

REPORT OF MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP

Date : Wednesday 24th October 2018 - 6.30pm

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Matters Arising from Minutes of Working Group Meeting held 19.09.18.
3. Plastic Free Pontyclun.
4. Pontyclun Community Garden – Any business to raise.
5. Pontyclun Environment Group – Any business to raise.
6. Budgeting.
7. A.O.B

Present

Paul Griffiths; Neil Holley, Karan Lane;
Pontyclun Environment Group (PEG) :- Sarah Jenkins;
Lisa Williams (Pontyclun Community Garden)

1. Apologies

Anne Jackson & Gwyn Jackson.

2. Matters Arising from Minutes of Working Group Meeting of 19.09.18

(i) **Dog Litter Bins** - The group briefly discussed the matter of dog litter bins and it was agreed that no request for additional bins would be made of RCT at the present time, but additional bins can of course be requested in the future if an additional need is identified.

(ii) **Meeting with Ray Edwards** - Following a request by Sarah, Karan has asked Mr Edwards to confirm the extent of the spraying treatment undertaken along the Brynsadler Mill walk. Karan awaits a response but will chase this up as needed.

(iii) **River Rubbish** - Karan advised that she met with the Clerk to check Land Registry land ownership details. Following discussion the group agreed that it was useful to have the land ownership details but that, at present, the ownership information should be kept on file for use in the future as and when/if issues arise. It was agreed that proactively contacting owners at this point in time would not be beneficial.

(iv) **Llais Y Goedwig** - Following on from the previous working group meeting, it was agreed that Sarah would pass Karan the contact details she has for Llais Y Goedwig to arrange the proposed meeting with LYG.

(v) **Brynsadler Mill River Walk** - Karan advised Sarah that the Community Council has agreed to meet the sum of £400, being around half the cost of the tree surgeon costs for the works needed to dangerous trees, and will also meet the approximate £100 cost for dealing with lobbing works to the overhanging tree at Millfield.

3. Plastic Free Pontyclun - KL updated the working group that a meeting has been arranged with YGGG Llantrisant on Wednesday 14th November – 11am to 12pm. Since the meeting Carole, Anne, Gwyn, Margaret & Mike have confirmed to Karan that they are able to attend the presentation at the school on the 14th.

4. Pontyclun Community Garden - Lisa explained about the most recent issues the Community Garden Group have been experiencing with neighbouring owner/occupiers, and in particular with one neighbour. In summary, the situation has deteriorated to a point whereby some members of the garden group are no longer comfortable to work at the garden site. Also, one neighbour in particular is “stirring up” problems for the group with other neighbours which has made the situation worse. Initial suggestions were made that perhaps the Community Council could grant some form of agreement to the garden so that if/when the site of the garden is moved any future challenges could, hopefully, be quickly resolved. Investigation of the Community Council’s legal position needs to happen first before any firm decisions on the nature of any agreement with the garden group can be made. After some discussion of the problems the following actions were agreed :-

1. Lisa/Pontyclun Community Garden will discuss the possibility of moving the location of the garden. Moving the garden to near the boundary fencing of the park along Cowbridge Road (perhaps more towards the play area) was discussed at the meeting as an initial suggestion as this would have the advantage of making the garden more visible from outside of the park.
2. Karan will ask the Clerk for a copy of the lease that the Community Council have with RCT Council for the park land as the terms and conditions of the lease need to be checked to make sure that any plans for the garden will not breach any lease covenants/obligations.

5. Pontyclun Environment Group -

(i) Sarah provided the group with suggested heads of terms for a revised lease between the Community Council and Pontyclun Environment Group. Some slight amendments to the version of the heads of terms provided were agreed at the meeting. Following the meeting Sarah has e-mailed Karan a revised version and a copy is attached to this report.

Action :- The Council should consider the proposed heads of terms and decide how it wishes to progress the matter (e.g: is the Council happy for the Working Group to progress the revised lease, with reference to full Council as/when needed?).

(ii) Sarah confirmed that the planned Autumn Clun would be on Sunday 4th November – 10am to 11.30am. Following the meeting, the Autumn Clun was well attended and the weather stayed dry !!!

6. Budgeting

Paul, Neil and Karan discussed this item of the Agenda after Lisa and Sarah had left the meeting. It was agreed that whilst the working group would make no request for funds for new enterprises, Karan will contact the Clerk to ask the Clerk to give consideration to how the existing tree reserve fund can be replenished. It is hoped that the tree reserve fund could be replenished by means of Council budget management. It is understood that there are no funds in the Council’s tree reserve at present.

DATE OF NEXT WG MEETING: T.B.A – Mid-December has been suggested.