

Minutes of Taff's Well & Nantgarw Community Council held at:- St Mary & James' Church Hall Tuesday 31 January 2012

PRESENT: Cllrs: - J Bonetto (Chairman), C Dyke, Megan Jones, S Lintern & C E Griffin

APOLOGIES, Cllrs: - L Thomas, Fred Meech, Tracy Williams, Pat Prothero and A Evans.
Apologies were also received from PCSO Rachael Price who was annual leave.

Also present: Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson

MINUTE No: 1/1/12 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declaration of interests disclosed.

MINUTE No: 2/1/12 POLICE MATTERS:

Apologies were received from PCSO Price who was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted the following report on PACT priorities for this month

Vehicle Annoyance – Heol Y Dderwen- Patrols are being made by Roads Policing, One scooter causing annoyance was seized as the driver was under the influence of drink and had no insurance.

Shed burglaries in Taff's Well and Nantgarw- Officers are making CCTV enquiries as there has been another Shed burglary in Anchor street where a £3000 mountain bike was stolen.

Officers are urging all residents to ensure their property is secure.

The next PACT will be held on 16th February at Ty Rhiw Community Centre

Resolved:

Members noted PCSO Price's report

MINUTE NO: 3/1/12: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 8th December 2011 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman:

MINUTE No: 4/1/12: MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

There were no matters arising from the minutes

MINUTE NO: 5/1/12: CLERK'S REPORT

FEES FOR ANNUAL AUDIT - 31 MARCH 2011

The Clerk reported that the annual external auditors report for the financial year ended 31 March 2011 has been successfully completed and the required "notice of electors' rights" notice is displayed on the Council's website.

Members noted that a statutory audit fee of £162, including VAT, was now payable to the external auditors.

Resolved:

1. Members noted the successful completion of the audit and that the inclusion of the "notice of electors' rights" requirement placed been placed on the Council's Website.

2. Members approved payment of the statutory audit fee.

DISABILITY WALES - MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FEE

The Clerk reminded Members that, in the last financial year the Council had agreed that it would become an Associate Member of Disability Wales. The Clerk reported that the Membership fee for 2012 was now due at a cost of £45.00.

Resolved:

Members resolved to continue membership of Disability Wales and approved the above payment.

LIBRARY/IT HUB

The Clerk reported that the Charity Commission has approved the Community Development Association's application for membership and the group is now a registered Charity.

The County Council had also provided a Service Level Agreement confirming that a grant of £5000 per annum will be made for the next 3 years and thereafter subject to annual review.

The matter of the acquisition of the lease, for the old police station, is ongoing and will be completed by the end of the financial year.

A further meeting of the working group plus County Officers was held on the 23 January in order to plan what will hopefully be a seamless transition once the existing library closes.

Further reports on this matter will be made as progress is made.

Resolved:

1. That the above information report be noted.
2. That further reports be brought before the Council and these matters progress.

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members gave consideration to the following application for financial assistance.

1. Ti a Fi (Welsh Medium Playgroup)

Ti a Fi operates from the Village Hall and provides play services (through the Medium of Welsh) to children and parents/carers in the area.

Resolved:

That a grant of £250 be awarded to Ti a Fi

WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk reported on changes that have been made to the Council's Website. The Planning Applications page has now been linked to the County Council's Portal which will enable local residents direct access to ALL documentation, held by the County Council's Planning Department, including detailed drawings, site location maps and design and access statements.

The site also provided the name, telephone number and email address of the individual Case Officer

dealing with a specific application thereby making it easier for residents to make their views known.

Resolved:

Members noted the improvements to the website.

OVERHEAD ELECTRIC POWER LINES - ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk informed Members about the discussions held with Western Power Distribution (WDP) in respect of concerns that the height of some of the trees on the allotment and surrounding perimeter are dangerously close to power lines.

WDP has agreed that they have a duty of care to manage the growth of vegetation near overhead lines and have appointed Smerdon's Tree Services to undertake a full survey of the area and carry out any required work.

The work will be done at no cost to the Community Council.

Resolved:

The above report be noted.

PROPOSAL TO ALTER THE DATE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS IN WALES

Members gave consideration to a letter from the Welsh Assembly Government seeking the Council's views in respect of a proposal to move the date of local government elections in Wales by one year from May 2016 to May 2017.

The change is proposed because of the clash with Parliamentary elections, which are now for a fixed term period of 5 years.

Resolved:

Members were opposed to the proposal to move that date of local government election by one year.

The Minister for local Government and Communities be informed of the council's reasons for opposing the change.

- There are obvious cost savings by having the elections on the same day and given the pressure on local government finances this should be taken into consideration.
- History has shown that there is a much higher turn out of the electorate when national and local elections are held on the same day and this is good for democracy.
- The suggestion, made by some people, that it will cause confusion is an insult to the electorate's intelligence

"SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE": LIMIT FOR 2012-2013

Members received, for information, a copy of a letter, from the Local Government Finance and Public Services Performance Division, notifying the Council of the Limit, per elector, for "section 137 expenditure", the maximum sum being £6.80 per elector.

The Clerk informed Members that "section 137 expenditure" is the 'vehicle' that permits the Community Council to spend on activities for which it has no other specific powers if the Council considers that the expenditure is in the interests of and will bring direct benefit to the area or any part of it or all of some of its

inhabitants. For example; providing grant aid to local organisations or providing funding for the proposed Library Hub.

Resolved:

That the section 137 expenditure limits for the financial year 2012-2013 be noted

FORMER PLAYGROUND, TY RHIW, TAFF'S WELL

At its previous meeting Members requested the Clerk to enquire as to what progress was being made, by the County Council, in respect of the sale of the above land.

Members received a copy of a letter from the Director of Corporate Estates informing the Community Council that the site is being entered into an auction on 16 February 2012 with Paul Fosh Auctioneers."

Resolved:

Members noted the letter from the Director of Corporate Estates

MINUTE No: 6/1/12 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr. C Dyke MBE

- Expressed concern over the number of potholes on Cardiff Road. There was a particularly bad patch between the Swan Inn and Ferris' which required urgent attention.
- Once again reported the problem of water retention on the road between 97-99 Ty Rhiw. The Clerk informed the member that this problem had been reported twice to the highways department and he would ask a question under the 'Freedom of Information Act' to establish what action the County were taking to resolve this problem.
- Had been asked, by a member of the public, to raise the issue of tree roots that were causing problems on the pony track around the cemetery. It was agreed that the Clerk would inform the County Council of these concerns.
- Once again raised the issue of the lack of white lines at the top of Ty Rhiw Hill. Because of the camber, vehicles coming from the direction of Ty Rhiw often approach the bend on the wrong side of the road which was potentially dangerous. It was agreed that, once again, this matter would be reported to the highway authority.

Cllr C Megan Jones

- Requested that the Clerk once again ask that action be taken to prohibit vehicles parking/blocking the steps to the road on South View, Ty Rhiw. In addition, because of the poor lighting the steps were difficult to negotiate at night. It was suggested that white lines be painted on the steps to make them more visible. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact RCT Homes in respect of this matter.
- Once again, expressed concern about the appalling state of the footpaths through Brynau Woods

Cllr Jill Bonetto

- Reported on a meeting, held with the highways authority, to discuss the introduction of double yellow lines on the bend at Taff's Well Park/ Ffynnon Taf Primary School, the Member informed the Council that agreement had now been reached that the requested lines would now be added to the list of "traffic calming measures" and would be implemented as funds become available.

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Informed members that she had reported the broken street lights in Yr Hendre and these had now been repaired.
- requested that the County Council be asked to cut back the hedges between 10 and 20 Yr Hendre
- Requested that the County Council provide a "dog waste bin" in Yr Hendre.
- Expressed residents concerns about the proposed planning application for residential development (outline) on land adjacent to Queensway. It was agreed this matter would be further discussed under planning items.

MINUTE No; 7/1/12 FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Clerk presented Members with updated details of balances within the Community Council's current and deposit accounts for December 2011 & January 2012

Resolved:

Members approved payment of accounts in the sum of £1595.77 (included in this sum was a grant of £250 for the following voluntary organisation.

- **TI A FI (WELSH MEDIUM PLAYGROUP)**

MINUTE No: 8/1/12 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Members' received the following planning application and **resolved** that the following observations be made known to the County Council.

11/1312/10	Mr K Dodd 99 Rhiw'r Ddar Taff's Well Cardiff CF15 7PB	Two storey extension to side of house with the addition of a side car port. Change of roof style on sun lounge and construction of boundary retaining wall and extending garden curtilage. Wooden fence to be erected above wall and garden shed within boundary at:- 99 RHIW'R DDAR TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7PB	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
11/1385/10	Mr Nicholas Arnold 110 Rhiw'r Ddar Taff's Well Cardiff CF15 7PB	Single storey extension to include extended kitchen and ancillary space at:- 110 RHIW'R DDAR TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7PB	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application

11/1421/10	Mr D Agnew Craig-Yr-Allt Farm Duffryn Ffrwd Nantgarw Cardiff CF15 7TP	Demolition of existing barn and stable block and construction of bungalow dwelling ancillary to the use of the farm at:- CRAIG-YR-ALLT FARM, DUFFRYN FFRWD NANTGARW CARDIFF CF15 7TP	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
11/1456/13	Mr Keith Warren Asbri Planning Ltd 1st Floor, Westview House Oak Tree Court Cardiff Gate Business Park Cardiff CF23 8RS	Residential development (outline) To develop 10 three bed houses on:- LAND ADJACENT TO QUEENSWAY NANTGARW	<p>The planning officer be informed that:-</p> <p>The Community Council is concerned that the proposed development is in very close proximity to a Grade 11 listed building and could adversely affect this facility</p> <p>The area has a number of mature trees that form a "sound barrier" to properties in the near vicinity of the site, some of which are the subject of Tree Preservation Orders. The council would object to any request to remove these trees.</p> <p>There have been considerable problems with drainage & sewerage connections to the houses at the only entrance to the site and the Council is concerned that the development might exasperate these problems.</p>

MINUTE No: 9/1/12 PUBLIC SESSION:

No issues were raised under this item

MINUTE No; 10/1/12 Dates of future meetings

- The February meeting will be held at Tawelyfreyn Community Centre on Thursday 23 February 2012
- The March meeting will be held at Ty Rhiw Community Centre on Thursday 29 March 2012

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.45 pm.

SIGNED:..... **DATE:**