



communities first cymunedau yn gyntaf

**Clase Community Development
Forum Meeting Minutes
12th September 2007 4.30pm**

1. Attendance

Byron Owen, Sharon Spears, Jackie Coe, Sarah Bower, Jason Nancurvis, Cllr Audrey Clement, Keith Baker, Louisa Crees, Marlene Webber, Nino Williams, Charles White, Jackie Thomas, Stacey Lewis, Julia Clarke, Becky Morcom, Julian Hill, Natalie Hudson, Sue Spencer, Bill Jenkins.

2. Apologies for absence

Robin Wood, Sue Rees, Ceinwen Thomas

3. Minutes of last meeting

Accepted as a true account

4. Changes to the executive constitution

The executive AGM is to take place on September the 20th at 1pm at Clase Community Centre.

Bill Jenkins is from the Communities First Support Network and was the first development worker in Clase and Caemawr 6 years ago.

Robin, Prue and Nat's posts are funded by communities first, the executive direct the work of these staff and they are essentially accountable to the executive. In short the executive committee guide the work the team do.

Currently the structure of the executive is 21 people made up of:

- 7 people from local residents, 2 from Clase Forum, 2 Caemawr Forum and 3 others by election
- 7 from agencies / local businesses and
- 7 from the public service

There have been some proposed changes to how that structure is balanced, with different levels of community members to be involved. If you want to come along and know more and get involved then this is the chance to do so, the AGM is being held on the 20th September at

1pm and it is very important that residents attend to get the community represented on the executive. The partnership constitution states that any local person can attend and vote, which is why it is being announced here at the forums to get people there.

All attending were then asked to consider the following proposed options:

- 1 independent chair plus
10 local people (3 Clase Forum, 3 Caemawr Forum, and 4 invited from local groups and businesses to reflect diversity)
10 service providers including councillors, council officers, agency representatives
- 2 independent chair plus
12 local people(4 Clase Forum, 4 Caemawr Forum, and 4 invited from local groups and businesses to reflect diversity)
8 service providers including councillors, council officers, agency representatives
- 3 independent chair plus
10 local people (2 Clase Forum, 2 Caemawr Forum, and 6 invited from local Action Groups to reflect diversity)
8 service providers including councillors, council officers, agency representatives and businesses.

The general feeling was that more community members should be allowed to sit on the executive forum. After a short amount of time reading through and discussing the options a vote by a show of hands showed that **option 2 was by far the most popular.**

Sarah Bower said that if more people from Clase come along then their choice will be carried, so we most encourage friends and relatives to attend.

Sue Spencer commented that she was the only resident at the last executive meeting and she was asked questions about Clase and Caemawr, more people are needed to come along to give a well rounded view of every aspect of living in Clase and Caemawr.

5. **How the forums are run**

It is quite difficult to organise something for the forum for every four weeks, it seems like when one finishes, the planning for the next one begins without actually working on anything. The alternating meeting times, afternoon and evenings, but in order to have time to organise the meetings properly it has been suggested to have the meetings every other month. All were in agreement.

6. Bank accounts

The forum needs 4 people to go on the bank account, this will not entail much work just signing cheques. Jackie Thomas, Julie Clarke, and Charles White volunteered. It was suggested that Terry Jones be asked to be a signatory, this will be followed up, however it will be left at 3 for now.

7. A.O.B

Keith, the Environment Group, updated the group on the £20,000 bid and the draft plans for paths across Ffynnon Y Deml and the 3,500 trees and bushes that are planned for planting. The headmasters and headmistresses have expressed interest in using the field for outdoor education, and Val Lloyd AM visited the field on the 10th of September for a guided tour.

Keith has built a bench to go on the field, however due to its indestructible nature it will need to be carried onto the field and built there.

The gateway to Clase was brought up as a project that needs to be looked at, Nat confirmed that it was still in the pipeline, not forgotten but despite being a relatively simple job was stuck at the paperwork stage.

There will be a traffic meeting organised by the Caemawr Residents Forum in the next few weeks once Highways have confirmed a date and both forums are welcome to highlight traffic problems in the local area and start working towards solutions.

Jason Nancurvis from the Play development team announced that the after school play group in St Teilo's will close. He is in talks to reallocate the funds directly back into this area, and already has volunteers who will be applying for those funds in order to reopen.

St Teilo's are having the whole in their roof looked at by builders and will be fixed in the near future.

8. Date of next meeting

10th of October at 1pm

