

Minutes of Taff's Well & Nantgarw Community Council held at:- Tawelfryn Community Centre Tuesday 22 February 2011

PRESENT: Cllrs: - J Bonetto (Chairman), Megan Jones, L Thomas, C Dyke, Pat Prothero, S Lintern, A Evans and C E Griffin

APOLOGIES, Cllrs: - Fred Meech, Tracy Williams and PCSO Christopher Roberts

Also present: Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson

MINUTE No: 1/2/11: DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declaration of interests disclosed.

MINUTE No: 2/2/11: POLICE MATTERS:

Apologies were submitted by PCSO Christopher Roberts who submitted the following:-

My apologies that I am unable to make tonight's meeting in Tawelfryn but I have prepared the following report of the last months activities in the area.

Our PACT priorities were:

1) Car crime in Taffs Well, the actions taken were that an operation took place during the month when a combination of uniformed and plain clothes officers targeted the area. This action combined with regular hi-viz patrols throughout the month in the area where damage had occurred resulted in there being no reports of vehicle damage in this area.

2) Parking issues, both in Taffs Well and Nantgarw, The actions taken were that warning notices were placed in business premises in Taffs Well. Fixed Penalty Notices were issued both in Taffs Well and Nantgarw and appropriate advice given to drivers attempting to park illegally.

3) A drugs warrant was served at a property in the Ty-Rhiw area and various paraphernalia associated with drug taking was seized at the property. Also an arrest was made in the Nantgarw/Tawelfryn area connected with various thefts of diesel over the past few months.

4) We ask householders to continue to be vigilant in regard to vehicles touting for scrap in the area and any registration details please pass them on to us.

Next month's PACT meeting, to be held in Ty Rhiw on March 24th will feature a visit from a sniffer dog trained in drug detection and a demonstration of the skills involved and we would like to see a really good turnout. The handlers are willing to answer questions on the problems that drug abuse is causing in the area and they will be happy to offer advice on the ways in which local residents can assist the police in dealing with this problem.

Resolved: That PCSO Roberts' report be received and noted

MINUTE NO: 3/2/11: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the meetings held on 25 January 2011 were confirmed as true records and signed by the Chairman:

MINUTE No: 4/2/11: MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

There were no matters arising from the minutes

MINUTE NO: 5/2/1 CLERK'S REPORT

PROPOSAL FOR THE RELOCATION OF TAFF'S WELL LIBRARY

The Clerk reported that the Chairman and Clerk along with other residents attended a meeting with County Council officials and the local County Councillor to formally complain about the lack of consultation on the proposals to relocate the local library.

At the meeting Council Officials explained the reasons for the decision which was primarily because of the structural condition of the existing building. Officers of RCT informed the group that the estimated cost of bringing the building up to the required health and safety standards would be in excess of £100,000.

In respect of the consultation process, officers pointed out that the local County Council Member, Councillor Adrian Hobson, had been consulted prior to the Cabinet report and had raised no objections. It was also confirmed that a copy of the Cabinet report was also sent to Councillor Hobson. However, as no representations or objections were made by the Council Member the report was confirmed. Following further debate officers of RCT agreed that, in hindsight, the consultation process could have been better and, as per local agreements, the Community Council should have been consulted.

Members of the representation group pointed out that a large section of the community would be disenfranchised by the relocation, particularly, the elderly and local primary school and requested that further consideration be given to providing a service that would allow these groups access at a local level. After further discussion it was agreed that a local working group be established to explore this matter and make recommendation on what facilities could be retained at a local level.

Resolved

Members to note the above report and agree to the Community Council's participation in the working group.

COMMUNITY CHARTER

Members gave consideration to the report on the "Community Charter" that was originally submitted to RCT Cabinet Members on the 12 January 2011.

The Clerk and Chair outlined the discussions that had taken place on this matter and gave a verbal report on the meeting that Community Council's had held with RCT on this matter.

The Clerk reported that assurances had been given that the "Charter" was a work in progress, and outlined the benefits of being a signatory to the Charter strongly recommending that the Community Council signs up to the proposals.

Resolved:

The Community Council welcomed the proposals and authorised the Chairman to sign the agreement on behalf of the Community Council and the active participation of the Community Council and its Clerk in further meetings associated with the development of the Community Charter.

SEWERS AT WEST VIEW, TY RHIW

At its last meeting Members requested that the Clerk try to ascertain who was responsible for the sewers in West View, Ty Rhiw. The Clerk had subsequently contacted the Environmental Health Department of RCT and had received the following reply:-

Dear Mr Allinson

I refer to your enquiry concerning ownership of sewer at West View Ty Rhiw. There are two types of sewers, public sewers that are maintained by Welsh Water and private sewers that are the responsibilities of those properties that derive benefit from that length of sewer. The sewers serving West View are private sewers.

In West View there is a mixture of RCT Homes properties and privately owned properties. Therefore depending on what section of sewer was blocked and what properties were connected to that particular length

of sewer will depend who was responsible for unblocking it. If the majority of the houses on the sewer line were RCT homes properties then RCT Homes normally will arrange to have the sewer unblocked.

If a further incident occurs initially the matter should be referred to RCT Homes 08453014141 for them to unblock. If they refuse to accept that it is their responsibility then the complaint should be referred to duty officer Public Health and they will be able to offer an opinion as to who is responsible. Public Health's number is 01443 425777.

In October 2011 most private sewers are going to revert to public sewers and will be the responsibility of Welsh Water. Their contact number is 08000853968

Resolved:

That the advice of the Public Health Officer be noted.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS – NEW WEBSITE FACILITY

The Clerk reported that RCT had introduced a new system that enables local Councils to access all plans, statements and drawings on planning applications in their area. This was particularly useful if Members require further information on a particular application or wanted to see how a particular application was progressing.

Details on how Council Members could access this information were distributed to all Members.

Resolved:

Members noted the above information

TAWELFRYN COMMUNITY CENTRE YOUTH CLUB

Members gave consideration to the above grant application submitted via Councillor Williams in November 2010. However due to the cancellation of the December meeting the application was not received and was therefore resubmitted for consideration.

The Clerk confirmed that the youth club did hold the Party for the Children and used Club funds in the hope that the delayed application would be successful.

Resolved:

That a grant of £250 be awarded to the Tawelfryn Community Centre Youth Club

TY RHIW PLAYGROUND

The Clerk reported that he had attended a further meeting with the officers of RCT in respect of the Community Council's wish to bring the above playground back into beneficial use. Following this meeting the Clerk received a letter confirming that the playground had been decommissioned and that the County Council were giving active consideration to disposing of the site for residential development.

The Clerk informed Members that officers of RCT had indicated that the preferred option would be for a social housing project, i.e. build a pair of semi detached pensioners bungalows on the site. Further discussions will be held with Leisure Services on this matter but it was clear that the site would not be re-commissioned as a playground.

Whilst clearly the final decision will be for the County Council, members were requested to consider if they have any comments on the proposals.

Resolved:

Members noted the content of the letter.

LAND AT TYLA GWYN/A468 - PLANNING APPLICATION NO 10/0847/13
HOTEL/PUBLIC HOUSE/RESTAURANT

The Clerk reminded Members that following the Community Council's objection to the above development the Council had resolved that if the application was rejected the Community Council be approached to see if the land could be used for additional allotments to serve the Nantgarw area.

However, RCT's Planning officer is now recommending that the application be approved and is in the process of selling the land to the developer. The Clerk informed Members that RCT appeared to have taken on board the Community Council's concern over parking and traffic movement and had made it a condition of the consent that traffic measures- no parking restrictions be introduced along the full extent of Tyla Gwyn. These costs would be met by the developer.

Resolved:

The above report be noted.

MINUTE No: 6/2/11 MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cllr J Bonetto

- Gave a brief report on the meeting that had taken place with County Council officers in respect of the library and the plans for a working group to examine what could be done to resolve the problems of local library users who would find difficulty using the proposed facility at Nantgarw.

Cllr C E. Griffin

- Informed Members that she had received a number of complaints about overhanging bushes that was restricting the width of the pavement in the vicinity of Railway Bridge on the Cardiff Road. In wet weather parents were faced with either getting wet from the bushes or forced into the road which was a safety hazard. The Member requested that the County Council be requested to look into this matter and take appropriate action.

Cllr Lynne Thomas

- Expressed concern about the number of potholes on Cardiff Road in Taff's Well, whilst some had been "repaired" the work was inadequate. All that appears to have been done was a little "tar" thrown into the potholes which was soon removed by vehicular traffic. It was agreed that this matter would be brought to the attention of the highway's Department.

Cllr. C Dyke MBE

- Requested that the allotments committee be contacted and requested to include the name of Mr Ian Randle, 9 Toghill Drive be included on the waiting list for an allotment plot.
- Requested that the County Council be contacted and asked what plans exist to improve the facilities at Taff's Well Spa.
- Requested that the County Council's Traffic Section be asked to extend the white lines on Ty Rhiw Hill into the estate as there had been a number of cases where vehicles had gone onto the wrong side of the Road when approaching the top of the hill.
- Informed Members that at the PACT meeting, to be held at Ty Rhiw Community Centre on March 24th will feature a visit from a sniffer dog trained in drug detection, this will include a demonstration of the skills involved. The Member requested that this information be placed of the Community Council's Website.

Cllr Sandra Lintern

- Informed Members that she had been approached by residents of the flats, on the junction of Heol y Dderwen and Tyr Waun to ask if parking restrictions could be placed outside of the flats as car users using it an “all day parking area”. It was suspected that was because of the parking restrictions at the College site. Vehicles were parked on both sides of the road making it a dangerous corner. It was agreed that this matter would be brought to the attention of the County Council’s Traffic management team.
- Expressed concern over the poor condition of the pavements in Yr Hendre, which was particularly poor in the vicinity of 61 Yr Hendre. It was agreed that this matter be brought to the attention of the County Council.
- Requested that the County Council be asked to clean the “upside” bus shelter on the A488 Caerphilly Road at the junction of Heol y Dderwen.

Cllr Megan Jones

- Once again raised the issue of the difficulties users were having because of the extremely poor state of the footpaths in Brynau Woods. The Clerk confirmed that he had raised this issue with the County Council and had asked for information, under the freedom of information act, for specific information on what plans the County Council had to improve these facilities. It was hoped that this information would be available for the next meeting.

Cllr P Protheroe

- Informed Members that a large tree trunk had been uprooted and was blocking the footpath in Brynau wood. It was agreed that the Clerk would bring this matter to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

MINUTE No; 7/2/1 FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

Resolved:

1. Members approved payment of the February accounts in the sum of £1,444.82 this included a grant of £250 for the Tawelfryn Youth Club approved under minute No.5/2/11

MINUTE No: 8/2/11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

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

11/0014/10	Mr D V James Taff's Well F C 22 Brynau Road Taffs Well CF15 7SA	Erect 138 seat stand on 1m high block work base at: TAFF'S WELL FOOTBALL CLUB, RHIWDDA, PARISH ROAD TAFF'S WELL, CF15 7PW	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
11/0019/10	RCT Homes Ltd Ty Pennant Mill Street Pontypridd CF37 2SW	To provide off road parking for 4 number vehicles including one disabled space within existing curtilage of the properties located at: FLATS 135 - 141 CARDIFF ROAD, TAFFS WELL, CF15 7PP	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application

11/0088/10	Mr R Forward 24 Yr Hendre Nantgarw Cardiff	Erect 2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension at: 14 HEOL-Y-COED TAWELFRYN NANTGARW, CF15 7UE	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
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MINUTE No: 9/2/11 PUBLIC SESSION:

No Members of the Public were present at the meeting

MINUTE No; 10/2/11 Date of Next Meeting

The Council confirmed that in future meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting of the Community Council would be held on Tuesday 22 March 2011 at Saints Mary and James Church Hall, Taff's Well commencing 7pm.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8. 35.

SIGNED:.....

DATE:.....