

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

**SAINTS MARY and JAMES' CHURCH HALL
Monday 27 January 2014**

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

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

Also present: Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson

MINUTE No: 1/1/14 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: 2/1/14 POLICE MATTERS:

No Police representative in attendance.

MINUTE NO: 3/1/14 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2013 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman:

MINUTE No: 4/1/143 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Cllr Edmunds informed members that there was still a large accumulation of rubbish in the lane behind King Street. The Clerk confirmed that he had reported this matter to the County Council's litter team but would once again pursue the matter.

MINUTE NO: 5/1/14 CLERK'S REPORT

BLUE PLAQUE SIGN – THERMAL SPRING

At a previous meeting it was agreed that the Community Council would contribute towards a Blue Plaque sign for the thermal spring in Taff's Well Park.

The Clerk informed Members that the Council had now received an invoice in respect of this matter and approval was sought to make payment of the attached invoice in the sum of £360.

Resolved:

Members approve payment of the invoice.

COMMISSION ON PUBLIC SERVICE GOVERNANCE AND DELIVERY REPORT

The Clerk informed Members that the Commission on Public Service Governance and Delivery had published its report on the restructuring of Public Services in Wales (January 2014)/ The report will now be considered by the Welsh Assembly Government.

Whist the report covered ALL of the Public Services in Wales the Clerk limited his observations to those matters which will impact on the Community Council. Namely:-

- **RCT County Council to be merged with Merthyr Tydfil County Council**

In respect of Community Councils the report recommends that:-

- Town and community councils have a potentially vital role in representing community interests and providing purely local services. At present, though, they are too numerous to do so effectively: very many of them suffer from extreme forms of the scale problems we described earlier. In particular, many suffer from very limited capacity, and the level of democratic engagement with them is very low. We therefore believe that they too should be reorganised. [See Recommendation 27].
- We also support programmes of formal and structured neighbourhood management, such as the highly effective system in Cardiff. This both brings together major service-providers to identify and meet neighbourhood needs and engages with local people in doing so. This model has particular potential in our larger urban areas where town and community councils are largely absent [See Recommendation 27].

The Clerk informed Members that a summary copy of the report had been placed on the Community Council's Website and copies of the full report plus supplementary information can be viewed on the assembly's website:- www.wales.gov.uk.

Resolved:

Members note the report.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members gave consideration to the following application.

- **LOWER TAFF COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Resolved:

Whist Members were happy to provide a 'start up grant' to this organisation it was reluctant to provide continuation funding. The application was therefore refused.

PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: 13/0967/13 LAND AT SOUTH WALES FORGEMASTERS LTD, GARTH WORKS, TAFFS WELL, CARDIFF CF15 7RA

The Clerk reported that a number of local residents had expressed concern about the above planning application and following consultation with the Chairman it was agreed that a public meeting would be held to discuss the application and give residents the opportunity to voice their opinions.

The meeting was held at Saints Mary and James' Church Hall on Tuesday 21 January and was reasonably well attended. The overwhelming view was that residents were opposed to the change of use of the land and it was agreed that a draft letter of objection be placed on the Council's Website. It was further agreed that details of the application would be circulated throughout the area; thereby giving residents the opportunity make comments to the planning department.

Resolved:

Members noted the decision taken to hold the public meeting and approve the action taken by the Chairman and Clerk in respect of this matter.

MINUTE No: 6/1/14 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Informed members that she had received a number of complaints in respect of rat infestation in the vicinity of the McDonald's and other food outlets on the Parc Nantgarw complex. The Clerk confirmed he would raise this matter with the Environmental Health Department of RCTCBC.
- Asked if any action had been taken to try to get bus timetables put into the bus shelters in Tawelyfryn? The County Council member confirmed that she had raised this matter with the appropriate officers but because of possible changes in the timetables in the area it was not possible at this time. The Member would however pursue this once the position on bus routes/timetables became clearer.
- Asked if there was any foundation to rumour that the County Council was considering the removal of free bus passes for OAPs. The Clerk informed the member that the 'powers' on free transportation for OAPs was not a matter for the County Council but a function of the Welsh Assembly Government. He further confirmed that there has been no indication the Assembly was giving any consideration to this matter.

Cllr Helen Edmunds

- Informed Members that she had noted that the two bus shelter in the vicinity of Rhyd-yr-Helyg appeared to be 'sinking into the ground' and that the paving stones on site had also sunken. The County member agreed that she would take this matter up with the appropriate authorities.
- Noted that there were still cars parked on the pavement; in the lay-by opposite Ferris transport depot. The cars restricted the pavement making it impossible for pedestrians with pushchairs /wheelchairs to pass. The clerk agreed that he would raise this matter with the local PC.
- Once again expressed concern about the amount of litter in the lane behind King Street and the amount of 'vegetation overgrowth' in this vicinity Councillor Bonetto agreed that she would once again raise these issues with the appropriate County Officers.
- Asked if any action was being taken to deal with the 'flooding' outside Ferris transport depot? The County Member confirmed that the County Council was aware of this issue and had confirmed that this was a major project that was in the 'pipeline' and would be dealt with when finance became available.

- **Cllr Lynne Thomas**

- Expressed concern about the number of cars that were parked on the pavement in Glan y Llyn; cars were blocking the pavement near the Ex Servicemen's' Club making it impossible for pedestrians with push chairs or wheelchairs to pass. In addition a 4x4 vehicle, dropping children off for school, often parked in the entrance to the flats and the back lane of Sycamore Street making it impossible for other vehicles to safely negotiate access to Cardiff Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the local PC to see if action could be taken in respect of these matters.

Cllr Megan Jones

- Reported that there was a problem with a blocked drain opposite the letter box on Cemetery Road, Ty Rhiw and asked if the Clerk could contact RCT Drainage department with a view to getting the drain cleaned. In addition there were still problems of flooding both at the

railway entrance and at the bottom of Ty Rhiw footbridge. Councillor Bonetto informed Members of the action being taken to resolve the issue of the footbridge flooding and confirmed that Network Rail were aware of the problem at the station and had been asked to rectify this matter.

Cllrs Mel Timothy

- Informed members that a large amount of rubbish had been dumped in the vicinity of the Taff Trail, at the top of Heol-Y-Gors. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this matter to the litter team and ask that action be taken to deal with this matter.
- Reported that she had encountered a young girl who was sleeping rough on the pathway of the Taff Trail, the member had tried to help but enquired if there was anything that could be done to assist her? The Clerk agreed that he would make the 'caring agencies' aware of the problem but as she was an adult there was little that could be done without her agreement. As there also appeared to be some 'drug use' he would also pass the issue to the local PC as sometimes the Police can assist if she was considered a vulnerable adult.
- Once again raised the issue of the problems in Heol y Gors and asked if the County Member had received a reply from the Officers of the County. The County Member confirmed that she was still awaiting a report on these issues but would 'chase it up' with the Officer concerned.

Cllr Jill Bonetto

- Informed Members that the flower containers had now been placed next to the Wheel at the entrance to Parc Nantgarw
- Gave a comprehensive overview of the difficult financial settlement that the County had received from the Assembly and its implications for services within the County.
- Outlined the proposed action that will be taken by the County Council in respect of the Nantgarw library and confirmed that negotiations were taking place in respect of the reallocation of stock and fittings to the Hub.
- Informed Members that the telephone number for reporting 'dog fouling' was 01443 494700.

A Member requested the Clerk to contact the 'litter team' to see if action could be taken to clear litter from the vacant ground opposite the Post Office. The Clerk confirmed that he would report this matter.

MINUTE No: 7/1/14 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented Members with updated details of balances within the Community Council's current and deposit accounts for December 2013 and January 2014

Resolved:

Members approved payment of January's accounts in the sum of £1875.23p.

MINUTE No: 8/1/14 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

13/1201/10	Mr. Gary Gibbs 40 Rhyd-Yr-Helyg Nantgarw Taff's Well Cardiff CF15 7SX	Erection of porch to front of property at:- 40 RHYD-YR-HELYG NANTGARW TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7SX	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
13/1310/15	Duffryn Ffrwd (Newtown Estates) Ltd 38 Bridge Street Andover Hampshire SP10 1BW	Variation of condition to extend period of time under Condition 1(c) of consent 10/1213/13 for the approval of Reserved Matters for one dwelling at:- LAND ADJOINING 15 TYLA GWYN NANTGARW CARDIFF CF15 7TD	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
13/1250/10	Mr & Mrs J & V Mills 1 Cardiff Road Taffs Well Cardiff CF15 7RA	Change of use from shop to residential use with associated external alterations at:- JOHN MILLS NEWSAGENT 1 CARDIFF ROAD TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7RA	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
13/1330/10	Mr J Williams 119 Cardiff Road Taffs Well Cardiff CF15 7PP	Extension for kitchen and bathroom internal facilities at:- 119 CARDIFF ROAD TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7PP	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
14/0019/10	Mr J Ferris Zenith House Moy Road Taff's Well Cardiff	External alterations and refurbishments. New entrance gates and palisade fence to rear at:- ZENITH HOUSE MOY ROAD TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7QR	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application

MINUTE No: 9/1/14

No Members of the Public attended the meeting

MINUTE No; 10/1/14 Dates of future meetings

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

- February - Thursday 27 February 2014 Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- March - Tuesday 25 March 2014 Ty Rhiw Community Centre
- April -Monday 28 April 2014. Saints Mary & James' Church Hall

It was agreed that meetings will commence at 7.00 pm. With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.20 pm.

SIGNED:..... DATE: