

**MINUTES OF TAFF'S WELL & NANTGARW COMMUNITY
COUNCIL HELD AT:-**

SAINTS MARY AND JAMES' CHURCH HALL

Monday 21 December 2015

PRESENT: Cllrs: L. Thomas, (Chairman), Helen Edmunds, J Bonetto, S. Lintern, C Dyke,
Mel Timothy and Megan Jones

APOLOGIES, Cllr: - Charlotte E Griffin

Also present: Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson

MINUTE No: 1/12/15 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declaration of interests

MINUTE No: 2/12/15 POLICE MATTERS:

Apologies were received from PCSO Quick who submitted the following written report on crime statistics for the area over the past 30 days.

- Between 27 November – 21 December 7 Summons had been issued in respect of speeding offences
- One report of Anti Social Behaviour was recorded in Church Street and three males were issued with Section 35 dispersal orders
- Theft of tools in Tabor Street where a vehicle was broken into and tools stolen plus theft from the Co-operative store, enquiries are ongoing in both cases.
- On 20 December there was an attempted theft of a “digger” from Moy Road.
- There have been two reports of criminal damage, the first was damage to a Perspex Notice Board at the Showcase Cinema, the other related to damage to tyres in Church Street
There have been a number of complaints regarding parking along Heol Crochendy; both the police and civil enforcement officers have visited the area and issued warning and fixed penalty notices. Both the police and civil enforcement team will continue to monitor the area.

Resolved

Members noted PCSO Quick's report and asked the Clerk to pass on the Council's appreciation for the written report

MINUTE NO: 3/12/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Members noted that Councillor Helen Edmunds was not present at the previous meeting and had tendered her apologies; the minutes were corrected accordingly. With this correction the meeting held on 24 November 2015 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

MINUTE No: 4/12/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

There were no outstanding matters arising from the previous minutes.

MINUTE NO: 5/12/15 CLERK'S REPORT

RESIGNATION OF CO-OPTED MEMBER

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter of resignation from Mrs Frances Twms Jenkins and circulated the letter to the Members.

Resolved:

Members noted the letter of resignation

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Following two anonymous complaints alleging that a Member of the Council has breached the Code of Conduct requirements for Members the Clerk has reviewed the Council's complaints procedure.

The review showed that whilst the Council has adopted the local government ombudsman's model guidelines for dealing with complaints these only cover 'official complaints' i.e., where the complainant gives their details and identifies themselves. However the guidelines did not address the issue of anonymous allegations.

It has always been the Clerk's view that the Council should not accept anonymous complaints but there would appear to be no minute or guidelines in respect of how the Council will deal with anonymous complaints.

Members were therefore requested to consider adopting the following guidelines /procedures.

1. The Council will only act on anonymous complaints if they involve an alleged criminal offence and such cases will be automatically reported to the judicial authorities.
2. In respect of non criminal complaints the following action will be taken.
3. The Clerk will, as soon as possible, notify the Chairman that a complaint has been received and outline the nature of the complaint / allegation.
4. If the complaint involves allegations in respect of an elected member or co-opted member the Clerk will notify the member of the allegation made against them.
5. Whilst the Council will not action anonymous complaints a record of the complaint together with any advice given by the Clerk will be recorded and kept by the 'Responsible Officer of the Authority'. A copy of such will be forwarded to both the Chairman and the individual / individuals concerned

Resolved:-

Members agreed to adopt the above policy guidelines for dealing with anonymous complaints

COUNCIL MEETINGS 2016

Members gave consideration to the following dates and venues for 2016.

COUNCIL DATES FOR MEETINGS IN 2016

- January: Thursday 28 January 2016 at Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- February: Tuesday 23 February 2016 at Ty Rhiw Community Centre
- March: Monday 21 March 2016 at Saints Mary & James' Church Hall
- April: Thursday 28 April 2016 at Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- May (including AGM): Tuesday 24 May 2016 at Ty Rhiw Community Centre
- June: Monday 27 June 2016 at Saints Mary & James' Church Hall
- July: Thursday 28 July 2016 at Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- September: Tuesday 26 September 2016 at Ty Rhiw Community Centre
- October: Monday 24 October 2016 Saints at Mary & James' Church Hall
- November: Thursday 24 November 2016 at Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- December: Tuesday 20 December 2016 at Ty Rhiw Community Centre

Resolved:

Members approved the above dates and venues for the calendar year 2016.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

Members will be aware, from previous reports, that Community Infrastructure will be available to local Community and Town Councils in the near future.

The Clerk reported that; in order to prepare for (CIL) the Chairman and Clerk has had two meetings with County Council Officers to acquaint themselves with the regulations and to prepare for its implementation.

Members received a copy of the 'guidance sheet', issued by the County Council, which outlined the main elements of the scheme and the reporting requirements, required by the legislation.

In addition, Members received a copy of a 'model' financial report sheet that needs to be sent back to the County Council during the audit process and published on the Community Council's website.

It was noted that 'NIL' returns are required if there has been no expenditure.

The County Council has kindly provided information on all of the recent planning applications made within the Community Council's boundaries and their eligibility for (CIL) funding.

Members noted that, given the above, it is unlikely that the Community Council will receive any funds in the immediate future as most building works being undertaken in the area were approved prior to the implementation of (CIL) funding, or self-build exemptions would apply.

Resolved:-

Members noted the above report, the information given on the 'guidance sheet' and authorised the Clerk to use the 'model' financial report sheet for its annual returns.

JAPANESE KNOTWEED – THE SPICE CONNOISSEUR RESTAURANT

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the County Council to express the concern of Members that the owner of the Spice Connoisseur Restaurant appeared to be ignoring correspondence requesting that action be taken to eradicate the Japanese Knotweed on his premises.

The Clerk was pleased to report that following an exchange of correspondence the County Council will be utilising the Community Protection Notice Legislation under the Crime & Anti Social Behavior Act 2014 as a way of trying to force the owners to take action.

Resolved:-

Members noted and approve the action taken in respect of this matter.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members gave consideration to the following application for grant aid.

TAWELYFRYN YOUTH CENTRE

Resolved:

That a grant of £250 be awarded to the above organisation

SIGNAGE TO GOSPEL HALL NANTGARW

Members will recall that the Clerk was asked to contact the County Council to request that permission be given for the Gospel Hall to erect, at its own cost, a directional sign indicating the location of the Gospel Hall.

Dear Mr Allinson,

Thank you for your request for a directional sign to Gospel Hall, Nantgarw.

The Traffic Management Group of the Council only place directional signs to direct members of the public including drivers to premises which are extremely difficult to find and are able to provide a car park facility. Nantgarw is adequately sign posted and Tyla Gwyn is not difficult to find and therefore, signage may not be provided at this time.

However, from a traffic management viewpoint, a business or other establishment, facility etc may place signs off the public highway and within their own property boundaries as planning regulations allow.

John Galvin Traffic Technician / Technegydd Prosiect

Resolved-

Members noted the reply received from the County Council.

MINUTE No: 6/12/15 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Informed Members that she had received a number of complaints about rubbish and debris in the garden of 15 Yr Hendre which included builder's rubble and car parts. Residents were also concerned that 'structural alterations' were taking place in the property. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact RCT Homes in respect of these matters.

- Asked that the Clerk contact the local PCSO about an ‘unknown resident’ who has been observed on several occasions riding a motor bike with a baby sitting on the handlebars of the bike. The Clerk confirmed that he would pass this matter on to the PCSO and ask her to contact the Member.

Cllr Mel Timothy

- Asked, on behalf of a local resident, if the Christmas Tree in Taff’s Well Park was to be illuminated each night. The County Member confirmed that this was the intention and she had not received any reports that this was not the case,

Cllr C Dyke MBE

- Raised the issue of a “raised drain cover” on the approach to Nantgarw roundabout, from Taff’s Well. The Member was concerned that the cover was ‘dangerous’ and could cause damage to the tyres of vehicles. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this matter to the appropriate authorities.

Cllr Megan Jones

- Informed members that she was concerned that the drain opposite 8 West View was ‘proud with the road’ and was constantly flooding the area. It was agreed that the Clerk would inform the County Council about this matter and ask that action be taken to remedy the defect.
- Noted that there was still a problem of flooding in the vicinity of the ‘fly over’ and at the railway station. Councillor Bonetto informed members that whilst action was being taken to resolve the problem at the ‘fly over’ she did not think that Network Rail would take any immediate action at the station but would include it in their improvement plans.

Cllr Helen Edmunds

- Informed Members that the Taff’s Well Community Singers had raised £315 for charity at their recent concert.
- Noted that a “Trailer” advertising a “Trailer Company” was permanently parked in the road leading to the Macro Store Nantgarw. The Member was concerned that the trailer was taking up valuable parking space for what appeared to be a permanent advertising display. It was agreed that the clerk would raise this matter with the planning Authority.
- Expressed concern about the poor state of the pavements on the Treforest Trading Estate and asked if these pavements were still the responsibility of the County Council? Councillor Bonetto confirmed that this was the case and agreed to raise this issue with County Officers.

Cllr J Bonetto

- Gave a comprehensive report on current issues on the County Council activities and her work with local residents.
- Informed members that increased action had been undertaken by traffic enforcement officers to combat the increasing problem of ‘dangerous parking’ in the village and Glan y Llyn

MINUTE No: 7/12/15 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented Members with an estimate of the current balances within the Community Council's current and deposit accounts for November/December 2015.

Resolved:

Members approved payment of the November accounts in the sum of £1918.66

MINUTE No: 8/12/15 –PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members noted that no applications had been received for consideration at this meeting

MINUTE No. 9/12/15 – PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public attended the meeting

MINUTE No; 10/12/15 Dates of future meetings

The next three meetings of the Community Council will be as follows:

- January 2016 meeting- Thursday 28 January 2016 Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- February meeting: Tuesday 23 February 2016: Ty Rhiw Community Centre
- March meeting: Monday 21 March 2016 at Saints Mary & James' Church Hall

It was agreed that meetings will commence at 7.00 pm.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.15 pm.

SIGNED:..... DATE: