

## **Minutes of Taff's Well & Nantgarw Community Council held at:- Taff's Well Village Hall on Monday 26 October 2009**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: - J Bonetto (Chairperson), S Lintern, L. Thomas, Megan Jones, Fred Meech,

**APOLOGIES,** Cllrs:- C Dyke, Tracy Williams, Pat Prothro, A. Evans and C E Griffin.

**Also present:** Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson;

**MINUTE No: 1/10/09 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST:**

No declarations of interest were recorded.

**MINUTE No: 2/10/09 POLICE MATTERS:**

Apologies were received from the police authority representatives who were engaged on operational duties.

**MINUTE NO: 3/10/09 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The meeting held on 28 September 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman:

**MINUTE No: 4/10/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

The Clerk reported that he was still experiencing difficulty in getting tenders for Christmas lighting. Firms were reluctant to provide tenders for what they considered a relatively small job i.e. the Christmas tree outside of the Taff's Well Village Hall.

During the discussion a member of the public requested that this item be deferred until the "public session" thereby allowing her to speak on this matter. Members agreed to this request.

**MINUTE NO; 5/10/09 CORRESPONDENCE - CLERK'S REPORT**

**PLANNING APPEAL – TY RHIW CHAPEL**

The Clerk reported that the Planning Inspector's report on the Community Council's appeal had finally been published and a determination made to dismiss the application for a change of use from a chapel to community use. A copy of the report had previously been distributed to members.

The Clerk commented that the Inspector's decision was an interesting one as the Inspector had pointed out that the Community Council could still apply for a determination under sections 191/192 of the Town and Country planning Act 1990 to use the building for uses under Class D1 use which included; a crèche, museum, public hall or education training centre and that this would not affect the planning inspector's decision to refuse the change of use for Class D2 usage.

The Community Council and its partner organisations had hoped to refurbish the chapel so that it could once again be used for weddings and funerals. However, to achieve this goal an extended community use element was needed so that grant aid could be sought. The Clerk reported that it was possible that the uses identified by the planning inspector could be considered "community use" but this would be out of accord with the original intentions of the Community Council and its partner organisations and the prime use for grant aid would have to be that of an education training centre with other uses ancillary to this purpose.

Given that this was not the original intention of the Community Council or its partner organisations it was recommended that no further action be taken in respect of these matters.

Whilst supporting the Clerk's recommendation the Chairman suggested that a public meeting be arranged to determine what action should now be taken in respect of the Chapel site. At this time a Member of the public requested that this matter be deferred to the "Public Session" to enable her to speak on this matter.

Members agreed to the request.

### **BMX TRACK – TY RHIW PARK**

The Clerk reported that the BMX track at Ty Rhiw Park, which was jointly funded by the Community Council, had finally been installed and appeared to be well used by local youngsters.

The County Council will now invoice the Community Council for its contribution.

### **GRASS & ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2009 -2010**

Members' approved payment of the invoice from Crown Gardening Services in the sum of £151.03

The Clerk will request a further monitoring report for the November meeting.

### **APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

Members received an application from the Taff's Well and District Horticultural Society requesting grant aid towards their annual village horticultural show.

Members approved a grant of £200

### **NEW ALLOTMENT AND COMMUNITY GARDEN SITE**

The Clerk reported that work on the new site was proceeding well and that a website had been developed to enable information to be more easily communicated to members of the association and to individuals interested in participating in its activities. Details were available at the following web address. [www.taffswellcommunityallotments.com](http://www.taffswellcommunityallotments.com).

The 'steering committee' had received confirmation from the County Planning Department that as the land is already designated as agricultural no change of use is required in respect of the majority of its activities. However, planning permission may be required for certain elements i.e. if the stables are redeveloped into a 'shop', infrastructure works such as a pond or if there is an education/training element by individuals who are not directly involved in cultivating the area.

Full details of the planning officer's advice had been placed on the allotments' website.

Members were informed that two public meetings had now taken place and the project has attracted considerable interest from local residents. It has also received support from the Keep Wales Tidy who is prepared to provide funds for some of the communal areas and wildlife pond.

Members were reminded that the lease for the "wooded area", which has been leased to Mr John Williams for the past three years, concludes on the 31 December 2009. In the three years that Mr Williams has had the lease no work has been done on the site and it is currently used as a dumping ground by flytippers.

There are two cars and a considerable amount of rubbish on the site which will need to be moved.

This area was discussed at the last "allotment/community garden meeting" and the group had written to request that consideration be given to including this area into their project.

The Clerk informed members that whilst we currently receive £52 a year rental from the site the cost of clearing the rubbish could run into £100s pounds. Therefore there was a clear advantage in agreeing to include the "wooded area" into the current agreement with the allotments association. In addition, the development of a forestry boardwalk and picnic area would enhance the community use of the site and provide a valuable amenity to local residents.

The Clerk recommended that from 1 January 2010 this section of land be incorporated into the Community garden and allotments project and a memorandum of understanding, on the same lines as the previous one, be agreed with the allotments association.

Members agreed to the recommendation and instructed the Clerk to draw up an appropriate agreement.

## **COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2009**

Members received a Draft copy of the proposed Autumn Newsletter. Members agreed that the article in the name of Councillor Lintern be removed and replaced with an article on the "Green Heroes" award given to Steve and Rebecca Arnold.

Subject to these changes and proof reading amendments members approved the publication and agreed it be sent off for printing.

### **MINUTE No; 6/10/2009 MEMBERS REPORTS**

#### **Cllr L Thomas**

Reported that a water leak had again appeared on Cardiff Road, outside of the Ferris garage, it was agreed that this matter reported to the County Council's Highway Authority.

Expressed concern that for some considerable time a camper van had been parked on the pavement at Moy Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the neighbourhood policing team and ask them to look into the matter.

#### **Cllr J Bonetto**

Informed the Members that Councillor Dyke had been approached by Ferris' garage, it would appear that the garage had been requested to make a contribution to the cost of resolving the problem of water congregation outside of its premises and sought the help of the Council in refuting these costs. The Clerk advised that it would be inappropriate for the Council to become involved in this dispute particularly as it had campaigned for some time to get the work done. It was suggested that the garage be informed that they should seek the advice of their solicitor in these matters.

#### **Cllr S Lintern**

Requested that the Clerk obtain information on what is happening with the site at the rear of Tai Duffryn. The site had been cleared and trees removed but the member had not seen any planning application for the site. The Clerk informed the member that he had pursued this matter and had been informed that planning permission was not required to clear the site. It was suspected that an application for housing development would be submitted but no application had yet been made. The planning department will notify the Council once an application is received.

Once 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 but would now try to enlist the services of the local AM in resolving this matter.

Informed members that the double yellow lines at, by the bus stop on Nantgarw Hill, had now been extended and requested that the Clerk write to the County council thanking them for their support in this matter.

#### **Cllr Fred Meech**

Requested that the Clerk obtain two wreaths for the Armistice Day Memorial Services, one for Taff's Well and the other for Nantgarw. The Clerk agreed to the request

#### **Cllr Megan Jones**

Requested that the County Council be asked to investigate the problem of flooding on Cemetery Road, it was possible that this problem was being caused by blocked gullies caused by the autumn fall of leaves.

Reported that young people were using air rifles in the vicinity of the Cemetery/Ty Rhiw Park and requested that this matter be brought to the attention of the local community policing team.

Expressed concern that dogs were being exercised on Ty Rhiw Park, owners had been seen dropping their dogs off and letting them foul the park without picking up the mess. It was requested that the County

Council be asked to renew the signage prohibiting dogs in the park and that enforcement action be taken against those individuals allow their dogs to foul the park.

Informed members that there was still a problem of irresponsible parking in the village with cars continually parked on the zig zag lines at crossings. It was requested that the local policing team be asked to take more vigorous action to enforce public safety at pedestrian crossings and irresponsible parking throughout the village.

**MINUTE No; 7/10/09 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 £1069.86

In addition Members approved grant of £200 to Taff’s Well and District Horticultural Society as a contribution towards their annual village horticultural show.

Total expenditure £1268.86

**MINUTE No: 8/10/2009 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

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

09/1009/10	Mrs C Barbarini 171 Glan-y-Ffordd Taff’s Well Cardiff CF15 7SP	Garage conversion to ground floor WC and utility room at :- 171 GLAN-Y-FFORDD, TAFFS WELL, CARDIFF CF15 7SP	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
09/1055/01	Citylink Moy Road Industrial Estate Taffs Well Cardiff CF15 7QR	Erect 1 no. 6000 x 3000 mm sign made from 3 mm aluminium composite panels, with an aluminium frame. 1 no. 3000 x 1500 mm sign made from 3 mm aluminium composite panels with an aluminium frame.at:_: CITYLINK, MOY ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, TAFFS WELL, CARDIFF CF15 7QR	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
09/1065/10	Mr M Dawkes 5 Pant Place Taffs Well Cardiff CF15 7QG	Erect attached domestic garage at:- 5 PANT PLACE TAFFS WELL, CARDIFF, CF15 7QG	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
09/1091/18	Mrs R Rogers 5 Riverside Street Taff’s Well CF15 7QL	Leyland Cypress - to fell tree and remove to ground level at:- 5 RIVERSIDE STREET TAFF’S WELL CF15 7QL	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application

**MINUTE No: 9/10/09 PUBLIC SESSION:**

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

**Ty Rhiw Chapel**

A member of the public sought clarification in respect of the chairman’s suggestion that a public meeting be arranged to determine what action should now be taken in respect of the Planning Inspector’s decision to dismiss the Community Council’s planning appeal.

It was confirmed that the Community Council would not apply for a determination order. However, the Cemetery/Chapel was still the source of some controversy with some individuals suggesting that the Chapel be demolished whilst others were opposed to this suggestion. It was hoped that a joint meeting of all interested parties could determine how best to proceed.

It was agreed that an independent chairman should be sought and hopefully, both opponents of the application and those who supported it will now jointly take up the fight to ensure that Rhondda Cynon Taff County Council provides adequate facilities for visitors, including toilets at the Cemetery.

It was agreed that the representatives from “Friends of Ty Rhiw Cemetery” would take this suggestion back to their group and liaise with the chairman in respect of these matters.

**Christmas Lights / Taff’s Well Village Hall**

A Member of the public expressed her concern about acts of growing youth annoyance/vandalism in the area and suggested that the proposed Christmas tree would act as a ‘magnet’ for these youths. She suggested that the Community Council should not proceed on this matter and that plans be ‘shelved’ for this year. After a brief discussion it was agreed that no further action would be taken and that the proposal to erect a Christmas tree outside of the Village Hall be abandoned.

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

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

Monday 30 November at the Ty Rhiw Community Centre

Meeting to commence at 7 pm

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.47 pm.

**SIGNED:.....**

**DATE:.....**