

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

**TAWELYFRYN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Thursday 29 October 2015**

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

**APOLOGIES,** Cllrs: - Charlotte E Griffin, C Dyke, Mel Timothy and F. E. Jenkins

**Also present:** Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson

**MINUTE No: 1/10/15 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

No declaration of interest were recorded.

**MINUTE No: 2/10/15 POLICE MATTERS:**

No Police representative in attendance.

**MINUTE NO: 3/10/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The meeting held on 28 September 2015 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman:

**MINUTE No: 4/10/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes

**MINUTE NO: 5/10/15 CLERK'S REPORT**

**REQUIREMENTS OF WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS  
(WALES) ACT (2015).**

Members received a copy of a letter from the Deputy Leader of RCTCBC aimed at making the Council aware of its legal duties under the above Act.

The Clerk reminded Members that an electronic copy of the full report had previously been circulated to members. The Clerk reiterated that the legal duty will only apply to Councils with a gross income or expenditure of at least £200,000 for each of the three financial years preceding the year in which the local council's wellbeing plan is published (likely to be 2018).

Given the council's gross financial expenditure we will NOT be legally required to participate but are encouraged to voluntarily follow the guidelines to ensure a more co-ordinated activity to further improve local communities.

Whilst agreeing in principle with the sentiment expressed within the letter the Clerk, urged caution in this matter. It was recommended that members reconsider the issue when further details

are published and we know the County Council's intentions in these matters and the financial arrangements that will be put in place for us to collectively improve the wellbeing of our community.

**Resolved:-**

1. Members noted the letter from the deputy leader of the County Council and whilst agreeing in principle with the content, would wish to have more detailed discussions before committing the Community Council to any specific course of action.

**REMUNERATION FOR MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS**

The Clerk reported that The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales had recently published its draft annual report and has made several changes to the remuneration of members of Community and Town Councils.

Members' received a copy of a leaflet giving a broad overview of the changes and a more detailed copy of the proposed changes that have been downloaded from the Panel's report.

Members' were invited to comment on the proposals before the end of December and it is envisaged that the final report will be published in February 2016 for implementation in the 2016-2017 municipal year.

**Resolved:-**

Members noted the report and broadly welcome the new proposals.

**TAFF'S WELL AND NANTGARW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. (CDP)**

The Clerk gave an update on the tripartite agreement that was set up to open and maintain library and information technology services in the village.

The agreement was that the Community Council and the County Council would provide some financial assistance and the CDP would provide volunteers to run and manage the project.

Whilst the Community Council had agreed to the continue funding there has been a delay in securing funding from the County Council. Unfortunately, the business plan to secure funding from the County Council has been mislaid leading to a 'funding gap' with the project.

In an effort to keep the project viable and to comply with "charity commission regulations" volunteers have been putting their own money into the project which, whilst commendable, is not a viable solution to the difficulties that they face.

It is clear that the project is well supported by the local community and the volunteers have done an excellent job in revitalising services at the library hub.

Having examined this matter the Clerk recommended that the Community Council agree the following action to ensure the continued viability of this valuable community asset.

- 1) A 'one off' grant of £2,000 be made to the project to enable it continue to operate whilst negotiations take place with the County Council.
- 2) The Community Council agrees that it will assume responsibility for the electricity usage, at the Library HUB, Taff's Well

**Resolved:-**

Members' noted the above report and agreed to the above recommendations.

## **ONE WAY SYSTEM –CHURCH STREET- KING STREET –GARTH STREET**

At its last meeting a Member raised the issue of a “one way system” being introduced in the above streets.

In order to judge the feelings of residents directly affected by these proposals it was agreed to conduct a “local ballot” to see if the majority of residents were in favour of an approach being made to the County Council to establish a “one way system” in this area.

A letter/ballot paper was subsequently delivered to every household, and residents were asked to return the ballot papers to the LIBRARY HUB, Cardiff Road by Friday 23 October 2015 with the results of the ballot to be presented to the next Council meeting.

The results of the ballot were as follows:-

FOR THE ONE WAY SYSTEM	12
AGAINST THE ONE WAY SYSTEM	18

Members noted that a clear majority of residents, who returned the ballot papers, did not support the proposal. It is therefore recommended that the Community Council takes no further action to implement this proposal.

### **Resolved:-**

- 1) The Community Council notes the democratic decision of local residents and resolves not to proceed further on this matter.
- 2) Residents are notified of the Council’s decision in this matter.

## **APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Members gave consideration to the following application for grant aid.

### **PILOTS TAFF’S WELL TAFF’S WELL COMMUNITY SINGERS**

#### **Resolved:-**

A grant of £250 be awarded to each of the above organisations.

## **POP FACTORY LANE**

The Clerk reported that, following a complaint, work had been undertaken to clear the undergrowth and vegetation in the lane.

