

**MINUTES OF TAFF'S WELL & NANTGARW COMMUNITY
COUNCIL HELD AT:-
SAINTS MARY AND JAMES' CHURCH HALL
MONDAY 29 APRIL 2013**

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

APOLOGIES, Cllrs: - C. E. Griffin.

Also present: Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson.

MINUTE No: 1/04/13 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: 2/04/13 POLICE MATTERS:

PCSO Sarah Emanuel gave her apologies for her non attendance but submitted the following written report.

Anti Social Behaviour

- On Thursday 4th April 2013 there was a report of off road bikes on the Taff Trail.
- On Tuesday 16th April 2013 we have had further reports of off road bikes on the Taff Trail.
- On Saturday 20th April 2013 there was another report of off road bikes on the Taff Trail.

Burglary

- On Friday 12th April 2013 there was a report that a garage door had been bent back in an attempt to steal the vehicle inside. The offenders were disturbed and ran off. There was one witness but did not recognise the offenders and there was no CCTV in the area. Enquiries are still ongoing.
- On Friday 19th April 2013 it was reported that damage had been caused to Tawelfryn community centre. There were no witnesses and no CCTV covering the incident.

Theft

- Sometime between Monday 1st April and Sunday 7th April 2013 a vehicle which was parked along Cardiff Road in Taff's Well had both its number plates stolen. There were no witnesses and there is no CCTV covering the area. The plates were then later used in a make off with out payment in the Gwent force area.
- A vehicle which was parked along Treforest Industrial Estate had both number plates stolen. There was CCTV covering the area at the time, but it is of very poor quality and is still being checked. Enquiries are still ongoing.
- A vehicle parked along Oxford Street, Nantgarw had one wing mirror stolen. There was CCTV covering the area which is being looked at. Enquiries are still ongoing.
- A large amount of steel was stolen from Rhys Davies Ltd. Enquiries are still ongoing. No suspects have been brought in yet.

Damage

- Damage was caused to a vehicle in South View, Ty Rhiw. There were no witnesses and no CCTV covering the area. Scenes of crime attended and attempted to take finger prints but none were recovered.
- A vehicle was damaged in Nantgarw. Dents and scratches had been made on the front and roof of the vehicle. Enquiries are on going.

MINUTE NO: 3/04/13 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 26 March 2013 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MINUTE No: 4/04/13 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

MINUTE NO: 5/04/13 CLERK'S REPORT

ANNUAL CHARGE FOR WEBSITE DOMAIN NAME

Members received, for information a copy of the invoice for the Community Council's Domain Name: - www.taffswellandnantgarwcc.com at cost of £18.00 inclusive of VAT

Resolved:-

Members noted that payment for the forthcoming financial year has been included in this month's financial payments.

RENEWAL OF INTERNET SERVICES

The Clerk reported that the fee for the renewal of the Council's internet services is due in April at a cost of £294 p.a.

Resolved:-

Members noted that payment for the forthcoming financial year has been included in this month's financial payments. However, the sum recorded was for £249 not £294, it was agreed that the discrepancy of £45 would be included in the next financial report.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members gave consideration to the following application for financial assistance.

TAFF'S WELL OAP ASSOCIATION

Resolved:-

That a grant of £250 be awarded to the above applicant.

MEMBERSHIP OF ONE VOICE WALES 2012-2013

Members' approval was sought for continued membership of "One Voice Wales" at a cost of **£424.00**. This sum is calculated on based on 1626 chargeable dwellings @ 26.1p per dwelling (Based on the Valuation list not the Electoral Register)

The Clerk reminded Members that '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 and recommended that the Community Council renews its membership.

Resolved:-

That the Community Council continues its membership of "One Voice Wales" for the financial year 2013-2014

ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL FEE REVISION

The Community Council has a statutory duty to annually review its charges for services and was therefore requested to give consideration to the level of fees the Council wishes to set in the financial year 2013/2014 for users of the Council's Allotments.

The Clerk reported the current fee is £1.75 per perch, this rate was set in March 2012 when fees were raised by 5 pence per perch. The Clerk informed Members that he had reviewed similar provision made by other Community Councils Members and found that, given the low inflation figure, many authorities have not increased their charges for the forthcoming financial year whilst others have raised fees by the cost of inflation 2.2%.

The Clerk had also reviewed the Council's end of year expenditure and in the last financial year the Council had received an additional income of £195.61 from the allotments. This is attributed to the additional pitches that have been developed on the 'new allotment site'

Given the additional income and the sound state of the Council's finances the Clerk recommend that that there be no increase in the forthcoming financial year.

Resolved: - That the fees for 2013-2014 be set at £1.75 per perch

ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION AGM – MEMBER'S REPORT

Members received, for information, a summary report of the AGM of the Allotment Association submitted by Councillor Lynne Thomas who represented the Community Council at the meeting.

Resolved: - The report be noted and Cllr Thomas thanked for her report

PURCHASE OF EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE

The Clerk reported that, owing to increased data held on the Council's laptop computer combined with the storage of information/links and the new reporting procedures in real time for Inland Revenue data, the present computer is running very slowly. Permission was therefore sought for the Clerk to purchase an external hard drive and that a budget of £100 is allocated for this purpose.

Resolved: - A budget of £100 be allocated to purchase the external hard drive and upgrade the Council's Information Technology system.

COMMUNITY GARDEN – TAFF’S WELL ALLOTMENTS- WATER SUPPLY

In February 2010 the Council agreed, minute 5/02/10, that the Allotments Association would in future assume responsibility for the water supply at the allotments/community garden. In recognition of this is as agreed that the community council would provide an annual payment/grant of £250.

Resolved: - Members noted that payment for the forthcoming financial year was included in this month’s financial payments.

JUNE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Clerk requested that the June meeting of the Community Council commence at 6.30 pm to enable training to take place on the ‘Code of Conduct’

Resolved: - The meeting scheduled for the 25 June at Ty Rhiw will commence at 6.30 pm

MINUTE No: 6/04/13 MEMBERS’ REPORTS

Cllr. C Dyke MBE

- Informed Members that she had been informed that the ‘dangerous tree’ located near Brynau Brook, Brynau Wood was not the responsibility of the County Council as the tree was not on land owned by the County Council. This section of land was in private ownership but details of the owner were not available from the County. It was agreed that the County Member would pursue this matter and try to establish if the tree was ‘dangerous’ if so then the County would need to take action.
- Reported that there were large potholes outside 50-54 Ty Rhiw and also outside of 6 Abbey Close. It was agreed that the Clerk would report these items to the County’s Highways Department.
- Reported that the fencing/horse gate on the Taff Trail had been removed, presumably by horse riders, in addition there had been incidents of horses galloping on the trail. Cllr Jill Bonetto agreed that she would pursue these matters with the appropriate department of the County Council.
- Expressed concern that lorries were ‘laying up’ in the lay-by opposite Ferris’s garage and blocking entrance to the footpath. It was agreed that this item be brought to the attention of the County Council.
- **Cllr Mel Timothy**
- Informed Members that she had been approached by a local resident who had expressed concern that the ‘road signs’ indicating a left turn, at the bottom of the A468, Caerphilly Road, approaching the A470 were very late and caused vehicles to suddenly change lanes. It was agreed that the county council be asked if indication could be made earlier, possibly when vehicles had just passed the entrance to the Tawelfryn Estate.
- Informed Members that she had received a complaint about ‘noise nuisance’ being caused by a resident who played loud music for a considerable time. The member sought advice on how to deal with this matter. The member was advised to contact the noise pollution officer of the County Council who would be able to give appropriate advice.

Helen Edmunds

- Asked if there had been any response in respect of possible signs indicating the location of Saints Mary and James' Church. Councillor Bonetto confirmed that she had raised this issue with the highways authority but unfortunately they were unable to assist as it was outside their responsibilities to provide 'location signs' except for historic sites and buildings.

Cllr Fred Meech

- Asked if any progress had been made in trying to establish a 20 mph speed limit in the vicinity of the College and retail park. The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the County Council in respect of this matter but it was unlikely that the limit would be agreed as the students attending the College were classified as adults and the 20 mph limit intended to schools. Councillor Bonetto agreed that she would see if there were any alternative ways of restricting the speed of vehicles, possibly through 'traffic calming measures'.

Cllr Lynne Thomas

- Informed Members that the flower tubs, outside the HUB, had now been delivered and installed. Following discussion it was agreed that, in principle, the Community Council would provide some funds for flower displays via a small grant to the HUB. The Clerk agreed to provide a report on this matter at the next meeting
- Reported that she had received some complaints/concerns about the length of the proposed double yellow line parking restrictions on the corner of Tabor Street. It was agreed that the Clerk would try to establish the exact dimensions of the restrictions and inform the Member.

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Informed Members that the owner of 1 Parc-y-Nant, Nantgarw was still 'dumping' cut tree branches in the brook. It was agreed that the Clerk would again pursue this matter with the appropriate department of the County Council.
- Requested that the County Council be asked to cut back the trees in the vicinity of the Pottery and on Caerphilly Road hill.
- Asked if a Time Table could be placed in the bus shelter at Yr Hendre showing the times for the new bus service.
- Asked the Clerk to report the large pothole at the entrance to Tyla Gwyn, to the highway authority. The clerk confirmed that he would action this request

Cllr Megan Jones

- Noted that the fencing around the footpath sides of City Link (footpath to Ty Rhiw) was in urgent need of repair. The chain link fencing was broken and therefore dangerous with pieces of wire sticking out of the fence. The Clerk would, in the first instance, contact the company to see if this issue could be resolved at a local level.

Cllr Jill Bonetto

- Gave Members a comprehensive report on recent County Council activities
- Informed Members of the consultations taking place with regard to placing double yellow lines at various junctions in the Village.
- Informed members that the playground in Oxford St had now been levelled and of her proposals to consult residents in respect of the possibility of improvements on the site, including establishing a local group in the area to attract some funding.
- Gave a comprehensive report on the progress being made in respect of the Spa.

- Informed members that following discussions with the college the lunch club will commence in September,

MINUTE No; 7/04/13 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented Members with updated details of balances within the Community Council’s current and deposit accounts for April 2013

Resolved:

Members approved payment of the accounts in the sum of £3004.85 including a grant of £250 to the Taff’s Well OAP Association.

MINUTE No: 8/04/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

13/0264/10	Mr. R Parker The Boat House Stonehouse Cottages Nantgarw Cardiff CF15 7TB	Construction of garage at:- THE BOAT HOUSE, STONEHOUSE COTTAGES, NANTGARW CARDIFF CF15 7TB	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
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MINUTE No: 9/04/13

A Member of the Public attended the meeting and asked for information on the current position of the Anchor Public House as work appeared to be taking place at the premises. Members were unable to confirm what work was taking place but confirmed that to date no application appeared to have been made in respect of a new licensee for the premises.

MINUTE No; 10/04/13 Dates of future meetings

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

- May 2013 - Thursday 30 May - Tawelyfryn Community Centre. AGM + Council Meeting
- June -2013 Tuesday 25 June – Ty Rhiw Community Centre.
- July -3013 Monday 29 July Saints Mary & James' Church Hall

It was agreed that the meetings of the 25 June would commence at 6.30 pm to enable training to take place on the ‘Code of Conduct’, all other meetings will commence at 7 pm.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.10 pm.

SIGNED:..... DATE: