



**Minutes of the meeting of Darran Valley Community Council on:
Thursday 11th July 2024 at 6.30 pm (Deri Community Centre)**

Present

Cllr M Gibbings (Chair)
Cllr E Blanche
Cllr J Gibbings
Cllr D Nicholas

Absent and Apologies

Cllr R Chapman
Cllr T Johnson
Cllr D Johnson
Cllr D Roberts

In Attendance

Ms. A Pallister (Clerk)
CSO from Gwent Police

32 Members of the public

One member of the public attended.

33 Declaration of interest

There were none.

34 To approve and confirm the June 2024 minutes of the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting were approved as an accurate reflection of the meeting

35 Matters arising from the June 2024 meeting.

81.00 – Planning for Christmas events.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

- Cllr J Gibbings would like 4 large posters for both events next year.
- Councillors' would like the Clerk and Cllr R Chapman to look into the possibility of adding more lights in Deri for 2024. The council have investigated adding further lights previously, but the lampposts have been deemed unsuitable. It was noted that other community councils with similar lampposts have added extra lighting.
- At the December 2023 meeting there was also a discussion around ensuring the posters have been signed off before advertising to the general public.

UPDATE FROM THE JANUARY 2024 MEETING:

The Clerk has contacted the relevant agencies asking them to investigate the possibility of adding extra decorations in Deri for 2024. The Clerk will report back once there is news.

Councillor's reported the events were a big success yet again. The Santa on a Fire Engine event in Fochriw was not as well attended as last year, but this was due to a clash with another local event. The Deri events were extremely well attended and numbers were up from last year – the engagement and response were magnificent.

UPDATE FROM THE FEBRUARY 2024 MEETING:

Keep on matters arising until resolved.



UPDATE FROM THE MARCH 2024 MEETING:

This was discussed again. The upgrade of street lampposts maybe the only route to adding additional lighting, but it's highly unlikely Caerphilly CBC will have the budget to undertake this work at this point in time. Cllr M Gibbings suggested potting a Christmas tree in Groesfaen, and offered to look into where it could go. Cllr E Blanche suggested upgrading to LED lighting.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND: The Clerk will investigate the upgrade to LED lights in Deri. Cllr M Gibbings to look into the possibility of potting a Christmas Tree in Groesfaen. Cllr M Gibbings will send the Clerk the GPS location of the lamppost needing LED lights.

UPDATE FROM THE JUNE 2024 MEETING:

The Christmas 2024 Pantomimes have been booked as follows:

Saturday 28th December 2024 12:00 pm – Cinderella at Deri Community Centre.

Sunday 29th December 2024 1:00 pm – Rapunzel at Fochriw Community Centre

91.5 Cllr M Gibbings suggested the purchase of a mental bench depicting a fallen soldier at the cenotaph in Deri.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND: This will be discussed at the January 2024 meeting under matters arising.

UPDATE FROM THE JANUARY 2024 MEETING:

Cllr M Gibbings was unable to attend due to being unwell. This will be picked up at the next meeting.

UPDATE FROM THE FEBRUARY 2024 MEETING:

This will be moved to the March 2024 meeting as Cllr M Gibbings needs time to look at options and prices. Cllr Gibbings is interested in obtaining prices for the Newbridge memorial bench depicting the fallen soldier. This would also help address the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings.

UPDATE FROM THE MARCH 2024 MEETING: Cllr R Chapman advised that Howe Engineering can build a bench at a lower price.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND: Cllr M Gibbings and R Chapman to discuss and investigate before the next meeting.

UPDATE FROM THE APRIL 2024 MEETING: This will be moved to the May 2024 meeting.

36 Planning Applications

There were none.

37 Darran Valley Community Council Crime Update

There were 13 crimes June 2024 and 17 May 2024.

Of the 13 crimes June 2024, most were isolated incidents.

Incidents to note:

Criminal damage – unknown youths throwing stones at a property.

Vehicle stolen – Heol y Bryn, Fochriw.

Vehicle damage – New Road, Deri.

There was 1 reported incidence of anti-social behaviour. There was deliberate fire to skip in Fochriw. All viable lines of enquiry have been completed, but no suspects have been identified.

Operation BERNIE – this operation will be starting shortly where officers will Team up with South Wales Fire and conduct patrols throughout the Darran Valley ward.

The Police has distributed posters advising the public not to leave valuables In cars. They will also drop some off at Parc Cwm Darran.



Off-road motorbikes remain a significant problem for the force, and they are expecting a significant rise during the summer holidays. The Police wish to continue working closely with the council to address the problem. The police also highlighted that they are happy to support events and collaboratively work with partners to understand local challenges.

38 To receive Community Council Correspondence

There were none.

39. Approval of Community Council Payments

BACS	£150	Grant for Fochriw over 55's club
BACS	£150	Fochriw Tots
BACS	£2,856	Newton Newton Flag & Banner Makers Ltd
BACS	£288	Harris Bassett Accountancy
TOTAL	£3,4444	

40. Date and time of the next meeting:

The next meeting will be on Thursday 5th September 2024 at 6.30 pm (Deri Library).