The work had been carried out by Mr Nick Edmunds, who asked that his invoice, for £70, be made payable to the Taff’s Well and Nantgarw Community Development Project.(CDP)

#### **Resolved:**

1. Mr Edmunds be thanked for clearing the lane
2. The invoice in the sum of £70 be made payable to the CDP

## **MINUTE No: 6/10/15 MEMBERS' REPORTS**

### **Cllr Sandra Lintern**

- Informed Members that there were a number of street lamps in Quarry Lane that were not working. In addition, the street lamp outside the Community Centre was also broken. The Clerk agreed to report this matter to the County Council's Street Lighting Department.
- Expressed concern over the traffic congestion in the village; with cars parked both sides of the road it was difficult for buses to get through. The member note that more than once she had seen a bus having to 'go onto the pavement' so they could pass the parked vehicles. Members noted that the new double yellow lines outside the railway station and traffic enforcement outside the school appeared to be making a difference and County Officers would keep this matter under review.
- Expressed concern about the leaves on pavements which made it dangerous for the elderly. The Clerk informed the member that whilst the County does try to keep these matter in hand the major 'clear up programme' is scheduled after the majority of the leaves had fallen, he would however contact the appropriate department to see if anything could be done.
- The Member had been approached by the Gospel Hall to see if permission could be granted for a sign to be erected indicating the entrance road to the hall. The sign would need to be placed on the embankment, which was in the ownership of the County Council. The Gospel Hall committee were willing to meet the cost but need permission from the authority to erect the sign. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the County Council in respect of this matter.
- Asked if the Clerk could once again pursue the possibility of a post box being put at the entrance to the Tawelyfryn Estate? The Clerk confirmed that the refusal, last year, was because there was no evidence to support the need for an additional box. A survey, of the existing box, had shown minimal use, with most days no pick up from the box. However, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to ask that another look be take on this matter.

### **Cllr Megan Jones**

- Informed Members that she was concerned that the boundary wall at the front of the village hall appeared to be 'unstable'. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the village hall committee informing them of the Council's concern.

### **Cllr C Dyke MBE (in absentia)**

- Informed members that she had received complaints about 'off road bikes and horses' using the park on Cemetery Road. It would appear that access was being gained via a 'hole in the wall' at the top end of the field. The County Member agreed that she would raise this issue with appropriate officers.
- Expressed concern about the speed of traffic through Taff's Well village and asked if the County Council would consider installing traffic calming measures, such as 'sleeping policemen ramps' on this section of the Cardiff Road?
- Noted that there was a large hole in the fencing, on Cemetery Road, abating the A470 highway. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this to the highway authority.

### **Cllr Helen Edmunds**

- Informed members that two residents had visited the Hub to say how pleased they were with the improvements that the introduction of double yellow lines had made in the vicinity of the railway station.
- Asked when would the 'speed camera road markings', in Glan-y-Llyn, be repainted? The county member informed the council that this work was 'in hand' and discussions had

taken place with the police, who were responsible for the speed camera, to make sure it was still working.

- Noted that there was a significant amount of cigarette butts discarded on the pavement outside the Co-operative store. The problem appeared to be caused primarily by staff that ‘smoke on the pavement’ and then discard their cigarettes on to the floor. The Clerk confirmed that following a previous complaint he had written to the store requesting that an Ash Tray be provided outside the store. As there had been no improvement it was agreed to refer this matter to the County Council’s litter enforcement team.
- Asked if any progress had been made to get the overgrowth cut on the Nantgarw Hill roundabout? The County member informed the council that a comprehensive safety review was taking by County Officers and we would need to wait until the review was completed before any action would take place on this matter.

### **Cllr Lynne Thomas**

- Informed members that the two residents in Tawelyfryn who had previously reported the problem of anti social behaviour caused by quad bike users had informed her that following the complaint the situation had improved and there had been no further instances.
- Had received a complaint that a boat appears to have been abandoned in Yr Hendre Park/Playing field. It appeared that the boat was the same one where previous complaints had been made about it being on the highway. Councillor Jill Bonetto agreed that she would pursue this issue.

### **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 following the introduction of double yellow lines at the railway station and the School.
- In respect of the request to convert existing Zebra crossing, outside the Co-operative store, to a signalised crossing; officers had reported that while this may be possible it does not address the main concern of vehicles parking within the controlled area (zig zag markings) of the crossing. Drivers may still choose to park within the controlled area therefore a continued effort involving the Police and Council Enforcement Officers is required to address the problem of vehicles parking within the controlled area. The officer agreed to raise the concern with the parking services manager and ask that the enforcement officers visit the area.
- With regard to the provision of “Welcome to Taff’s Well” signs. Officers had reported back that “existing signs are in place advising drivers they are entering Taff’s Well which appear to be in good condition, therefore the County Council would not fund replacements. Should the Community Council be prepared to fund new signs, we could advise on possible replacements”
- In respect of existing signs obscured by commercial signage the County had advised that any signs placed on the highway must be authorised by the Department for Transport. Highways Inspectors will visit the area and if the signs have been placed on the highway illegally, they will arrange for the signs to be removed.

**MINUTE No: 7/10/15 FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

**Resolved:**

Members approved payment of the October accounts in the sum of £4351.33

**MINUTE No: 8/10/15 –PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

No planning applications were submitted for the October Council Meeting

**MINUTE No. 9/10/15 – PUBLIC SESSION**

No members of the public attended the meeting

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

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

- November meeting – Tuesday 24 November 2015 Ty Rhiw Community Centre
- December meeting - Monday 21 December 2015 Saints Mary & James' Church Hall
- January 2016 meeting- Thursday 28 January 2016 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 8.35 pm.

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