time of the next meeting of the Council:**  
Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 7:30pm at Cradoc Golf Club.

**The meeting closed at 8:55pm.**

**Signed as a true record** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_