

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

**TAWELYFRYN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Thursday 20th July 2017**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: L. Thomas (Chairman), M. Jones, S. Lintern, M. Timothy,  
H. Edmunds, J. Bishop, A. Fowler, J. Bonetto and J. Hutchinson

**Also present:** Clerk to the Council: Emma Price

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr: C. Dyke

**MINUTE No: 1/7/17 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST:**

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

Councillor Lynne Thomas declared an interest in item 6 (f) – Allotment Association, and took no part in discussions on this item.

**MINUTE No: 2/7/17 POLICE MATTERS:**

No representative was present from the police authority but apologies given by PCSO Claire Quick who advised a full report would be given at the PACT meetings at Ty Rhiw on the 1st August and Tawelfryn on the 2nd August.

**MINUTE NO: 3/7/17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2017 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

**MINUTE No: 4/7/17 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There were no outstanding matters arising from the minutes.

**MINUTE NO: 5/7/17 CLERK'S REPORT**

**a) SUMMER RECESS – PLENARY POWERS ARRANGEMENTS**

Members were requested to consider the arrangements for the continuation of Council Business during the Summer Recess.

The Clerk reported that whilst there are no Council meetings during August the business of the Council still continues and important matters, such as observations on Planning matters, need to be dealt with within the timescales set out for external consultation.

In order to ensure the Council continues to operate efficiently it was recommended that the Chairman of the Council, in consultation with the Clerk, be granted plenary powers to deal with matters of an urgent nature that cannot wait until the next committee/council meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that local Members will be consulted on any planning applications received for their ward and that all decisions taken would subsequently be reported, for information, to the Council meeting following the recess.

**Resolved:**

The Community Council approved the above Plenary Powers Arrangements.

**b) MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

As per the financial regulations, the Council had agreed that an expenditure allowance of £150 be paid to all members of the Council for the financial year 2017-2018. These allowances were paid to Members in May 2017.

However, in June 2017 a new Member (Councillor Jean Hutchinson) was elected to fill the vacancy at Taff's Well. As the regulation requires all members to be paid the allowance, the new member was therefore entitled to a proportion of the full amount. This would equate to 11/12 of £150 (£137.50).

**Resolved:**

Members noted and approved the allowance payment of £137.50 to Councillor Jean Hutchinson.

**c) ON-LINE CONSULTATION ON  
THE DRAFT INTERGRATED NETWORK MAP (INM)**

Members gave consideration to the online consultation on the Draft Integrated Network Map received by RCTCBC

The Active Travel (Wales) Act is a landmark piece of Welsh legislation brought forward in 2013 which aims to make it easier for people to walk and cycle in Wales, specifically to promote walking and cycling as viable modes of transport for everyday journeys such as to the shops, work or college.

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC) is undertaking an on-line consultation taking place between the 26th June and the 22nd of September 2017 on the Integrated Network Map (INM) phase of the Active Travel (Wales) Act.

Rhondda Cynon Taf's draft INM shows potential future walking and cycling routes within the county as well as links to neighbouring authorities. These forward looking maps will show how the existing network could be advanced in future years and will show proposed improvements of existing routes. Enabling more people to undertake active travel will mean more people can enjoy the health benefits of active travel, help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, tackle poverty and help our economy to grow.

**Resolved:**

Members noted the above consultation

**d) MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING**

Arrangements have been made for Mr. Chris Jones, RCTCBC's Monitoring Officer to deliver Code of Conduct training to Town/Community Councillors on the following dates which are to be held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Clydach Vale:

- Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 at 3 p.m
- Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 at 10 a.m

**Recommendation:**

Members confirmed which of the above dates they could attend.

**e) APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Members gave consideration to the following applications for financial assistance.

1. NANTGARW CHINAWORKS MUSEUM
2. TAFF'S WELL OAP's

**Resolved:**

To obtain more information from Nantgarw Chinaworks Museum.  
That a grant of £250 be made to Taff's Well OAP's.

