

Cornelly Community Council

Cornelly Community Centre
North Cornelly
Bridgend
CF33 4AS



Cyngor Cymunedol Corneli

Canolfan Gymunedol Corneli
Gogledd Corneli
Pen y Bont
CF33 4AS

Chairperson / Cadeirydd: Cllr Mrs E Winstanley

Clerk/Clerc: J Murphy

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DRAFT

**Minutes of Meeting of Finance Committee
held at Cornelly Committee Centre and remotely
on 13th September 2023 at 6.30pm**

Present: Cllrs Mrs S Bennett, Mrs H Kavanagh, Mr S Parker (remote), Mr D Morgan,
Mrs L Pritchard

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs J Granville, Mr RM Granville & Mrs E Winstanley

Clerk: Ms Judy Murphy

ITEM

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Mrs J Granville, Cllr RM Granville, Cllr Mrs Winstanley. Clerk advised that as the Chair and Vice Chair had sent apologies, she invited nominations for Acting Chair for this meeting. Cllr Parker nominated Cllr Mrs Bennett. Seconded by Cllr Morgan. Cllr Bennett accepted the role of Acting Chair for this meeting.

2. Disclosure of Interests to be declared as and if they arise through the meeting.

Cllr Pritchard declared an interest in the Bridgend Carers. Cllr Kavanagh declared an interest in the Cornelly Luncheon Club

3. Review of 2023-24 Budget and YTD Spend

3.1 Clerk produced the figures for the Community Council up to 8th September 2023.

3.2 Cllr Parker raised the issue of good financial governance. This issue was discussed. It was agreed that good practice in relation to financial governance will be ensured at all times.

3.3 Cllr S Parker stated that within the current budget, payment has not yet been made for the invoice from Geoff Whittington, and that the retention payment for the park needs to be held back. The insurance for the park will need to be accounted for when the Council takes over the lease, and the funds set aside for the Meadow Street Playing Fields should be held.

3.4 Cllr Parker raised that the costs for the green spaces are variable and have increased over the last year. Cllr Bennett said that the hanging baskets are looking very good, even taking into account the increased costs of watering them. Cllr Parker enquired about a written agreement between the provider and the Council, to show a service level agreement for costings and the amount of waterings per month, with more governance required. Discussion about reducing costs with potentially fewer hanging baskets. Cllr Bennett raised that potential savings being made by reducing the number of hanging baskets will be taken to Full Council.

3.5 Cllr Parker stated that the election expenses were not as high as expected.

3.6 Cllr Parker requested that BCBC be contacted with regard to the requirements for grass cutting at the cemetery, as the Clerk reported she had been unable to find a contractor to carry out this work during the absence of Grounds & Graves. Clerk to contact BCBC.

3.7 Clerk advised members that there are 2 possible funding sources available which may be of assistance with funding for the drain repairs and a skateboard park. Clerk will update when further information is received.

ACTION

4. Discussion relating to proposed Budget for 2024-25.

4.1 Cllr Bennett advised that Cornelly Community Council needs to make a decision by November for the budget for 2024-25, and that BCBC announce their decision in February.

4.2 Cllr Bennett stated that an increase in the precept would affect most people who were liable for paying the Council Tax and would need to be justified, although the Council do not want to do this, and it will look at cutting back costs. Clerk to make enquiries with BCBC to see how a raise of £10,000 or £20,000 precept would impact households.

4.3 Cllr Parker said that costs related to the Christmas event are not known as yet.

4.4 Cllr Parker requested a further Finance meeting with all members present, to take place before the October Council meeting.

5. Cornelly Community Centre Finance

5.1 Clerk produced figures for the Community Centre up to 8th September 2023.

5.2 Cllr Parker enquired about the gas contract with EDF Energy. When the next bill is received, the Council look at the unit costs and decide if it would be beneficial to leave the contract early.

5.3 Community Centre is used most days and the increase rate in hire charges will be coming in soon.

5.4 Cllr Parker previously circulated article about recycling in public buildings and stated how this will have an impact on the Community Centre waste costs. Enquired whether the bins in the park will also be affected by this change. Discussion held about the recycling which will need to be in force by April 2024, and if the current waste collections are changed to take into account the recycling. Clerk had previously sent price list from Kier.

6. Other Business

6.1 Grant application was received from Cynffig Comprehensive School towards reusable water bottles for the pupils. Discussion held. Cllr Parker said that as there is money in the budget available, he proposed matching the grant from Pyle Community Council. Cllr Pritchard stated that previous minutes said there would be no further donations. Cllr Kavanagh feels this is a good cause and that donations were paused at the time due to budget constraints. Cllr Morgan seconded the proposal to match fund. All present members in agreement. This matter will be taken to Full Council to be ratified.

Date of next meeting to be confirmed.

The meeting was closed at 7.40pm.

J Murphy

Clerk to Cornelly Community Council