MINERA NEWS APRIL 2020

The Minera Community Council( MCC) clerk advised members that due to information received from WCBC Electoral Services, no co-option notices had been posted. The clerk will be informed when the three current vacancies can be advertised.

The lighting chairman Cllr W Blaze advised the meeting that 19 lighting units were currently awaiting attention from the lighting contractors who are currently not operating due to the current situation. They will be prioritised once work commences. The clerk noted that the latest invoice received from SSE showed a reduction due to the introduction of LEDS. He expects further reductions once the work has been completed.

The clerk confirmed that the instruction not to use the electoral roll as the basis for a resident's mailshot concerning Covid-19 had been sent by the UK Electoral Commission. The are concerns that this advice hinders the Council's ability to address it's residents. The clerk is to seek further advice.

The current situation across the local area is that following the initial surge of public enthusiasm and advice from governmental, local and charitable organisations has now settled down and the community social media pages are focusing on continuing to pass on key messages and encourage community-minded activity. This includes informing individuals where help and assistance can be obtained . The MCC website was keeping up to date with advice and has shown an increase of 600% in site visitors compared to last year.

The Chair added that around 50 volunteers were now registered with the Coedpoeth caretakers and donations of key supplies were continuing to be made and distributed to those who needed them.

Cllr D Kelly noted that WCBC Environmental Services were under significant

additional pressure due to the unfeasibility of observing of social distancing

while carrying out gang-based refuse collection work. The chair, on behalf of

MCC expressed his recognition of the great efforts by all members of our

communities who were keeping residents supplied with goods and services at the current time. This inevitably meant that some individuals would be putting themselves at greater risk to provide such services and this was gratefully

appreciated.

Due to the lack and speed in response from the Welsh Government inidentifying the identities and entitlements of those residents considered 'vulnerable ' at the present time, Cllr J Rosier proposed that the clerk write to the Welsh Government requesting urgent effort be applied to resolving these issues.

The clerk informed members that 20th May was the provisional date for the Annual General Meeting.

The clerk advised that the Police.co.uk facility for reviewing local crime data had

been temporarily suspended to put resources to alternative use in the current national emergency. The council were informed that during the period of

national lockdown, North Wales Police had witnessed a significant increase in the seizure of uninsured vehicles and vehicles being used in the furtherance of crime, notably drug offences.

In his report, the chair reported that the problem with sheep straying on to the

Old Road had continued and had been reported to the appropriate authority. He was very concerned that there could be a serious accident, especially during

darkness.

One particular isolated elderly resident had been contacted to ensure she was

aware of available community networks. She confirmed she was well and had support.

A fire at a property on the Old Road had required eight fire appliances to bring it under control. Thankfully there were no injuries.

Contact details for a volunteer from New Brighton had been passed on to the

Coedpoeth caretakers and a Gwynfryn resident had been put in touch with the

excellent service they were co-ordinating as the resident had been unaware of the

facility.

A message of support to all the members of the community and beyond who were

standing up to be counted in the current climate had been put on the MCC website, noting that a donation to the AVOPW 3D printer appeal had been made by the council on behalf of all residents of the Minera ward.

The chair had emptied the Gwynfryn play area bin and would ascertain if the

Minera playground bins would be emptied by WCBC under the Service Level

Agreement or whether it had been excluded due to cost. The charge is currently

£701.00 for each playground for litter picking and bin emptying.

Scheduled broadband upgrade work by Openreach had begun in the play area.

In his report WCBC Cllr D Kelly proposed that the initial donation of £200 to the

AVOW 3-D printer appeal be increased to £1000. This was approved and the clerk was requested to verify that the PPE specification being produced under this

campaign was appropriate for NHS use.

Welsh Government legislation to enable remote meetings and other points of

variation to established practice by public bodies was expected to be in law by

17th April.

Incidents of fly tipping on Minera mountain has been recorded. The closure of

municipal waste facilities was considered to be part of the problem.

Notification had been received of a grant to build a butterfly garden within the Local Places for Nature initiative sponsored by Keep Wales Tidy. Minera quarry was discussed as a potential location for the garden if it could not be developed within the School's grounds. There was no urgency as the grant offer was open for completion until 31 March 2021.

A donation of £200 to Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in recognition of the exceptional costs following the cancellation of the 2020 event.