

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

TAWELYFRYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Thursday 26 March 2015

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

APOLOGIES, Cllrs: - Charlotte E Griffin, C Dyke and Fred Meech

Also present: Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson

MINUTE No: 1/3/15 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No disclosures of personal interest were recorded

MINUTE No: 2/3/15 POLICE MATTERS:

No Police representative in attendance.

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

The meeting held on 23 February 2015 was confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman:

MINUTE No: 4/3/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes

MINUTE NO: 5/3/15 CLERK'S REPORT

MEMBERSHIP OF ONE VOICE WALES 2015-2016

Members gave consideration to its continued membership of "One Voice Wales" at a cost of **£449**. This sum is calculated on 1629 chargeable dwellings @ 0.276p per dwelling (Based on the Valuation list not the Electoral Register)

One Voice Wales provides legal advice services to Community Councils in Wales and represents the views of Community Councils in negotiations with the Welsh Assembly government. The Clerk therefore recommended that the Community Council renew its membership.

Resolved:

That the Community Council continues its membership of "One Voice Wales" for the financial year 2015-2016 at a cost of £449.00, payment to be made at the start of the new financial year.

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES

The Clerk reported that the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales had published its annual report for 2015. The report deals with the remuneration of allowances for various organisations including County and Community Council members.

In respect of County Council members the Panel has concluded that it would be inappropriate to raise the basic salary levels in 2015/16 and they therefore remain at £13,300.

In respect of Community Council members the Panel determined that Community and Town Councils be authorised to make a payment to each of their members of a maximum amount of £100 per year for costs incurred in respect of telephone usage, information technology, consumables etc. This is the same rate as the previous year with no increase for inflation etc.

The determinations of the Panel are permissive powers that require a formal decision by each Community or Town Council. But where a Community and Town Council take such a decision, it must apply to all its members at the levels determined. An individual member may make a personal decision to elect to forego part or all of the entitlement to any of these allowances by giving notice in writing to the proper officer of the Council.

The Clerk informed members that a full copy of the Panel's report can be viewed on the 'public notices' page of the Community Council's website.

Resolved:

The Community Council noted the decision of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and determines that the Council will implement the allowances for the financial year 2015 – 2016.

WHITE PAPER – REFORMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT- POWER TO LOCAL PEOPLE

Members gave consideration to a email letter from the Chief Executive of One Voice Wales inviting the Council to be represented at a consultation meeting to be held at:- Taff's Well RFC on Monday 30 March at 2pm-4pm.

The Clerk expressed concern about the late notification of the meeting as less than one weeks notice was given. It was agreed that the Clerk would express these concerns to One Voice Wales.

Resolved:-

Members noted receipt of the email and agreed that Councillors Megan Jones and Lynne Thomas be asked to represent the Community Council.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members gave consideration to the following application for financial assistance.

1. TAFF'S WELL RFC MINI AND JUNIORS SECTION

Resolved:-

That a grant of £250 be awarded to Taff's Well RFC

BANK SIGNATORIES

The Clerk reported that, because of failing health, Councillor Meech was sadly no longer able to write cheques and had requested that alternate arrangements be made. As a consequence, the Clerk had therefore reviewed the Council's banking arrangements and made the following recommendations:-

3 new signatories are added to the account namely:-

- 1) Councillor Lynne Thomas.
- 2) Councillor Helen Edmunds.
- 3) Derek Allinson, Clerk to the Council.

The latter, in his capacity as the 'Responsible Financial Officer' be empowered to set up standing orders for regular monthly payments and transfer funds between accounts as determined by members, all such payments to be reported monthly to the full council.

Resolved:

That the Clerk be empowered to implement the above arrangements.

MINUTE No: 6/3/15 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr Megan Jones

- Informed Members that she had received a complaint about youths kicking a ball around the car park opposite 12 Clos Llewellyn causing distress to some of the neighbouring properties. The complainant had reported the matter to the local PCSO but no action appears to have been taken. The complainant had therefore contacted the Council to see if any action could be taken to stop the youths using the car park. The Clerk confirmed that whilst such incidents can be annoying, the youths were not committing any offences. As the car park was not locked or notices displayed in respect of trespass the police could not take any legal action. The only way action could be taken was if the car park owner locked the site or erected a notice in respect of trespass on private land. The Clerk agreed that he would contact the complainant informing him that his best course of action was to pursue the owner of the car park and ask that measures be taken to alleviate this nuisance.
- Informed members that she had received an email from Peter Marchant, of Hedge to Edge, in respect of the grass cutting contract for the new municipal year. The Clerk confirmed that he had also received a copy and had informed the writer that the Council will not be seeking tenders as the Council had agreed to discontinue the cutting in areas that were not in the direct ownership of the Community Council.

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Informed Members that she was still receiving complaints about the anti social behaviour of a resident residing on Yr Hendre, Nantgarw. The tenant appears to be using the property as a commercial enterprise 'repairing damaged vehicles' and causing noise and distress to neighbouring properties. In addition, there have been complaints that the embankment outside of the neighbouring properties has been extensively damaged as the tenant has taken to towing/winchng vehicles into his garden. The Clerk confirmed that a formal complaint had been made to RCT Homes in respect of this matter and that officers were investigating the complaints.
- Asked if the paths outside 15-20- and 29-34 Yr Hendre could be cleared of weeds. The Clerk informed the member that RCT, who were responsible for the paths, had a programme

in place to undertake this work but he would try to establish when it was likely to be undertaken

- Noted that there was a large pothole in the vicinity of the bus stop on Yr Hendre. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this matter to the appropriate authority.
- Noted that Ferris Coach's were still being parked on the highway by the old post office, Nantgarw. The Clerk confirmed that he had taken this matter up with both the Police and County Planning Department and had been informed that no action could be taken as they were not in breach of any regulations or highway laws.
- Asked if the Clerk would report 'fly tipping' on Bwnsi lane, Yr Hendre. It was agreed that the Clerk would action this matter

Cllr Mel Timothy

- Asked if there was any progress on getting a sign erected at the entrance of Tawelfryn estate letting people know where the Community Centre is located? The County Member explained that there were a number of signage issues outstanding and would pursue these with the appropriate officers of the County Council.
- Once again expressed concern about the speed of cycles leaving the Taff Trail and exiting down through Heol-y-Gors.

Cllr Helen Edmunds

- Expressed concern about traffic parking in the vicinity of Garth Street, King Street and Church Street, vehicles were often parked on both sides of the street and the member was concerned that this could cause problems for Emergency Vehicles to negotiate these streets. Members recognised that whilst there was a general problem with parking throughout the area there were no restrictions in these streets and the possible introduction of traffic restrictions could cause problems in other areas of the village.

Cllr Lynne Thomas

- Raised the issue of large Lorries using the village rather than the bypass link and once again asked if a weight restriction could be imposed on vehicles using the village? In addition, the member expressed concern that Ferris Coaches were often speeding through Glan-y-Llyn. Councillor Bonetto informed the members that 'moves were afoot' to re-instate the speed camera on the Cardiff Road and that the road markings, to gauge the speed of vehicles, would shortly be reinstated
- Asked if someone on the County Council could look at the tree in Sycamore Street with a view to determining if it was in a dangerous condition. The Clerk agreed that he would raise the issue with the appropriate department of the County Council.

Cllr J Bonetto

- Gave a comprehensive report on current issues on the County Council activities including the pressure on budgets as a result of National Government cuts.
- Informed members that increased action had been undertaken by traffic enforcement officers who had visited various locations in Taff's Well including the railway station and the School.
- Reported that a number of traffic enforcement measures had been included in the current work programme of RCT. However, the member cautioned that whilst these measures were in the programme it could take some time for them to be implemented.

MINUTE No: 7/3/15 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented Members with updated details of balances within the Community Council's current and deposit accounts for February 2015.

Resolved:

Members approved payment of the February accounts in the sum of £2075.35 inclusive of a grant to Taff's Well RFC

MINUTE No: 8/3/15 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

15/0204/10	Mr J Tripp The Restaurant Group Ltd 5-7 Marshalsea Road London Greater London SE1 1EP	Alterations to the external wall finishes at:- FRANKIE AND BENNY'S RESTAURANT AND BAR HEOL YR ODYN TREFOREST INDUSTRIAL ESTATE TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7QX	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
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MINUTE No: 9/3/15

No members of the public attended the meeting

MINUTE No: 10/3/15 Dates of future meetings

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

- April meeting - Tuesday 28 April 2015 Ty Rhiw Community Centre
- PLEASE NOTE RE-ARRANGED DATE FOR MAY MEETING
- May meeting – Thursday 28th May 2015 Saints Mary & James' Church Hall (AGM)
- June meeting – Thursday 25 June Tawelyfryn Community Centre

It was agreed that meetings will commence at 7.00 pm.

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

SIGNED:..... DATE: