

**MINUTES OF TAFF'S WELL & NANTGARW COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT:
TY RHIW COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Tuesday 25th September 2018

PRESENT: Cllrs: A. Fowler (Chairman), L..Thomas , J Bonetto, S. Lintern, C. Dyke,
J. Hutchinson, M. Timothy and J. Bishop

APOLOGIES, M.Jones, H.Edmunds

Also present: Outgoing Clerk to the Council Emma Price (EP) and New Clerk Mrs Gail Williams (GW)

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to thank Mrs Price for her hard work and service to the Council and to wish her well in the future.

MINUTE No: 1/08/18 DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Cllr J. Bonetto declared an interest in all planning applications and item 6 (c) and did not speak or vote on those items.

Cllr L. Thomas declared an interest in items 6(b) and 6(c) and did not speak or vote on those items.

MINUTE No: 2/08/18 POLICE MATTERS

No representative was present from the police, unfortunately the officer had been called to an incident earlier that day and had given apologies.

Members expressed their disappointment about the apparent lack of police presence in the local area and were very concerned about issues in relation to possible drug selling in the area. The Clerk was instructed to contact the Police Authority to express the Council's concerns and seek a formal response.

MINUTE No: 3/08/18 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT

The Enforcement Officer gave a verbal update on a range of actions undertaken in the area and confirmed that he would submit a written Report to the Clerk for circulation to members following the meeting. He also reminded members that he was happy to take concerns by email direct from members and confirmed that his Report would include contact details.

MINUTE No: 4/08/18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of 28th June 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MINUTE No: 5/09/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the July minutes.

MINUTE No: 6/09/18 CLERK'S REPORT

(a) COMPETION OF THE AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2018

This is minuted under Financial Accounts.

(b) ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION PIGEON LOFT-APPEAL

Consideration was given to the Report presented to the Council by EP. The Report followed on from the attendance at the meeting in July of Mr M. Phillips representing the Allotment Association (Minute 9/07/18 refers). Mr Phillips highlighted that some years ago the Council had resolved to permit the Allotment Association to determine applications for the erection of sheds, greenhouses etc on the site below a certain size without reference to the Council.

EP confirmed that having researched this matter this was correct and confirmed that the Council in 2013 made a formal resolution to this effect.

This pigeon loft is a replacement for an earlier structure approved in 2013 by the Allotment Association and is within the size limit of the previous resolution. This information was not made available to members when they considered the issue at the meeting in June 2018.

It was explained to members that the new pigeon loft does, in the view of RCT planning division, require planning permission.

Following consideration and discussion of the options available to the Members it was moved and seconded that the pigeon loft should remain in situ subject to the Allotment Association undertaking that they would progress a retrospective planning application. Arising from the course of the debate an amendment was proposed by Cllr. Bishop, but there was no seconder and therefore in accordance with Standing Orders the amendment was not put to the vote. A vote was taken on the original motion and by a show of hands it was carried by the majority present.

RESOLVED : that the pigeon loft remain in situ subject to the Allotment Association obtaining retrospective planning permission for the structure and undertaking that they would submit a suitable planning application to RCT within four weeks of the date of the meeting.

(c) UPDATE ON LEASING ARRANGEMENTS UNIT 2 SCIMITAR COURT(TWNCDA THE HUB)

Consideration was given to the information provided by GW in relation to the leasing arrangements in respect of the premises specified above known as The Hub. Members were advised that the Council is holding over on the terms and conditions of the Lease that expired in 2012. It was explained that the Landlord's Agents had been contacted and they had confirmed that they were happy to leave things as they were or enter into a lease but they did not want to incur costs. Following consideration of the information provided it was moved and seconded that the existing arrangements should continue. By a show of hands this was carried unanimously.

RESOLVED : the Council continue with the existing arrangements in relation to the Lease of the premises known as The Hub continue

(d) ADOPTION OF LOCAL RESOLUTION PROTOCOL FOR TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Consideration was given to the information provided by GW in relation to the model protocol prepared by One Voice Wales for use by Community Councils across Wales when dealing with low level code of conduct complaints.

It was explained to members that the protocol is intended to deal with minor complaints from members about other members and minor complaints from officers about members.

Particular reference was made to the fact that the process is suitable where there is an allegation that members have not shown due respect and consideration for others. The penalties available under the Protocol were explained to members.

Members were advised that the Ombudsman had recommended that all Community/Town Councils should adopt a local resolution protocol. Members were also advised that Cllr Hutchinson recently attended the RCT Community Council Liaison Meeting and confirmed that RCT Council are also recommending the adoption of the Protocol.

In response to questions about the nature of conduct that could amount a breach of the code members were advised to refer to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales website which includes helpful guidance and advice on the Code and a yearly casebook.

Following consideration of the information provided it was moved and seconded that the Council should adopt the Model Local Resolution Protocol for Community / Town Councils as drafted by One Voice Wales. By a show of hands the motion was carried by the majority present.

RESOLVED : the Council adopt the Model Local Resolution Protocol for Community /Town Councils as drafted by One Voice Wales.

(e) UNIVERSAL CREDIT PRESENTATION

RESOLVED : the Council note that the CAB is attending Saint Mary and James' Church Hall on 23rd October to give a presentation on Universal Credit.

(f) BOUNDARY COMMISSION WALES 2018 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN WALES

RESOLVED : the Council note that the Commission has submitted its Report to the Minister for the Cabinet Office

(g) INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES (IRP)

Consideration was given to the information provided by GW in relation to the IRP Report finalised in February 2018. Members were reminded that the Council is a Group B Council for the purposes of the IRP Report. Members were informed that the Council was required to make a number of formal resolutions in relation to the Determinations contained in the final Report but to date the Council had not done so. Members were reminded that the mandatory allowance as specified in the IRP Report at Determination 44 had been paid by to all members, it was also confirmed that the requirements in relation to publication had been complied with. A number of members expressed that they had donated their personal allowance to various charitable organisations and asked that this information be noted and published. Members were asked to submit the relevant information to the Clerk. Each Determination as listed below in the IRP Report was moved and seconded and by a show of hands carried by the majority present

RESOLVED: Council agreed as Group B the following Determinations :-

(i) Determination 44 Approved Council to make a payment of £150 to each member for costs incurred in respect of telephone usage, IT and consumables. It was acknowledged that payment was received

(ii) Determination 47 not approved

(iii) Determination 48 not approved

(iv) Determination 49 not approved

(v) Determination 50 not approved

(vi) Determination 51 Approved Council to pay for the reimbursement of additional actual costs for the care of dependent children and adults up to a maximum sum of £403 per month on production of receipts from the carer

(vii) Determination 52 not approved

(viii) Determination 53 not approved

AND that any claims for travel to meetings and training approved by Council would be determined on a case by case basis.

(g) DEFIBRILLATOR PURCHASE

Consideration was given to the information provided by EP in relation to the investment in a Defibrillator proposed for purchase and siting at The Hub. It was confirmed that in addition to the sum of £995 for the Defibrillator (inclusive of training costs for users and a 7 year warranty) there was an additional cost in relation to the storage cupboard in the sum of £495.

It was confirmed that the Landlord's Agents have given consent for the unit to be fixed to the exterior of the The Hub. Members asked whether it was possible for staff from the adjacent Co - Op Store to attend the training included as part of the installation. It was confirmed that this would be possible subject to the staff being released from their duties to attend. Following consideration of the information presented it was moved and seconded that the Council approve the purchase of the Defibrillator and storage cupboard. By a show of hands the motion was carried unanimously and the Clerk instructed to progress the matter.

RESOLVED : The Council progress the purchase of the Defibrillator and storage cupboard from Welsh Hearts in the total sum of £1490

(h) REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018

It was moved and seconded that the Clerk be instructed to order 4 poppy wreaths from British Legion for Remembrance Day. By a show of hands this was carried unanimously

RESOLVED : The Council purchase four poppy wreaths for Remembrance Day 2018.

MINUTE 7/09/18 MEMBER'S REPORTS

Several members presented verbal updates in relation to ongoing issues in their local areas that had been previously reported. It was agreed that where necessary members would report the issues again direct to the Enforcement Officer or ask the Clerk to follow up as necessary.

Cllr. Lintern referred to the problems with the Ty Rhiw Bus Service 111, she confirmed that problems are still ongoing and referred to several dates in August when there had been travel problems. The Clerk confirmed that she would contact RCT again.

Cllr Timothy asked for it be formally minuted that the goal posts had now been installed.

The lack of police presence in the local area was mentioned. The Clerk was instructed to follow this up. Members were asked to encourage local residents to attend the local neighbourhood watch meetings.

Cllr J. Hutchinson confirmed that she had attended the RCT Community Council Liaison meeting and confirmed that a Report would be presented to the October meeting by GW.

Cllr J. Bonetto provided a brief update on County Council business with particular reference to the news that RCT has secured 21st Century Schools Funding to improve local schools. Further information available on the RCT website. An update in relation to the progress in connection with the new rail depot was provided.

MINUTE No: 8/09/18 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

(a) COMPLETION OF AUDIT REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2018

EP presented to members the external auditor's report in respect of the year ended 31st March. The attention of members was drawn to the fact that the Report was qualified as a result of the fact that the RFO failed to certify the Annual Return before the date of approval by Council. EP confirmed

that the certificate was dated with the same date as the Council meeting. It was also explained to members the External Auditors identified several issues that should be brought to the attention of the Council.

The issues related to the fact that the Council's Internal Auditor failed to produce a detailed report of work undertaken, the date of the certification of the Accounts as mentioned previously, a failure to provide signed copies of the Minutes and s137 Expenditure powers being used incorrectly. It was confirmed that further information on all of the issues mentioned in the Report would be presented to Council at its next meeting.

Members were advised that if the Council approves the Annual Return the completion of the Report should be published. It was moved and seconded that the Council notes the completion of the 2018 Audit and approve the Annual Return. By a show of hands the motion was carried unanimously by all members present and the Clerk instructed to conclude the publication requirements.

RESOLVED : The Council notes the completion of the 2018 Report and approve the Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2018.

(b) UPDATED FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented Members with updated details of balances within the Community Council's current and deposit accounts for July 2018. It was moved and seconded that the information be noted and by a show of hands this motion was carried unanimously

RESOLVED : The Council approves payment of the August/September 2018 accounts to the sum of £1526.38

(c) APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

As a result of the issues raised in relation to s137 expenditure mentioned above all applications for Financial Assistance were deferred for consideration at the meeting to be held in October.

MINUTE No: 8/09/18 –PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A late planning application was circulated Members it was **resolved** that the following observations be made known to the County Council.

15/0094/10 New dwelling and associated works 35 GLAN Y FFORDD TAFFS WEEL
Full consultation with neighbouring properties the Council raises no objection to this application.

MINUTE No. 9/07/18 – PUBLIC SESSION

No member of the public attended

MINUTE No. 10/07/18 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members agreed that the next meeting would be held on 31st October,2018. The venue would be finalised when the availability of the St Mary & St James's Church Hall was confirmed if the Church Hall was unavailable then the Pavilion could be used.

Members were reminded that GW would be presenting refresher training session on the Code of Conduct at 6.15pm prior to the meeting in October.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 9.10 pm.

SIGNED: DATE: