



PYLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING

on
Wednesday 28th January 2015
in the Talbot Community Centre

Questions from the Public

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm

Present

Councillors; G Hooper (Chair), G Brown, P. James, A John, K John, A Jones, B Jones
& M Kearns.

Clerk to the Council; Harold Phillips.

1. Apologies for Absence;
2. Declaration of Interest in Accordance with Section 51 of the Local Government Act 2000 – Any interest to be declared as items arise through the meeting.
3. Approval of Minutes.
 - a. The minutes for the meeting held on 26th November 2014 were approved.
Proposed by Cllr K John, Seconded by Cllr A Jones
 - b. Cllr G Hooper (Chair) signed the minutes as a true and correct record.
4. Business Arising
 - a. Festival Week 2015.
Cllr G Hooper reported the plans for this year Festival Week are in hand. The theme for this year is “The Rugby World Cup” with the hope that everyone wears a Rugby Shirt. The next meeting to be held on Tuesday 10th February
 - b. Footpaths to Bryndu House Farm.
Ongoing. The Clerk reported that in his recent conversation with NPT he was informed the Footpaths and Rights of Way department has been reduced from 8 to 2 people a further indication of the local government cuts
 - c. Heathbridge Miners’ Square
 - i. Another 42 plaques were installed prior to Christmas. The next phase, phase four, will be in April and the Clerk recommended a joint dedication service be held for phase three and four in the Spring when the weather will be more suited to outdoor event. It was agreed and Cllr P James asked that the subscribers to phase three be notified

- ii. With reference to the invoice from Afan Landscapes requesting payment of £4419.56 for the final phase of construction. It was resolved to pay the invoice following a proposition from Cllr A John which was seconded by Cllr M Kearn and approved unanimously.
 - d. Communities Regeneration Plan

The final draft plan was presented to all Councillors and they were requested to report back to the Clerk with any observation by Wednesday 11th February
 - e. Land behind Bus Shelter on the A48 Pyle Road

Awaiting the arrival of ASDA
 - f. Bus Shelter opposite Cwrt Anghorfa

A further site meeting was held with representatives of BCBC to reconsider replacing the present brick built shelter with the standard shelter. This will involve the demolition of the existing shelter and the transfer of the land to the resident on whose property it stands with all its legal ramifications. BCBC are to prepare a report. This may take some time to resolve but is the best solution
 - g. Footpath at Riverside Walk

Cllr A John reported that water is still standing at the point where the last work was carried out. Andrew Mason of BCBC is to inform.
 - h. Rosemount Garden

The Chair together with the Clerk met with the Landscape Architect and Landcraft Projects Ltd (the contractor) for a pre-contact meeting.

Cost; £26,500

Commencement date; Week commencing 9 February

Completion date; Four weeks after commencement date.

Final contract to be signed within 7 days
 - i. The lane adjacent to Pwlllygarth Street.

Ongoing. In BCBC legal department
 - j. Llys Ton

At a meeting with Mr Keith Power of BCBC he proposed the installation of a speed warning sign as recently installed by St Theodore's Church. The sign would be installed on the road approached from Stormy Down
 - k. The Collwyn. It was resolved to engage the Cardiff Conservation Volunteers to make 6 visits during 2015 with the visit not exclusively to the Collwyn
 - l. Christmas Lighting. Last year the Council acquired eight additional features to replace some of the features which have been condemned, unfortunately when BCBC did their annual check a further eight were condemned leaving the number features at the same level. All the features which have been condemned are from the original stock of 34 purchased some 10 years ago. It is estimated there are just four of the original stock remaining. It was resolved to purchase a further ten features this year.
5. Reports
- a. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the financial implications of the liquidation of Groundwork Bridgend Neath Port Talbot and the outstanding invoice from Afan Landscapes; see item 5.c.ii.
 - b. Member Reports
 - i. Cllr M Kearn reported on four items
 - Reference an approach about a missing manhole cover at the rear of the Labour Club but unfortunately he was unable to resolve the matter as it was on private land.
 - A complaint of an off road motorbike being ridden on the footpath to the Frogpond. Cllr Kearn reported the matter to a local PCSO who duly apprehended the offender.
 - Complaints received reference the foul smell emanating from a cess pit in Woodlands Park. Cllr James, as a Borough Councillor, said she was aware of the

problem and was pursuing the matter with BCBC.

