

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

**TY RHIW COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Tuesday 27 September 2016**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: Lynne Thomas (Chairman), Megan Jones, Sandra Lintern, Helen Edmunds  
And Cynthia Dyke

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

**APOLOGIES,** Cllrs, Alun Fowler, Mel Timothy and Jill Bonetto

**MINUTE No: 1/9/16 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

No discloser of personal interest recorded

**MINUTE No: 2/9/16 POLICE MATTERS:**

No Police representatives present or apologies submitted.

**MINUTE NO: 3/9/16 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2016 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

**MINUTE No: 4/9/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There were no outstanding matters arising from the minutes.

**MINUTE NO: 5/9/16 CLERK'S REPORT**

**1a) SUMMER RECESS – PLENARY POWERS DECISIONS**

1. Members noted and approve an emergency grant of £2,000 to Taff's Well and Nantgarw Community Development Project.
2. Members noted and approve payment of £59.99 in respect of the renewal of Kaspersky Internet Security.
3. Members noted the decisions taken in respect of the following planning applications:-

Application Number	Applicant	Proposal	Community Council's Observation
16/0750/03	Consultation by neighbouring Authority	Develop a new cemetery for the provision of approximately 2000 burial plots and 1800 mini graves, a new building comprising offices and welfare facilities together with public toilets, site infrastructure and car parking on: LAND ADJ. TO OLD NANTGARW ROAD GROESWEN CARDIFF CF15 7UN	Local residents and the Community Council have concerns about the egress arrangements for the site; traffic turning right would be directed down a road, which has previously been narrowed to mitigate the problems of traffic exiting from the rear of the GEC works. This would exasperate the traffic problems that already exist on the Tawelyfryn Estate. If Caerphilly County Borough Council are mindful of approving the application we would request that a condition be attached to the application prohibiting a right turn for vehicles exiting the proposed cemetery
16/0874/10	Mrs P James 64 Hillside Park Taff's Well CF15 7PB	Erect two storey extension to the side of:- 64 Hillside Park Taff's Well CF15 7PB	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
16/0891/01	The Co-operative Store 30 Cardiff Road TAFF'S Well Cardiff CF15 7RF	Erect 1 X Illuminated Fascia Logo Only. Sign A 2 X Internally Illuminated Projectors. Signs B1 & B2 9 X Non-Illuminated Wall Mounted Aluminium Panels. Signs C1, C2, D, E, F, G, H, I & J at:- THE CO OPERATIVE FOOD STORE, 30 CARDIFF ROAD, TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7RF	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
16/0820/10	Louise Pope 4 Yr Hendre Nantgarw Taff's Well Cardiff CF15 7TG	Retention of garden fence at:- 4 YR HENDRE, NANTGARW TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7TG	The Community Council has received representation from local residents who are concerned about the height of the fence. Number 4 Yr Hendre is in a more elevated position than neighbouring properties thereby visually increasing the height of the fence. The Community Council would request that the observations of the local residents are taken into account when determining the application.

### **2a) COMPLETION OF AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016**

Members received and gave consideration to the external auditor's report in respect of the year ended 31 March 2016.

Members noted that the audit comments in respect of the budgetary process and the reserves held by the authority. The Clerk will seek clarification on this issue as a monthly financial report is made directly to the Council and all income and expenditure is recorded and reported on a monthly basis.

The Clerk confirmed that the appropriate notice in respect of electors' rights has been placed on the Council's website.

#### **Resolved:-**

The Community Council noted the completion of the 2016 auditor's report and subject to clarification of the budgetary issues raised approves the Annual Return.

### **3a) REMEMBRANCE DAY 2016**

Members gave consideration to the arrangements for Remembrance Day, which this year falls on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November, and confirmed that it wished the Clerk to order 3 wreaths from the British Legion.

#### **Resolved:-**

The Clerk be requested to order 3 wreaths from the British Legion.

### **4a) MAINTENANCE OF POP FACTORY LANE- MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

The Clerk reported that a number of complaints had been received in respect of overgrowth and vegetation in the area known locally as Pop Factory Lane.

As the land is in the ownership of the Council there is a 'duty of care' to ensure that the area is safe and reasonable free of brambles and vegetation. In previous years this area of work was sub contracted to Crown Garden Services who arranged for the vegetation to be cut 2-3 times per year.

Since agreeing that the Community Council would only undertake "grass cutting work" in areas that are in the ownership of the Community Council there have been a number of complaints about the 'state of the lane' and although these complaints are addressed quickly it does raise an issue of whether a more pre-emptive policy should be considered.

Having considered various options in respect of this matter the Clerk proposed that the Council entered into an agreement with Taff's Well and Nantgarw Community Development Association to undertake 'grass cutting/weed control' on Pop Factory Lane. This would be via a formal Memorandum of Understanding outlining the terms of agreement, which would initially run for three years.

The costs associated with the agreement are based on the price paid to the previous contractor and I believe represent value for money.

#### **Resolved:-**

Members gave approval to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding and authorised the

Clerk, in his capacity as the 'proper officer', to sign the agreement on behalf of the Council.

#### **5a) APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Members gave consideration to the following applications for grant aid.

- 1. PILOTS**
- 2. CYLCH MEITHRIN Y FFYNNON TAFF**
- 3. TAFF'S WELL COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT**

#### **Resolved:-**

That a grant of £250 be awarded to each of the above associations

#### **MINUTE No: 6/9/16 MEMBERS' REPORTS**

##### **Cllr Sandra Lintern**

- Informed Members that local residents were concerned that recent building works to erect a gate during construction work on land adjacent to Duffryn Ffrwd Manor, Old Nantgarw Road might restrict access to the 'established right of way' that runs adjacent to the development. The Clerk confirmed that, following a conversation with the Member, he had visited the site and whilst a new gate pillar had been erected it appeared that room had been left to access the 'right of way'. It would not be possible to establish if there was any interference until the work was completed but the site would be monitored by the 'rights of way officer' and action taken if the right of way was obstructed.
- Noted that a number of street lights along Yr Hendre/ Old Nantgarw Road were not working or obscured by trees. It was agreed that the Clerk would bring these matters to the attention of the 'Street Lighting department'
- Noted that a considerable number of water leaks were occurring along Quarry Lane and Queen Street, Nantgarw. The Member was concerned the old piping might require renewal or tree roots might be damaging the infrastructure; it was agreed that the Clerk would make the water authority aware of the Member's concerns
- Expressed concern about the height of the hedges along Yr Hendre. Councillor Edmunds kindly agreed that she would ask her partner to have a look at the problem
- Noted that there were a number of "Dead Trees" along the embankment of the A470. It was agreed that the Clerk would bring this matter to the attention of the Highway Authority

##### **Cllr Megan Jones**

- Expressed concern about overgrowth and vegetation along the embankments on the Cardiff Road; this was particularly bad in the area just passed Ferris' garage (downside). It was agreed that the County be asked to 'cut back and make safe' this section of the Cardiff Road.
- Asked if the Clerk could contact the County Council about 'contaminated waste' that had been left for over 3 weeks at West View. The Member was concerned that no action appears to have been taken to identify the person leaving the 'contaminated waste' and the refuse operatives were not removing it. It was agreed that the Clerk would pursue this matter and report back to the Member.

### **Cllr Lynne Thomas**

- Noted that the asbestos dumped between the fence at Garth Street / The Health Centre off Cardiff Road, Taff's Well had still not been removed. The Clerk confirmed that he had reported this matter at least 3 times and assurances given that immediate action would be taken to remove the asbestos. Given the previous assurances and the subsequent lack of action it was agreed that in order to achieve a positive outcome' the Clerk would pursue this matter at the highest level and report back to the member on any progress made to resolve this outstanding item.
- Noted that parking in the village was still a problem with cars parked on the pavement restricting pedestrian access. In one incident at the junction of Tabor Street, a car was parked fully on the pavement forcing pedestrians on to the road. It was agreed that the County Member be asked if more enforcement visits can be made to the area.

### **Cllr Cynthia MBE**

- Informed Members of her concern about the general deterioration and condition of the Taff Trail in the vicinity of Abbey Close. Overgrowth was making the Trail very difficult to use safely and action was needed to address these issues. It was agreed that the Clerk would make the appropriate authority aware of these issues.
- Noted that the steps of the 'skew bridge' on the Cardiff Road were covered in vegetation making the steps very dangerous in wet weather. In addition, the lane between Taff's well and Ty Rhiw was very overgrown making it difficult to negotiate, particularly in wet weather. It was agreed that the County Member be asked if action could be taken to address these problems
- Asked if a notice could be erected telling cyclists to dismount when they leave the Taff Trail and come to a highway. The Member had noted that 'bikes' did not stop when turning into the village from Ty Rhiw, and was concerned that this was a case of an accident waiting to happen.
- Asked if the Clerk could report the subsidence of the footpath outside 75 Ty Rhiw. This matter had previously been reported but no action appears to have been taken. It was also agreed to bring this matter to the attention of the County Member.

### **MINUTE No: 7/9/16 FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk presented Members with updated details of balances within the Community Council's current and deposit accounts for August and September 2016.

#### **Resolved:**

Members approved payment of £1,708.76 in respect of the August accounts and £2,703.27 in respect of the September accounts, which included grant assistance of £250 to the following;- Taff's Well Church (Pilots), Cylch Meithrin Y Ffynnon Taf and Taff's Well Community Garden Project.

### **MINUTE No: 8/9/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Clerk reported that no planning applications had been received for the September meeting.

### **MINUTE No: 9/9/16 PUBLIC SESSION**

No members of the public were present

**MINUTE No; 10/9/16 Dates of future meetings**

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

- October meeting: Monday 24 October 2016 Saints at Mary & James' Church Hall
- November meeting: Thursday 24 November 2016 at Tawelyfryn Community Centre
- December meeting: Tuesday 20 December 2016 at 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 8.15 pm.

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