Cyngor Cymuned Cilybebyll
Cilybebyll Community Council

Minutes of the Project Committee Meeting held Remotely via *Zoom*, on Thursday 27th May 2021 at 7:00 pm

Present Councillors L Rees, D Jones, A Melen, A Threlfall

Apologies Councillor R Stephens, M Spooner, D Atkins

44 GLEISION DISASTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL

Members met with representatives from Ystalyfera Community Council to discuss a joint project to mark the 10-year anniversary of the Gleision disaster. Cllrs E.W. Williams, G. Williams, C. James, J. Jones, R. Davies and A. Llewelyn from Ystalyfera Community Council were present.

Cllr A. Melen asked if there was a remembrance memorial in the Ystalyfera area for the disaster – she stated that there is a memorial bench in Cilybebyll. Ystalyfera members explained that there is a large rock of remembrance with a plaque on the cycle track near Tarenni placed by Ystalyfera Community Council. It was also explained that the families of the miners have their own personal memorial at the site on the cycle track.

Cllr L. Rees stated that Cllr A. Melen had previously suggested that St. Peter's Church, Pontardawe be lit up on the anniversary of the event. He asked whether or not St David's Church in Ystalyfera could do something similar. Unfortunately, St David's Church is not lit and does not have the facilities required. Members of both councils thought it was a good idea to light St Peter's Church in Pontardawe and that the event be marked on Facebook. RESOLVED noted.

Cllr E.W. Williams suggested that a solar lit silhouette could be made of a miner or miners to place on the cycle track near Tarenni. Members thought this was a good idea, but they were concerned that solar lighting may not be sufficient and that it could be vandalised.

Cllr D. Jones suggested that a tree could be planted for each person who died. Ystalyfera members stated that there were already lots of trees in the area. Clerk stated that a planter had been mentioned as a possible memorial. Cllr E.W. Williams stated that the only issue with a planter is that it would need maintenance i.e. planting, watering and fertilising. He suggested that purchasing a bench between the two community councils could be a better option.

Cllr D. Jones stated that he had seen a bench in Abercraf made out of part of a tree with carvings on it. It was suggested that Garry Turler (a local woodcarver) could make a bench for the area with carvings of miners in the back of the bench and both council logos also on the bench. Members from both councils thought this was an excellent idea. RESOLVED that Clerk liaise with G. Turler.

Cllr A. Llewelyn suggested that the families of the miners be contacted in order to keep them informed of what the councils plan to do and to make sure that they would be happy with a memorial bench. RESOLVED that Cllr A. Llewelyn liaise with families.

Cllr R. Davies suggested that some funding towards the bench project could be sought via NPTCBC ‘active travel’. RESOLVED that Clerk look into this.

The meeting ended at 7:30pm.

Signed Dated 01 June 2021