

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

TY RHIW COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tuesday 24 November 2015

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

APOLOGIES, Cllrs: - Charlotte E Griffin, Megan Jones

Also present: Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson and PCSO Claire Quick

MINUTE No: 1/11/15 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: 2/11/15 POLICE MATTERS:

PCSO Quick outlined the current PACT priorities for the area and gave the following report on crime statistics for the area over the past 30 days.

- 8 Summons had been issued in respect of speeding offences
- 2 Anti Social behaviour calls had been received
- A theft of a handbag from the Rugby club
- Theft of a bike from a garden on Cardiff Road
- One incident of damage to a vehicle and one of "road rage" where a motor cyclist punched a car and damaged the body work
- 3 Summons had been issued to uninsured drivers
- 2 arrests made for being drunk and disorderly

The Officer stressed the need for members of the public to be vigilant during the Christmas period and to take extra care not to leave valuables in unattended cars. Leaflets were circulated in respect of crime prevention advice and "Emergency Contact Details" via an Ice Pack card that could be left on the fridge of vulnerable individuals. Copies of the leaflets would also be available at the Library Hub.

Members raised the issue of the continuing problem of vehicles being parked on the zig zag lines, outside the Co-operative Store. The officer informed members that if they were happy to record the time of the incident, date and registration number the officer would issue a warning notice to the driver.

There being no other matters raised the Chairman thanked the officer for her comprehensive report

MINUTE NO: 3/11/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The meeting held on 29 October 2015 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

MINUTE No: 4/11/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

The Clerk informed Members that owing to an error no action had been taken to request permission to erect a sign indicating the location of the Gospel Hall Nantgarw. The Clerk apologised for this error and assured Members that immediate action would be taken on this matter.

MINUTE NO: 5/11/15 CLERK'S REPORT

EXTERNAL AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS: ANNUAL RETURNS 2015 -2019

Members received, for information, a copy of a letter from the Wales Audit Office informing the Council that BDO LLP will become the appointed auditor for delivering the audit of the Council's Annual Returns for the years 2015- 2019 inclusive.

Resolved:

1. Members' noted the letter from the Wales Audit Office and the new arrangements outlined within.

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

The Clerk reminded Members that the Council had agreed that an expenditure allowance of £100 be paid to all members of the Council for the financial year 2015-2016. These allowances were paid in April 2015 and included a payment to the late Councillor Meech. The Clerk informed the members that the cheque issued to Cllr Meech appeared to have been 'cashed' after Cllr Meech's demise and the Council should, in strict legal terms, recover the monies from his estate.

However, there is an element of discretion in respect of these matters and the Council could 'write off the debt' subject to a minute authorising this procedure. Given the circumstances the Clerk recommended that the Council resolves to take no further action on this matter and that the 'debt' is written off.

In respect of the new Member, elected to fill the vacancy the regulation requires all members to be paid the allowance and the new member is entitled to a proportion of the full amount this would equate to 7/12 of £100 (£58.33). Members are requested to note and approve this payment.

Resolved:-

1. The Council notes the position in respect of the allowances paid to the late Councillor Meech and resolves that no action be taken to recover monies from Councillor Meech's estate.
2. Notes the allowance payment of £58.33 to Councillor F E Jenkins

RATE PRECEPT 2016/2017

Members gave consideration to the County Council's request to set its rate precept for 2016/2017

The Clerk confirmed that he had reviewed the Council's expenditure for the current financial year and its commitments for the forthcoming financial year and expenditure is in line with current estimates.

The Clerk outlined the Council's expenditure programme for the forthcoming financial year and the Council's commitment to maintain and expand local services including the HUB and grants to voluntary organisations within the Council's boundaries.

At its previous precept meeting it was agreed that the expenditure on the rental for the HUB would be met by incremental increases of £2000 per annum.

In order to protect local services the Clerk recommended that an additional £1000 be added to the Precept to ensure that current commitments are met.

Having reviewed the Community Council's expenditure and undertaken a comparison with other Community Councils the Clerk confirmed that we still have one of the lowest precepts within the County and provide cost effective services to the community.

Resolved:-

That in order to continue its commitment to the HUB and protect its services to the local community the Community Council's precept for 2016/17 is increased by £3000

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members are requested to give consideration to the following application for grant aid.

FRIENDS OF TAFF'S WELL PARK

Resolved-:

A grant of £250 be awarded to the above organisation

MINUTE No: 6/11/15 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Informed Members that the street lamps in Quarry Lane had now been repaired. She was surprised that when she telephoned the Street Lighting Section about this problem she was informed that there was no record of these faults being previously reported. The Clerk confirmed that this matter had been reported, on line, and he would pursue why this matter was not recorded.
- The Clerk informed the Member that her request for permission to erect 'direction signage to the Gospel Hall had not yet been sent and apologised for the delay. It was agreed that the Clerk would make this a priority and would deal with the matter as expeditiously as possible.
- Informed Members of the continuing problem of fly tipping in the area. County Councillor Bonetto outlined the action being taken to catch the perpetrators and work being undertaken to combat this problem.
- Expressed concern that the right of way though the woods at Duffryn Ffrwd was being restricted by builders fencing making it difficult to use the pathway. The Clerk confirmed that safety fencing had been erected whilst construction work was being undertaken and this had restricted access. However, this should only be a temporary restriction and he would 'keep an eye' on the development to ensure that, on completion, access was restored.
- Noted that a large amount of clearance work was being undertaken on the Pottery Field and asked if this was in preparation for building works? The Clerk agreed that he would make enquiries and report back to the member.

Cllr Mel Timothy

- Informed Members that there had been an incident on the play equipment where a child was injured and had six stitches inserted into a leg wound. Councillor Jill Bonetto informed members that she would take immediate action to have the equipment inspected to ensure it was safe and to establish the cause of the accident. Members welcomed Councillor Bonetto's prompt action in dealing with this matter.

Cllr C Dyke MBE

- Informed members that she had received a request for a bench to be placed, by the Sexton's Office, in Ty Rhiw Cemetery. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the County Council to request permission to place the bench at the Cemetery.
- Noted that a number of drains were blocked in the vicinity of the cemetery and requested that the clerk report this matter.
- Noted that there was a large hole in the fencing, on Cemetery Road, adjoining the A470 highway. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this to the highway authority.

Cllr Lynne Thomas

- Informed members that she had also received a request for a bench to be placed at Ty Rhiw Cemetery and suggested that, subject to the County Council's agreement, the bench currently placed at the allotments could be used for this purpose. Members agreed and supported this suggestion.
- Had received a complaint that the drain outside 1 Church Street was blocked. The Clerk agreed to report this matter to the appropriate department of the County Council.

Cllr F.E. Jenkins

- Noted that there was considerable litter dropped in the vicinity of Mc Donald's and KFC food outlets causing problems not only of litter but Rat Infestation. The Member wondered if the Community Council employ someone to "pick up litter" in the area? The Clerk informed the Member that the Community Council does not have the power to employ someone for this specific task as it is the function of another authority and would therefore be classified as an 'illegal payment' by the local government auditor. The Clerk agreed that he would bring this matter to the attention of the litter enforcement team and ask that they pay particular attention to this location.
- Welcomed the fact that Keep Wales Tidy were organising an event within the area.
- Noted that the Japanese Knotweed, on the premises of Spice Connoisseur, was now out of control and it appeared that the owner had done nothing to eradicate the problem. The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to the owner asking that action be taken but in light of the new information he would now contact the County Council's invasive species officer and request that enforcement action be taken.
- Asked if a Neighbourhood Watch scheme was operating in the area? Councillor Dyke, informed the member that whilst there was an active group in the Ty Rhiw area no Neighbourhood Watch groups had been established in the "Village" or in the Nantgarw area. This had not been for the want of trying as a number of meetings had been called but there was little local interest in establishing a group.
- Asked if any action has been taken to put 'hatched markings' of the Nantgarw roundabout? Councillor Bonetto, in her capacity as a County Member, informed the member that a consultation survey was currently being undertaken into what was the best

course of action to take in respect of traffic movement in this area and whilst this would obviously be considered no action would be taken until the final report was produced.

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.
- Reported back on the action being taken to improve recycling facilities and usage within the County
- Outlined the action being taken combat ‘fly tipping’ within the County

MINUTE No: 7/11/15 FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Resolved:

Members approved payment of the November accounts in the sum of £ 2,318.63

MINUTE No: 8/11/15 –PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

15/1423/10	Mr Steve Davis 108 Glan-y-Ffordd Taff's Well Cardiff CF15 7SP	Erect two storey kitchen and bedroom side extension at:- 108 GLAN-Y-FFORDD TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7SP	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
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MINUTE No. 9/11/15 – PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public attended the meeting

MINUTE No: 10/11/15 Dates of future meetings

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

- December meeting - Monday 21 December 2015 Saints Mary & James' Church Hall
- January 2016 meeting- Thursday 28 January 2016 Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- February meeting: Tuesday 23 February 2016: 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 8.50 pm.

SIGNED:..... DATE: