

## **Minutes of Taff's Well & Nantgarw Community Council held at:- Ty Rhiw Community Centre on Monday 30 November 2009**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: - C Dyke (Chairperson), J Bonetto, S Lintern, L. Thomas, Megan Jones, Fred Meech, Tracy Williams and Pat Prothrore,

**APOLOGIES,** Cllrs:-, A. Evans and C E Griffin.

**Also present:** Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson; Police representatives Pc 141 Andrew Townsend and PSCO 473 Rachel Price

### **PRESENTATION BY RCT HOMES –SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCHEME**

Mr Ferenc Bliszko, social enterprise Manager for RCT Homes, gave a short address on the work of the recently established Mow and Grow Project.

Mr Bliszko explained that the main aim of the project will be to offer local unemployed young people and the longer term unemployed the opportunity to gain new skills and qualifications and in doing so help them return to the labour market.

The services offered included garden clearance, maintenance, grass cutting, tree pruning and allotment clearance prior to take up. Whilst there would be a small charge for the services, individuals on benefits could receive the services for free. Mr Bliszko agreed that he would forward details of the scheme along with details of RCT Homes charging policies. These would then be placed on the Community Council's website.

The Chairman thanked Mr Bliszko for his presentation and agreed that the Community Council would do all in its power to promote the scheme at a local level.

### **MINUTE No: 1/11/09 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST:**

Councillor Dyke declared an interest in the funding application for the Ty Rhiw Community Centre Sequence Dancing Group.

Councillor Tracy Williams and Sandra Lintern declared an interest in the funding application from Taff's Well Mini Rugby Team.

### **MINUTE No: 2/11/09 POLICE MATTERS:**

PC Townsend reported that:-

- PSCO Robert Lewis had regrettably been transferred to Church Village police station and that he and PSCO Price were covering his duties.
- The next PACT meeting was due to be held at Ty Rhiw Community Centre on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December commencing at 6 pm.

PSCO Rachel Price gave a brief report on policing activities and priorities for the area. Priorities were:-

**Youth Annoyance in Ty Rhiw:** mainly in the playing field, there has been more alcohol bottles left after youths had camped in the field. Patrols have and will continue to be made.

**Vehicle crime in Taff's Well and Nantgarw:** three vehicles had recently been broken into but following increased patrols there had been no further incidents. The police will continue to patrol both areas and are assisted by both marked police and unmarked police vehicles. There was also a burglary in South View and a window damaged in North view which scenes of crime are currently looking into.

PSCO Price informed the members that during the evening of Halloween police actively patrolled the area. 8 youths were stopped and searched in Taff's Well Park. Following a warning that the park must not be used

when it is closed no further action was required. The police now have their own key to the Park and will continue to monitor the Park when it is closed to the public.

There had been incidents associated with the use of air rifles both at the cemetery and along the Taff Trail. One individual was stopped carrying two rifles, both of which were confiscated, and was reported for this offence.

A number of car owners had been stopped on the industrial estate and their documentation examined. One individual has been prosecuted for road traffic offences including no vehicle insurance.

The Chairman thanked the Officers for their comprehensive reports.

**MINUTE NO: 3/11/09 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The Chairman requested that the minutes be amended as there had been a misunderstanding in respect of the approach made by Ferris's Garage. Ferris's had not requested a financial contribution towards the cost of resolving the problem of water congregation outside of its premises and had merely sought the chairman's advice on what was happening in respect of these matters.

With this amendment the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman:

**MINUTE No: 4/11/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There were no outstanding matters arising from the minutes.

**MINUTE NO; 5/11/09 CORRESPONDENCE - CLERK'S REPORT**

**PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINTS**

The Clerk informed Members that the Public Services Ombudsman had received complaints from both County Councillor Adrian Hobson and the Clerk to the Council in respect of matters associated with the recent planning application and subsequent appeal for the change of use of Ty Rhiw Chapel for extended community use.

The Public Services Ombudsman had examined the complaints, made by both parties, and decided not to investigate either complaints for the reasons outlined within his correspondence.

Members noted the report

**GRASS & ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2009 -2010 MONITORING REPORT**

Members received a monitoring report in respect of the above contract plus an invoice from Crown Gardening Services in the sum of £151.03 in respect of the same contract.

Members approved the expenditure and noted the content of the monitoring report.

**APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

Members considered funding requests from the following organisations:-

Ty Rhiw Community Centre's Sequence Dancing Group, Macmillan Cancer Support; The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and Taff's Well mini Rugby Teams' sponsorship request

Members determined that the following grant aid be awarded:-

- Ty Rhiw Community Centre's Sequence Dancing Group £250
- Macmillan Cancer Support £250
- National society for the prevention of cruelty to children (NSPCC) £250

- In respect of the application for sponsorship of the Taff's Well Mini Rugby Teams the Council agreed to provide £500 sponsorship money but delayed payment until receipt of a formal application. Once this is received the Clerk was empowered to send off the cheque.

### **MEMBERS' DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING**

Members gave consideration to a letter and leaflet from the County Council's Monitoring Officer outlining arrangements for Member Development and Training during the financial year 2009-2010.

The letter requested that the Community Council consider if "Code of Conduct" training should be compulsory. Following discussion Members resolved that; whilst fully supporting the County Council's development/training programme they did not consider that training should be compulsory.

In considering this matter Members were mindful of the fact that unlike County Council Members Community Councillors are volunteers and receive no remuneration or travel expenses. The locations of the proposed training events were not easily accessible by public transport and were held at times that effectively precluded attendance of those in employment.

It was agreed that the Clerk would bring these views to the attention of the monitoring officer and suggest that consideration be given to holding training events for individual Community Council's within their own locality.

### **NEW ALLOTMENT AND COMMUNITY GARDEN SITE – PROGRESS REPORT**

The Clerk reported that development of the new site was proceeding well and that a considerable amount of preparatory work had been undertaken in clearing the site and repairing the buildings. This work had been undertaken by volunteers and with the assistance of "Tidy Towns – Keep Wales Tidy Team"

Regular updates were being placed on the website [www.taffswellcommunityallotments.com](http://www.taffswellcommunityallotments.com) together with a pictorial record of the progress being made.

The group had now established a Membership scheme which comprises of individual members £5 per annum and a Corporate Membership scheme £50 per annum (minimum). The purpose of the corporate scheme was to attract sponsorship from the business/public sector.

Given that this was a major project both for the allotments group and the Community Council the Clerk requested that consideration be given to the Council joining as a Corporate Member.

Members agreed that:- Subject to the monies being used to support the Community element of the Project the Community Council would become a Corporate Member and provide £250 sponsorship per annum.

### **MINUTE No; 6/11/2009 MEMBERS REPORTS**

#### **Cllr L Thomas**

Reported that there was still a problem with water pooling on the railway footbridge, from Sycamore Street to Moy Road, this matter had been previously reported to Network Rail who had promised to take action to rectify the problem. However, no work has been undertaken. It was agreed that the Clerk would once again write to Network Rail on this matter.

#### **Cllr C Dyke MBE**

Expressed concern over the continuing parking problems at the South end of Taff's Well village, cars were continually being parked on the pavement making it very difficult for pedestrians and those using wheelchairs/pushchairs. It was agreed that this matter would once again be brought to the attention of the police and the highway authorities.

Requested that urgent action be taken against individuals who allow their dogs to foul the local parks. Some irresponsible individuals had been seen driving to the parks and allowing their dogs to use the parks as a "dog toilet". The County has been requested to erect new signage prohibiting dogs in children's' play

areas and the police had asked that the registration numbers of the vehicles be recorded so they could take action against the owners.

**Cllr S Lintern**

Again raised the issue of overgrowth on the footbridge spanning the A470, As there was no lighting the overgrowth made the footbridge very slippery and dark. The Clerk confirmed that he had raised this matter with the Highways Section and the Assembly Member's office requesting assistance to resolve these outstanding matters.

Praised the level of service that she had received from the County Council whom she had contacted over blocked drains, the complaint was promptly acted upon and she requested that a letter of thanks be sent to the department.

**Cllr Fred Meech**

Requested that the Clerk would once again write to the County Council Highways Department and complain about the condition of the lanes at the rear of Oxford Street, There were large potholes that were over 6 inches deep. The problem was compounded by the lack of street lighting which made the lane very dangerous at night. It was agreed that the Clerk would take photographs of the potholes and include them with the letter.

**Cllr Pat Protheroe**

Requested that the County Council be asked to cut back the overgrown trees and vegetation on Ty Rhiw Hill and clear the leaves etc on the footpath through Brynau woods. The Clerk informed the member that he had already written requesting action on these matters but would send another letter requesting urgent attention.

**MINUTE No: 7/11/09 FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Clerk presented Members with details of current balances within the Community Council's Current and deposit accounts. Members approved payment of the accounts presented in the sum of £1191.51

In addition Members approved grant of £250 each of the following organisations. Ty Rhiw Community Centre's Sequence Dancing Group; Macmillan Cancer Support; The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and a £250 contribution to become a Corporate Member of the Taff's Well Community Allotments project..

It was also agreed that £500 be awarded to Taff's Well Mini Rugby team and that the Clerk be empowered to release the funds on receipt of a formal application.

Total approved expenditure £2691.51

**MINUTE No: 8/11/2009 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

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

09/1182/10	Mr D Thomas DTB Design 286 North Road Cardiff CF14 3BN	2 storey rear extension at:- 41 CARDIFF ROAD, TAFFS WELL, CARDIFF, CF15 7RD	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
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09/1099/09	Mr David Agnew Bwlch Y Maen Farm Duffryn Ffrwd Caerphilly Road, Nantgarw Cardiff CF15 7TP	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use - Land and buildings being used for Equestrian activities and horse breeding as well as breeding and rearing sheep and cattle at:- BWLCH Y MAEN BARNS, BWLCH Y MAEN FARM, DUFFRYN FFRWD, CAERPHILLY ROAD, NANTGARW, CARDIFF, CF15 7T	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
09/1171/10	Wales & West Utilities Ltd Wales & West House Spooner Way Coedkernew Newport NP10 8FZ	Internal alterations to provide additional office and storage facilities within the footprint of the existing building. External alterations to facilitate amendments to internal layout, the provision of additional storage facilities and boundary fencing at:- 2 GEOL Y GAMLAS NANTGARW CF15 7QU	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
09/1216/10	Welsh Assembly Government Plas Glyndwr Kingsway Cardiff CF10 3AH	Control and disposal of Japanese Knotweed within designated site area:- PARC NANTGARW (ADJACENT TO HEOL CROCHENDY)	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
09/1159/10	Coleg Morgannwg Nantgarw Campus Heol Yr Odyn Parc Nantgarw Cardiff CF15 7QX	Single storey extension at rear of existing two storey construction centre. Extension to accommodate carpentry and brickwork workshops at:- COLEG MORGANNWG NANTGARW CAMPUS HEOL YR ODYN, PARC NANTGARW CARDIFF, CF15 7QX	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application

**MINUTE No: 9/11/09 PUBLIC SESSION:**

Members of the public were present and raised the following issues:-

**THE BROKEN EQUIPMENT AT THE BMX PARK,**

The Clerk confirmed that he had visited the park and that one of the cycle ramps was broken. However, this did not appear to have been caused by vandalism and could be attributed to poor installation of the equipment. The matter had been reported to the County with a request that urgent action be taken to rectify the problem.

**PROBLEMS AT THE CEMETERY**

A member of the public expressed concern that a number of young people were using the cemetery as a “playground,” they had attempted to build a structure/shed against one of the walls and one youth was spotted in the cemetery carrying an air rifle. The structure had been removed and the police were dealing with the air rifle incident.

Members noted residents concerns over these issues.

**PUBLIC MEETING/ TY RHIW CEMETERY**

Cllr Bonetto informed members that she had spoken to a local solicitor who had offered to chair the proposed public meeting to determine what action could now be taken to improve and conserve facilities at the cemetery. Unfortunately, the Friends of Ty Rhiw Cemetery had not yet confirmed that they would be willing to participate in a joint meeting but no further action would be taken prior to Christmas.

**MINUTE No; 10/11/09 A.O.B.**

The following date and venue was confirmed for the next Meeting;

Monday 21 December 2009 at the Taff's Well Village Hall Meeting to commence at 7 pm

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

**SIGNED:.....**

**DATE:.....**