- The growing amount of litter by pupils from the Comprehensive school during their lunch time break
- ii. Cllr K John referred to the large amount of broken glass in lane leading to the Kenfig Hill Rugby Club. Cllr James said she would report the matter
- iii. Cllr G Brown commented on the sad loss of Dizzy's Castle which has provided invaluable service to the mother's, grandmother's and toddlers and asked if the Community Council could assist in anyway. Unfortunately as Dizzy's Castle is a completely private company the law governing Community Council expenditure prohibits it from providing financial help

6. Correspondence

- a. BCBC. A letter from John Clarke re the replacement of a litter bin outside Gorgeous Grooming. Mr Clarke reported it will not be possible to replace the bin until a survey of all bins in the borough has been completed and then it will be subject to a budget which only allows for 30 new or replacement bins each year and the possibility of the reduction of the number of bins due the reduced workforce.
- b. BCBC. A letter requesting applications for grants from the Fund for Town and Community Council Projects. Landscape architect Geoff Whittington has been requested to cost the projects at Marlas Road and Pandy Crescent in order for a decision to be made at the February meeting as to which project should be chosen
- c. Rachel Phillips. Ms Phillips writes referring to the overall cleanliness and general appearance of the community and in positive manner offers to be involved in leading a community effort to make improvements. The Clerk has replied inviting Ms Phillips to meet to discuss a way forward.
- d. Sandville. An invitation to attend their Annual Thanksgiving Service and afterwards for refreshments at Sandville on Sunday 1st February. The Chair to attend.

7. Planning

- a. 31 Commercial Street, Kenfig Hill. Change of use from A1 usage (empty premises) to A5 usage as a Thai take away. The Planning Inspectorate overturn the decision of BCBC to refuse permission and the application as been approved on appeal
- b. Unit 107 Village Farm Road, Village Farm Ind Estate, Pyle. Relax Condition 7 relating to the removal of a long term monitoring and maintenance plan
- c. KPC Youth, Pyle Inn Way, Pyle. Construction of a replacement community building
- d. 9-10, Village farm Road, Village Farm Industrial Estate, Pyle. Change of use to waste transfer station
- e. 22 Bower Street, Kenfig Hill. Hard Standing to front with access ramp
- f. 3 Waunbant Road Kenfig Hill. Erection of 2 pairs of 3 bed semi-detached dwellings
- g. Rosemount, Pyle. Install Seating Area, new access ramp, interpretation panels and landscaping.

8. Rights of Way and Open Spaces

Ongoing

9. Highways

Ongoing

10. Donations

a. Requests.

- i. Veterans in Society.
Request for financial support for participation in the Annual Armed Forces Day parade. It was resolved to give £50.00. Proposed Cllr P James and Seconded by Cllr A Jones
- ii. Royal Welsh Comrades Association .
Request for a grant towards the purchase of a new Royal Welsh Standard. It was resolved to give £50.00. Proposed Cllr P James and Seconded by Cllr K John

- iii. 1st Kenfig Hill Guides .
Request for assistance in their effort to raise funds for a member to partake in an international visit to Greece. It was resolved to give £150.00. Proposed Cllr M Kearn and Seconded by Cllr A Jones.

b. Acknowledgements

- c. Mynydd Cynffig Infants School
- d. Llangollen International Eisteddfod
- e. The Talbot Community Centre
- f. National Eisteddfod
- g. Marie Curie

11. Finance and Accounts

In response to BCBC's Annual Precept request it was resolved to set the Precept for 2015/2016 at £60,000

12. Any Other Business

- a. Mayor's Citizens Award. No nomination will be made this year
- b. Cae Garw Traveller's Site. The Clerk reported on a proposal to add 10 further sites to the existing 28 sites. No further action at this time.
- c. Devolving of Services from Borough to Community Councils. The Clerk reported on his meeting with BCBC.
 - i. Grass Cutting. BCBC currently cut 22 areas of grass in the community 9 times per year on a 3 week cycle at a cost of £6,744.00. The Clerk has received the list has now requested a plan showing each area together with ownership or the department within BCBC. BCBC would be willing to devolve the responsibility for grass cutting together with the current budget. After considering the options it was resolved to assume responsibility for individual areas as and when we acquire the leases in order to carry renovation
 - ii. Litter. The picture painted by Andrew Hobbs Group Manager at BCBC was extremely bleak with a forecast of further staff cuts leading to an even greater reduction of services.
Unlike the cutting of grass BCBC intend retaining all their current services, albeit at an reduced level, but would be willing for Pyle Community Council to add additional services to lessen the impact of the reduction of services by BCBC. Any additional services provided would be without any financial support. It was resolved to do nothing and monitor events

The meeting closed at 8.00pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 25th February 2015 at 6.30pm

*Harold J. Phillips
Clerk to the Council*