**f) TAFF'S WELL AND NANTGARW ALLOTMENTS AND COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION**

Members' considered a letter from the Treasurer of the above association.

Members' recalled, from previous discussions, that despite the best efforts of the allotment committee and the Council there has not been an improvement in attracting volunteers to the community garden site and that it is now to all intents and purposes a derelict site. Whilst regrettable, the decision to abandon the community garden is a sensible one and the Council approved the request of the allotments and community garden committee to drop the words Community Garden from the associations' title.

In respect of the brick building, with the asbestos roof, Members are aware of the safety concerns associated with the removal of asbestos and the duty of the council to ensure that any removal meets the legislative requirements. As such the Council have previously agreed to meet the costs of the asbestos disposal (minute 06/05/10) and, subject to the allotment committee using an approved asbestos contractor, the Council reiterates its commitment to meet the costs of the removal and safe disposal of the asbestos roof.

Members will also be aware the rest of the building is in good structural state and the allotment committee decision to refurbish the building is a sensible one as the building would be an asset to the Council and provide a safe storage area for allotment equipment.

In order to assist in this development, the Council invite the association to submit a grant application to assist with further expenditure.

Members noted from the existing Memorandum of Understanding, that the expiration date of the agreement is 31 December 2035 and subject to any request or any new proposals put forward by the allotment management committee it was recommended that the existing agreement be amended by way of deletion to any reference associated with the community garden.

**Resolved:**

- 1) The Community Council agreed to the request of the allotment committee to drop the words “Community Garden” from its title
- 2) Reaffirmed its commitment to meet the costs of the safe removal and disposal of the asbestos roof on the brick building.
- 3) The Community Council will consider providing additional support, via a community grant, to assist the refurbishment of the building.
- 4) Subject to any observations from the allotment committee, the existing Memorandum of Understanding be amended by the deletion of references to the Community Garden.

**MINUTE No: 6/5/17 MEMBERS' REPORTS**

**Cllr Melanie Timothy**

- Noted that 'cars for sale' were once again being parked, on the grass, at the entrance to the Tawelyfryn estate. And also advised that cars are parking on both sides of the road as you enter the estate causing an obstruction. The Member confirmed that both matters had been reported to the Police.
- Informed Members that the pothole previously reported has been repaired.
- Enquired with the County Member when the goal posts at Tawelfryn Park would be fitted. – Cllr Jill Bonetto agreed that she would pursue this item with the appropriate officers of the County Council.

**Cllr Jonathan Bishop**

- Advised Members that a local Nantgarw man had been fined £1600 for fly tipping.

**Cllr Sandra Lintern**

- Informed Members that there is a faulty street light outside number 18 Yr Hendre. The Clerk agreed that she would report this matter via the County Council website.

- Enquired with the County Member about the overgrown trees previously reported. It was noted that it is not the policy of the County Council to cut back the trees during the ‘nesting season’ but the County Member will try to get them placed on a schedule of works for September.
- Expressed concern over the general mess and extreme litter outside a private property at Tawelfryn. The Member approached RCTCBC refuse collectors who informed that they could not collect as it was not household waste. Councillor Jill Bonetto agreed that she would pursue this matter with County Council Officers

### **Cllr Jean Hutchinson**

- Noted that parking outside the school is horrendous. Vehicles parked on double yellow lines on the bridge are extremely hazardous. The County Member advised that the Civil Enforcement Officer is visiting the area as much as possible but with just 10 officers to serve the whole of RCT it can be difficult. It was agreed that when school re-opens strong enforcement action should be taken in an effort to resolve this matter.

### **Cllr Megan Jones**

- Thanked Cllr Jill Bonetto for getting the brambles cleared at the footpaths that were reported at the June meeting.
- Noted that the Enforcements Officers have been seen patrolling in the vicinity of the school twice in the past fortnight.

### **Cllr Helen Edmunds**

- Expressed concern that a CCTV camera had been sited on a private house on the corner of Castle Street. The camera did not appear to be directed to the ‘floor’ of the property. In addition, no sign had been erected providing information that a CCTV camera was in operation. It was agreed that the Member would furnish the Clerk with details of the address and the Clerk would write to the owner on these matters.
- Advised members that she had reported a number of parking issues in side streets to the local PCSO.

### **Cllr Lynne Thomas**

- Informed Members that there have been multiple thefts from shed’s at Taff’s Well and Nantgarw Allotments. The items stolen have been chair’s and other similar items. There has also been a more serious incident of arson, with a shed being set on fire. All matters are being dealt with by South Wales Police.

### **Cllr Jill Bonetto**

- Gave a comprehensive account on current issues on the County Council activities and her work with local residents.
- Informed Members that the overgrowth on footpaths reported at June’s meeting was in the process of being cut back. And the potholes at Sycamore Street had been attended to.

- Gave a full report on the parking issues surrounding the Football match held on the 14<sup>th</sup> July at Taff’s Well Football Club between Cardiff FC and Taff’s Well. The parking rules set out were not enforced as promised therefore causing mayhem on the day. Cllr Bonetto will arrange to meet with the football club, residents and Police to ensure these problems do not continue for future events.
- Advised Members that Taff’s Well Park has again been awarded the Green Flag. As the international standard for parks and green spaces, holding a Green Flag Award brings with it a vast amount of prestige. It is also an excellent example of civic achievement and provides communities with a great sense of pride.
- Informed Members she is hoping to arrange a ‘tea in the park’ fundraiser in September for the Charity ‘Giving to Pink’ to help raise funds for a dedicated breast cancer unit at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital. Members are fully supportive of the event and once a date has been confirmed will make arrangements for their availability.

**MINUTE No: 7/7/17 FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk advised Members that bank statements for May-June and June-July 2017 had still not been received despite numerous telephone calls to the Cooperative Bank. This matter will hopefully be resolved within the next month. and will be re-agenda for the September meeting.

**Resolved:**

Members approved payment of the July accounts in the sum of £1921.63 which included grant assistance of £250 to Taff’s Well and Nantgarw OAP association.

**MINUTE No: 8/7/17 –PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

17/0693/10	Mr Jenkins Hazelwood Carpentry Business Development Centre Unit 1 Main Avenue Treforest Ind Est CF37 5UR	Proposed new 2 storey offices and workshop for a carpentry company. Remote car parking allocated to the project on adjacent site. PLOT D9, HEOLCROCHENDY, TREFOREST IND EST, CF37 5UR	The Community Council is concerned that there are insufficient parking spaces. There are current issues over buses and vehicles parked on Heol Crochendy Road near the lights which would indicate that the communal parking areas are already at capacity.
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17/0749/23	GE Aircraft Engine Services Ltd, Caerphilly Road, Nantgarw, Taff's Well, CF15 7YJ	Demolition of two former engine test cells (test cells 2 & 3), along with an associated workshop/office building. G E AIRCRAFT ENGINE SERVICES LTD, CAERPHILLY ROAD, NANTGARW, TAFF'S WELL, CF15 7YJ	The Community Council are concerned as to what will be erected in its place.  More information is required
17/0698/10	15 King Street, Taff's Well, CF15 7PH	Proposed first floor addition to rear elevation. 15 KING STREET, TAFF'S WELL, CF15 7PH	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application

**MINUTE No. 9/7/17 – PUBLIC SESSION**

There was no public participation at this meeting

**MINUTE No. 10/7/17 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Members requested that the Clerk research employing a private Civil Enforcement Officer /Street Clean Officer to combat the parking / litter issues in the area and link with other Community Councils who have similar problems. This is to be placed on the September agenda for discussion.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.16 pm.

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