



## Meeting

Members of the St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council are summoned to attend a meeting of the council, to be held remotely, on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020 at 7:30 pm**. Members of the public are welcome, and encouraged, to observe proceedings.

The meeting will be held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020.

## Agenda

1. To receive apologies for absence
2. Co-option of Member(s)
3. To receive declarations of interest
4. **Vale Communities for Future Generations**
5. **To consider Police Matters**
6. **To receive a report of the Vale Council Member**
7. To approve the Minutes of the
  - a. EGM held on Thursday, August 20
  - b. Meeting of September 7
8. Matters arising from the Minutes
9. To receive updates on projects and other matters
  - a. Maes Y Ffynon Village Green Application
  - b. Remembrance Sunday
  - c. Licence to Access Old Post Office
  - d. Recruitment of new Clerk
  - e. Code of Conduct Training
10. Correspondence
  - a. One Voice Wales - Remote Meeting Survey Results
11. **Public participation**
12. To receive updates on projects and other matters
  - a. Daffodil Planting
13. Payments to approve
14. To receive updates from other meetings attended

## Agenda (Continued)

15. To receive updates on planning applications
  - a. School consultation response
16. To consider Planning Applications & Matters
  - a. Stables, Great House (Ty Mawr), Bonvilston  
Installation of solar panels in roof of stables
17. To consider
  - a. Community Review
18. To discuss
  - a. Parc Dyffryn Solar Park
  - b. Community Council projects and activities 2021-22
19. Announcements
20. Next meeting

*Cllr Ian Perry*  
Chair



## Co-option of Member(s)

The Community Council has a duty to fill vacancies. When an eligible resident puts themselves forward for co-option, they must be considered.

## Vale Communities for Future Generations

Members may find a WalesOnline article, "[Residents in Pendoylan spend three years waiting to find out if their homes will be demolished for new road](#)" to be of interest.

## Police Matters

Figures for October are not yet available.

## Updates

- Maes Y Ffynon Village Green Application  
Pandemic allowing:  
Pre-Inquiry Hearing week commencing December 7.  
Provisional Inquiry date, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.
- Remembrance Sunday  
Two wreaths purchased – residents to be encouraged to mark Remembrance Sunday on their doorsteps.
- Licence to Access Old Post Office  
The matter has been signed off and completed.
- Recruitment of new Clerk  
Candidates selected for interview
- Code of Conduct training  
Dates during November provided to Cllr Moss. All Members must attend this training periodically.



## Correspondence

**One Voice Wales** – results of the Remote Meeting Survey undertaken by One Voice Wales to assess the views of Community and Town Councils on the effectiveness of remote meetings.

The results are based on an analysis of a bilingual questionnaire sent by email to all member Councils on 9th July with a closing date of 24th July. The information gleaned will be evidence to assist the Welsh Government in assessing whether for the future there would be merit in including provision in legislation for a continuation of some elements of the remote meeting provisions contained in the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020.

The results of this survey provide clear and strong evidence that member Councils value having the facility to hold remote meetings, made possible by the introduction of temporary regulations by Welsh Government in April 2020 in response to the pandemic and lockdown which made it impossible to hold physical meetings.

A total of 346 member Community and Town Councils responded to the survey which is 55% of the current membership of One Voice Wales. This is an excellent response rate for a survey of its kind, since email surveys usually secure between 25-33% response rates.

The overwhelming majority of respondents (85%) had met at least once remotely between April and June, with only 15% not having done so.

Over 70% considered them to be an effective means of holding meetings.

The results of this survey provide clear and strong evidence that member Councils value having the facility to hold remote meetings.

Respondents referred to a number of matters which they considered to be the disbenefits of remote meetings:

- Councillors lacking IT knowledge and either without the necessary hardware or internet for video meetings or not wanting to use the facilities they have to do so;
- Technical issues due to lack of effective broadband in rural areas being problematical and intermittent connectivity during meetings;
- Chairing meetings more difficult, the voting process and possible stifling of discussions particularly with highly disputed agenda items;



- Provision of translation facilities;
- Signing of cheques more difficult;

Many of the above issues could be addressed by training and the availability of hardware and better internet connection.

The benefits of having the facility to hold remote meetings seem to far outweigh the disbenefits, including:

- more focussed, efficient and well-attended meetings;
- maximising and diversifying engagement by members of councils, the public and press, including the future recruitment of new members;
- savings on time, travel costs, room hire, printing of papers;
- more environmentally friendly;
- mitigating the effect of extenuating circumstances;
- ability to arrange urgent meetings of Council with minimal time and cost implications, thereby improving democratic decision making;
- scheduling meetings of sub-committees, project meetings and working groups;

Based on the survey's results and the fact that two thirds of respondents (66 %) said they would like to retain the facility for remote working, it is recommended that:

- permission to hold remote meetings in future should be enshrined in law.
- the legislation should include flexibility to permit a hybrid situation where members and the public could attend meetings either physically or remotely. Meetings could be live streamed to provide full public access.
- for the future remote meetings/working could be supported and facilitated by ensuring the availability of training for staff and councillors.
- consideration be given to support Community and Town Councils to fund the technical equipment needed by Councillors e.g. by extending to Community and Town Councils the facility available to unitary authorities for claiming equipment costs refunds from Welsh Government.
- it would be useful to assess whether or not unitary authorities could provide Community and Town Councils with a link to their technical facilities for remote meetings in order to facilitate public



participation and an easier login process and if so, whether it would be beneficial to do so.

### Public participation

This is an opportunity for residents to raise matters of concern to them.

### Payments to approve

Payments related to daffodil bulb planting

- £13.96 for bulb planters
- £8.99 for earth auger

Noticeboard

- £11.51 for noticeboard magnets

### Planning Updates

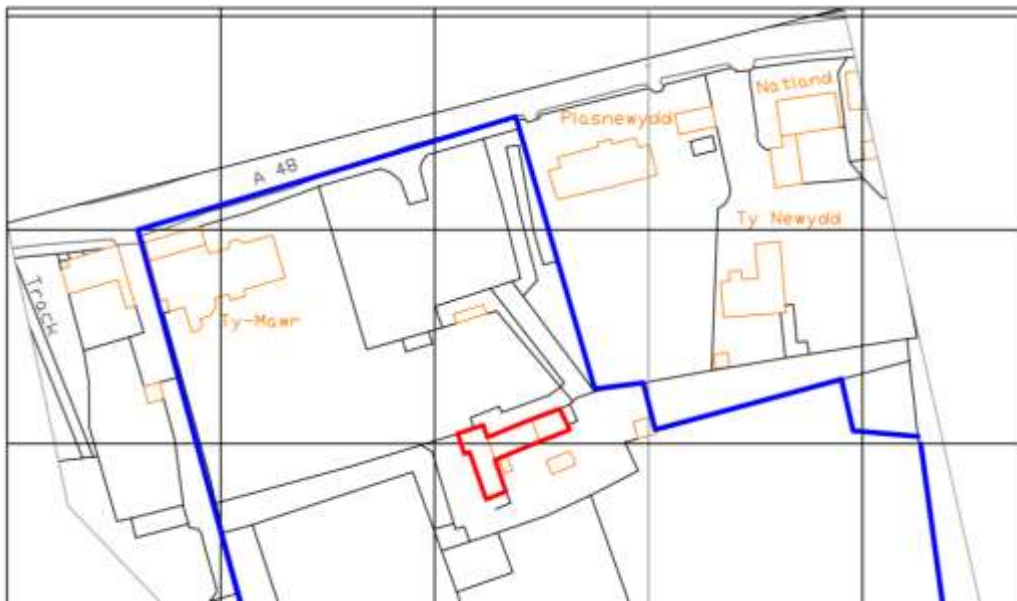
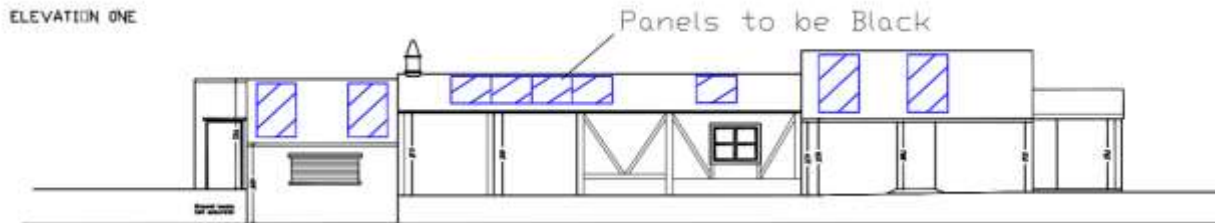
The Community Council's [response](#) to the St Nicholas CIW School proposals is now available on the Vale Council's Planning Register



## Planning Applications

[2020/01180/FUL](#) – Stables, Great House (Ty Mawr), Bonvilston

Installation of solar panels in roof of stables



- Panels will be secured directly to the metal roof and will not rise above the ridge.
- They will be placed more than 300mm from the edges which is the MCS requirement pitch involved, visibility will be minimised.
- The panels are 'all-black' faced and framed i.e. not industrial-looking,
- There are no moving parts and no light or noise is emitted from either the panels or the electrics.
- All materials involved (mostly glass, aluminium and small amounts of steel) are recyclable at the end of life.



## Community Review

We have 4 dwellings at Dyffryn, one at Peterston-Super-Ely. Residents of the Downs feel that they belong with St Nicholas. Three properties at the Downs belong to Wenvoe Community Council, the rest to St Georges with St Brides. Sometimes the boundaries follow water courses, sometimes hedges, sometimes roads.

At the request of Community Councils, the Vale of Glamorgan Council will carry out **a review of Community Ward boundaries**. Does this Community Council agree to work with other Community Council's and approach the Vale of Glamorgan Council to make changes?



## Parc Dyffryn Solar Park

Discussion of the potential benefits and disbenefits to the community and environment. Members might like to read about similar projects on the website of [Cellin Renewables](#).

## Community Council projects and activities 2021-22

Discussion of the Community Council can deliver in 2021-22. This is the beginning of the **Budgeting Process**. In 2019-20, we had the 596<sup>th</sup> highest levy on Council Tax in Wales. We've held consultations, have we delivered?

Budget for allotments, environmental projects, public realm enhancement, community signage, facilities, etc.

