

**MINUTES OF BRAG MEETING HELD ON  
Monday 21st August 2017  
In the village hall, Bryn**

**Present:** Mr Paul Bulmer, Chair & Trustee  
Mr Daf Bowen, Trustee  
Mr John Thomas, Trustee  
Mrs Dianne Thomas, Trustee  
Mrs Val Merriman,  
Mr Martin Fitzpatrick  
Councillor Rhidian Mizen  
Mrs Ruth Mechan

**Apologies:**

Mr Gareth Jones	Mr Dylan Morgan
Mr Zach Dixon	Mrs Jenet Eckton
Miss Louise Hopkins	Mr Alan Thomas
Mr Mark Dummer	Mr Robert Davies
Mrs Sue Phillips	Mr Royden Rogers
Mrs Gaynor Jones	Mr David Eckton
Mr Mark Dummer	
Councillor David Whitelock	Councillor Charlotte Galsworthy

Paul Bulmer welcomed those present and opened the meeting at approx. 7.10 p.m.

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING.**

Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated by email before the meeting. These were accepted in the meeting with no changes.

Matters arising from previous meetings not on this agenda were –

Heritage walk took place on 5/7/17

Calendar photos still required if we are going to do a calendar this year? Printing cost would be about £400 plus VAT for 200 so would need to sell over 100 at £5 each to make an income.  
Agreed to defer a decision on this for now.

Paul was to ask Mark Dummer to prepare estimate for additional toilets on Bowls pavilion prior to submission for grant to build. This had been done and Mark had agreed to meet up with Gareth Jones to discuss.

Paul was to follow up on letter of invite to Parliament Week 13 – 19 November 2017. This appears to be mainly schools and youth organisations that have followed this up. Did not appear to be any interest within BRAG. Action Closed.

Paul did attend the wellbeing meeting at CVS on 7/4/17 and represented the interests of Bryn.

The state of the grounds and wall at the old school site on Varteg Row has been raised with the Council planning dept. by Paul. They said they are aware and will be covered in the planning application on the site after obtaining an engineer's report.

The School photos project is still ongoing. **ACTION – PAUL/PETER**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Since the last meeting in April, BRAG has progressed issues with the Council, Welsh Water, CVS, Charity Commission, etc.

Paul read out the details in the emails with the councillors. Many of the actions were still ongoing but completed actions included:

A temporary repair had been made to the rut in the road over to Maesteg.  
Many improvements had been made to the community centre and more were in progress.  
Speed limit signs on the road to Maesteg now resolved to everyone's satisfaction.  
Hedgerow restricting access to old railway line near Royal Oak has now been trimmed.  
Increased schedule for emptying bins etc. in children's play area next to the tennis courts.

Other points that had been reported by Councillor David Whitelock was that the courts were getting much tougher on litter and fly tipping, he was progressing further speed monitoring with the police and was continuing to follow up on the other actions raised and the last coffee morning with Stephen Kinnock.

Organised a miner's memorial and put on an event to launch this.

Progressed improvements to the recreation facilities. E.g. Field drainage, lighting, tennis court inspection and maintenance, improving Bowls toilet facilities, etc.

Now working with Cwm Walking to provide guided walk. Next walk in Bryn scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept.

Bryn Heritage Walk passed the inspection by Natural Resources Wales but the inspection of the Bryn Beast Route does require work. Awaiting the report from Natural Resources Wales on this.

Progressed a number of improvements to the community centre and further improvements are ongoing.

Held the BRAG AGM.

Delivered the April and June Newsletters. Next newsletter almost ready.

Paul thanked everyone who has helped in the above activities.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mark Dummer sent his apologies. Paul said that all is in order but Mark will give a financial update at the next meeting.

### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT**

Daf Bowen thanked everyone who took part in the Memorial Day. The accounts for this work now have to be completed. Those present all felt it had been a very successful day.

Dafydd will consider if a further Historical Society Presentation will be planned before Christmas.

**ACTION – Dafydd**

### **YOUTH SECTION ACTIVITIES**

Dylan and Zack were unable to attend the meeting. Paul will follow up on a number of actions with them outside of the meeting. **ACTION – Paul**

### **TENNIS COURT AREA PROJECT & FUTURE PLANS**

Agreement was reached to:

- Obtain a further noticeboard for the second entrance to the tennis court area as some users had claimed they had not seen the existing notice.
- Put up a chainmail basketball net.
- Provide a second bin so there is no excuse for litter in the area.
- Provide tennis and or basketball coaching once requirements have been agreed with the youth section.

### **SURGERY MEETINGS**

This will resume on the first Saturday in October.

### **INCREASING INTERACTION BETWEEN BRYN GROUPS**

Due to the poor attendance from other groups at the meeting it was not possible to progress this topic. It was agreed to organise a further meeting in the Rugby Club to address just this topic. A date will be included in the newsletter. **ACTION – Paul & Peter**

### **RICHARD BURTON & BRYN BEAST RACE**

Good progress with the Burton that will take place on Sunday 5/11/17.

If Bryn is to put on a Bryn Beast in 2018 considerable village support will be required. It was suggested that an outline of requirements be prepared and discussed in the above meeting in the Rugby Club. **ACTION – PAUL/BRAG MEMBERS**

### **NEWSLETTERS**

The next newsletter will be published around September. Neill had asked before about including an article on the football. Paul agreed to see if he still wished to do this. **ACTION – Paul.**

Other topics were discussed that Peter agreed to include. **ACTION Peter.**

### **BRYN VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Paul provided further details of the work being progressed on this.

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

Halloween booked for 1/11/17 with Entertainer and Martin confirmed the Rugby Club was booked. Paul said he would arrange a meeting at the club closer to the date to finalise the details for the evening. **ACTION – Paul.**

Christmas Event still to be organised. Val to look at the night out site and identify possible shows.

**ACTION – Val.**

Swansea Barrage Presentation to provide an update of this project is to be delivered in the Rugby Club. Provisional dates agreed with Rugby Club were Wed 20th or Thu 21st Sept, Thu 28th Sep, Wed 4th Oct, Thu 5th Oct. It was agreed in the meeting to go for Thu 5<sup>th</sup> Oct in the hope that a decision on the project by the government may have been made by then. Paul to follow this up with the Swansea Barrage project team and organise publicity. **ACTION – Paul.**

Saturday September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am – Walk ‘n’ Talk – A walk around the Bryn Nature Reserve, talking about plants, habitat and importance, introducing history of the site and management plans

Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> – Volunteer Fun Day – Meet on Bryn Nature Reserve and carry out some site management (e.g. brush clearance) for a couple of hours. Followed by BBQ (or cooking on open fire) and some willow weaving (or another activity) in the afternoon.

Restart IT Club early October if sufficient support?

Bryn Youth Club restart date to be obtained by Paul for Peter to add to the newsletter. **ACTION – Paul.**

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None raised. Meeting closed at 8:15