

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

TY RHIW COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tuesday 20 December 2016

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

APOLOGIES:- Cllr: -Charlotte Griffin and PCSO Claire Quick

Also present:- Clerk to the Council - Derek Allinson

MINUTE No: 1/12/16 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillor Jill Bonetto declared an interest in all planning applications and took no part in the discussions on these items.

MINUTE No: 2/12/16 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Quick gave her apologies for non- attendance but submitted the following written report on the incidents recorded over the past 30 days.

- 4 vehicles caught speeding in the area of Taffs Well.
- 02/12/2016 – a distraction burglary occurred in Cardiff Road, Taffs Well whereby two males stating they were from the Water Board entered the home of an elderly lady telling her that they needed to check her water supply. One male distracted her while the other male made a brief search. Nothing taken and males made off. Enquiries to trace these individuals are ongoing and being investigated by CID.
- 11/12/2016 – Garage burglary in Rhiw Ddar, believed to have occurred between November and December while the owners where on holiday; a set of Alloy wheels taken from the premises.
- 17/12/2016 – A member of staff was assaulted at Caerphilly Garden Centre, enquiries are ongoing and two males have been linked to the investigation.
- 19/12/2016 - A report of anti-social behaviour was reported in the North/West View area. A group of 5 to 6 youths were causing a general nuisance. Officers attended and a search for the youths proved negative. An anti-social behaviour referral has been recorded in case of further incidents
- Traffic Officers continue to monitor Caerphilly Road due to reports that vehicles are running red lights and making u turns at the lights.

Councillor Jill Bonetto raised the issue of burglaries to sheds along Rhiw'r Ddar / Taff's Well Trail and residents concerns that recent changes to street lighting might be exasperating the problem. The Member will liaise with the police in an effort the resolve this issue.

MINUTE No: 3/12/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2016 was confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

MINUTE No: 4/12/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

MINUTE No: 5/12/16 CLERK'S REPORT

NEWSLETTER FROM OLDER PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONER FOR WALES

Members noted receipt of an electronic copy of the Older People's Wales Newsletter that had recently been published by the Older People's Commissioner for Wales.

Following discussion, it was agreed that 'hard copies' of the report will be made available to Members on request and that a copy of the report would be placed on the Council's website.

Resolved:-

Members noted receipt of the Newsletter and approved that it be placed on the Council's Website.

CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS

The Clerk reported that the new email address had been registered as twnc@hotmai.com and the necessary changes made to the Council's headed notepaper and correspondence.

For the time being, the Clerk will use both email addresses and will gradually phase out the old address. From May 2017 the existing address will cease to operate.

Resolved:

Members noted the changes to the Council's email address and the actions taken by the Clerk.

CLERK'S RETIREMENT

Members noted the formal resignation of the Clerk who will retire at the end of the existing Council i.e. 30 April 2017.

It was agreed that the process of employing a new Clerk would commence immediately and that the existing Clerk would 'oversee' the initial stage of recruitment, including holding informal discussions with applicants.

Resolved

Members noted the Clerk's resignation and wished him well in his retirement.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members gave consideration to the following applications for financial assistance.

1. FRIENDS OF TAFF'S WELL PARK
2. TAWELYFRYN TAPPERS

Resolved

Members agreed that a grant of £250 be awarded to each of the above applicants.

MINUTE No: 6/12/16 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Noted that the street lamps on Yr Hendre were still not working, the Clerk confirmed that this matter had been reported but there appeared to be a fault with the wiring which was delaying the repair
- Informed Members that a resident on the Ty Rhiw estate had asked if the Council would consider providing seating at local bus stops, Members noted the request but agreed to take no action on this matter, as it would set a precedent for further requests for seating. Members also noted that the policy of the County Council was not to provide seating at bus stops.
- Informed Members that she had received significant complaints about local bus services; buses did not appear to 'conform to the published timetable' and often no buses turned up. Members noted the concern of local residents but without specific information on "which buses failed to turn up" it was difficult to pursue the matter; Members agreed that complainants be requested to note when the buses were late, or did not arrive, and with this evidence, the County Member will pursue the issue.
- Noted that the situation in respect of dog fouling was not improving and, if anything, was worse than over the previous months. Members noted that one of the complainants was aware of who owned the dog but was reluctant to report the matter to the relevant authorities. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask the PCSO to have a discrete word with the owner of the dog.

Cllr Helen Edmunds

- Expressed concern about the amount of 'advertising boards/notices' that had been attached to the new fencing leading from Upper Boat to Tesco's Super Market. The signs were visually intrusive and distracted motorists. The County Member agreed that she would pursue this matter with the planning officer.
- Noted that Traffic Enforcement Officers had been active in the village and had issued a number of fixed penalty notices to illegally parked vehicles, the member had received a complaint from one resident who felt aggrieved that she had received a 'ticket', for parking on double yellow lines whilst displaying a disability parking badge. It however transpired that the owner had parked on the double yellow lines for more than the stipulated two hours and an offence had therefore been committed.
- Expressed concern over the amount of dog faeces in King Street, Church Street and Garth Street, it was agreed that this matter be brought to the attention of the County Council's Enforcement Team

Cllr C Dyke MBE

- Noted that the streetlights on Ty Rhiw Hill were only working spasmodically; the County Member stated that she was pursuing this matter and engineers were looking at the problem.

Cllr Lynne Thomas

- Raised the issue of vehicles parking on the green during home games in the Rugby Club. The vehicles were causing damage to the green and sometimes blocked the road. The Clerk confirmed that he had previously taken this matter up with the Police/PCSO but, as the green was not a public highway, they were powerless to take any action other than speaking to the owners. It was agreed that a photo of an offending vehicle be forwarded to the County Council with a request that civil enforcement action be taken against offending vehicles.

Cllr Mel Timothy

- Noted that the lights on Heol y Coed /Nantgarw were set to go off at 11.20 pm. The Member requested that consideration be given to extending the time as users of the Community Centre sometimes found difficulty in negotiating the street in pitch darkness. It was agreed that the County Member would investigate to see if it was possible to 're-time the lights'.
- Noted that photocopying services were no longer available to local residents in the library of the local college. Members noted that these facilities were withdrawn when the College closed the library to public access. Facilities were however available at the Hub

Cllr Alun Fowler

- Asked if consideration could be given to providing 'dog bins' on the cycle path/Taff Trail and in front of the Cross Keys Inn. The Clerk agreed he would forward this request to the County Council.
- Asked if consideration be given to making Taff's Well Village a pedestrian area with vehicles forced to use the bypass?. The Clerk pointed out the legal restrictions that would need to be overcome to achieve such a venture. The County Member also pointed out that there would be strong opposition from the Police and commercial enterprises on the bypass. Following further discussion it was agreed not to pursue this suggestion.

Cllr Jill Bonetto

- Gave a comprehensive report on her work with local residents and issues relating to the County Council including an update on the proposed City Region project;. It was noted that RCT officers were taking a lead on many of the matters needed to take this matter forward.

MINUTE No: 7/12/16 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented Members with updated details of balances within the Community Council's current and deposit accounts for November / December 2016.

Resolved:

Members approved payment of the December accounts to the sum of £1900.05 including grant awards of £250 to the following organisations, Friends of Taff's Well Park and Tawelfryn Tappers (Tawelyfryn Community Centre)

MINUTE No: 8/12/16 –PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Whilst no formal planning applications were received from RCTCBC; Members noted a 'prior consultation letter' from the Mountain Ranch who was intending to apply for planning permission to develop a cycle park with associated visitors centre, café, and shop and changing facilities.

Resolved

Members received and noted without comment the pre- application letter/information from the Mountain Ranch Caerphilly.

MINUTE No. 9/12/16 – PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public attended the meeting.

MINUTE No: 10/12/16 Dates of Future Meetings

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

- January meeting - Monday 23 January 2017 Saints Mary and James' Church Hall
- Please note there will be NO MEETING in February
- March meeting - Thursday 30 March 2017 Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- April meeting - Tuesday 26 April 2017 at Ty Rhiw Community Centre

It was agreed that meetings will commence at 7.00 pm.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.20 pm.

SIGNED: DATE: