

## **Minutes of Taff's Well & Nantgarw Community Council held at:- Ty Rhiw Community Centre Tuesday 26 April 2011**

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

**APOLOGIES,** Cllrs: - Fred Meech, Tracy Williams and A Evans

**Also present:** Clerk to the Council Derek Allinson and PCSO Christopher Roberts

### **MINUTE No: 1/4/11: DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

No declaration of interests disclosed.

### **MINUTE No: 2/4/11: POLICE MATTERS:**

PCSO Christopher Roberts informed members of the new policing arrangements for the area which were as follows:-.

- PC Lee Parsons is the NBM for Rhydyfelin/Hawthorn/Taff's Well.
- David Lott is the PCSO for Taff's Well
- PC Richard Williams is the NBM for Graig/Treforest/Nantgarw
- Christopher Roberts will be the PCSO for Nantgarw
- Whilst the PCSOs have designated areas it is expected that the PCSOs will share responsibility for the two areas rather than separating them.

#### **Other Issues:**

- The officer had attended a "Break in" at the Carpet shop Nantgarw. Whilst no arrests had been made advice had been offered to this and other businesses on the need for improved security monitoring.
- Informed members that an individual, well know to the police, had been charged with using "red/agricultural diesel" in a private vehicle. HM Customs and Excise take a very serious view on this type of offence and the car could be confiscated.
- The last PACT meeting was very well attended. At the meeting there was a dog handler and two police dogs, one trained for drug detection and the other a more general purpose dog.

#### **PACT Priorities**

- Scramble/Trail motorbikes incidents on the Taff Trail. This type of offence was notoriously difficult to deal with but priority action would be taken this month in an effort to reduce the nuisance caused to local residents.
- There was still a problem with vehicles parking indiscriminately in the Taff's Well Area. This was an ongoing problem and would continue as a priority this month

#### **Member issues**

Cllr Lintern expressed concern over the number of vehicles making U turns at the traffic lights at the entrance to Tawelfryn. The officer agreed to look into this matter.

**Resolved:** That PCSO Roberts be thanked for his report.

### **MINUTE NO: 3/4/11: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The minutes of the meetings held on 22 March 2011 were confirmed as true records and signed by the Chairman:

## **MINUTE No: 4/4/11: MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

## **MINUTE NO: 5/4/1 CLERK'S REPORT**

### **REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF USE OF GRANT AID FUNDING**

Members gave consideration to an email received from the Community Garden Project requesting the Council's permission to change the use of a "unused" grant awarded by the Community Council.

The Clerk reported that: the main purpose of the original grant was to support a "local community activity". the new request was still for a "local community activity" consequently there was little material change from the original proposal.

#### **Resolved:**

That approval be given to change the use of the previous grant.

### **ANNUAL RENEWAL OF WEBSITE DOMAIN NAME**

Members received a copy of an invoice from Calico UK in respect of the annual renewal/registration of the Community Council's Website. The annual cost being £18.00

Members were requested to approve this expenditure.

#### **Resolved:**

That the above expenditure be approved.

### **USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The Clerk reported on the increased use of the internet/information technology in conducting council business. Almost all communications, from local and national government departments are now sent via email and in some cases, Inland Revenue etc, returns must be sent electronically. In addition, almost all consultation documents and reports are now sent out electronically.

It had become clear that Members who were not on the internet are disadvantaged both in the information that is available to them and discussions/consultations that take place with government organisations.

One way that the Community Council can improve its communications/efficiency is to provide each Member, who requests one, a laptop computer. It is recognised that not all members will want to use this facility, in such cases and where possible, communications would still be sent by post.

The Clerk emphasised that ALL members would still receive the Council agenda and reports as "hard copies" and that there was no intention changing this system.

In respect of ownership the computers would remain in the ownership of the Community Council and would need to be returned should a Member leave the authority.

#### **Resolved:**

Whilst Members recognised the increased use of information technology as an important aid to communication it was concerned that such expenditure, at a time of economic restraint, would be inappropriate. It was therefore agreed not to proceed with this matter at the present time.

### **ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP**

The Clerk reported that the Community Council had received a request for clarification as to whether an individual allotment holder is legally required to be a member of the allotment association.

The Clerk had taken advice on this matter and had been informed that "it would be a breach of an individuals human rights" to impose such a condition.

However, the Community Council can insist that allotment holders must still abide by ALL decisions take by the association as these are considered to be powers delegated to the association by the authority. In addition, there is a requirement that allotment holders are covered by public liability insurance. The Council has been informed that the allotment association's public liability insurance only covers members of the association consequently an allotment holder, who was not a member of the association, would need to arrange their own insurance cover and display a copy of the insurance certificate on their site.

The Clerk has written back to the individual concerned clarifying the matter but would write again in respect of the need for individual public liability cover .

**Resolved :**

- 1) That the advice sought on this matter be noted
- 2) That the Clerk write to the complainant outlining the above report.

**APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Members gave consideration to a request for grant aid assistance from the Taff's Well OAP Association.

**Resolved:**

That a grant of £250 be awarded to the Taff's Well OAP Association.

**ROYAL WEDDING - FFYNNON TAF PRIMARY SCHOOL**

At a previous meeting Members agreed, in principle, to provide funding to the local primary school to celebrate the Royal Wedding. It was agreed that the chairman would liaise with the headmaster and establish what action the school was taking in this matter.

The Clerk reported that the chairman had now met with the headmaster and established that the school, via the Parents and Friends Association, will be "marking the event" with a party and gift for each child.

Given that this event will take place before our next meeting the chairman had, with the approval of the Clerk, used her plenary powers to provide a £500 donation to the PFA so that gifts can be purchased prior to the event.

**Resolved:**

Members noted and endorsed this expenditure.

**MINUTE No: 6/4/11 MEMBERS' REPORTS**

**Cllr. C Dyke MBE**

- Expressed concern that, despite a site visit, RCT Homes had not yet reported on its findings into who was responsible for the drains in West View. The Clerk agreed that he would once again pursue this matter.
- Asked if the Clerk would once again write to the County Council and request information on what plans there were to improve/replace the bus shelters in Taff's Well and Nantagrwl
- Asked that the County Council be contacted in respect of the "unsafe" headstones in the two graveyards in Taff's Well.
- **Sandra Lintern**
- Informed Members about a problem with the sewers
- Expressed concern that vehicles were making U Turns at the traffic lights on junction of the Tawelfryn estate. The PCSO had agreed that they would look into this matter.

- Reported the concerns of the residents of 6 houses on Queensway who had, following an incident of a blocked drain, been informed that the connection to the main drain, some 30 metres away was the responsibility of the houses in Queensway. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Welsh Water and seek clarification on this issue.

**Cllr Megan Jones**

- Reported that, following a complaint to the manager of Castle House concerning the amount of cigarette ends discarded on the pavement by people smoking outside of the premises, there did seem to be an improvement. This member will continue to monitor the situation and inform the Clerk if further action is required.

**Jill Bonetto**

- Asked if any progress had been made in respect of the suggestion, by Mrs Margaret Jones, that her group would be interested in participating in a project to improve the village / area, particularly the idea of a hanging basket competition and best garden competition. The Clerk confirmed that he had written to Mrs Jones on this matter and, sent a grant application form for her group, but, to date no reply or grant application had been received.
- Reported that following the complaint made at the last meeting, in respect of the No 18 Bus services to Hill Side Park the member had visited the site and confirmed that it was impossible for "normal buses" to turn at the top of the hill. The member had spoken to the bus company and whilst sympathetic confirmed that because of "timetabling" arrangements it was not always possible to have one of the smaller buses on the route.

**Lynne Thomas**

- Requested that the Clerk contact the County Council's Fly-tipping department and ask if they would remove the rubbish that had been tipped on the Community Garden site.

**MINUTE No: 7/4/1 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 April accounts in the sum of £2308.53 this includes a grant of £250 to Taff's Well OAP group approved under minute No.5/4/11

**MINUTE No: 8/4/11 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

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

11/0346/10	Ms Yvonne Mcinnes 117 Glan-y-Ffordd Taff's Well Cardiff CF15 7SP	Erect single storey extension to side and rear of property containing sun lounge and shower Room at: 117 GLAN-Y-FFORDD TAFF'S WELL CARDIFF CF15 7SP	Subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
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11/0401/10	Mr D Nash 49 Yr Hendre Nantgarw Cardiff CF15 7TG	Erect fence around boundary of property at: 49 YR HENDRE NANTGARW CARDIFF CF15 7TG	The Community Council notes that the fence has already been erected. However, subject to full consultation with neighbouring properties the Community Council would raise no objection to this application
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**MINUTE No: 9/4/11 PUBLIC SESSION:**

No Members of the public raised any items

**MINUTE No; 10/4/11 Date of Next Meeting**

The AGM of the Community Council will be held on Tuesday 24 May 2011 at Ty Rhiw Community Centre commencing 6.30 pm. This will be followed by the ordinary meeting of the Council which will commence no earlier than 7 .00 pm

With no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.25 pm.

**SIGNED:.....**

**DATE:.....**