

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT RHIWFAWR HALL ON
WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL 2011 AT 6.30 P.M.**

- PRESENT:** Councillor M Jones (Chairman) presided
COUNCILLORS: R Evans, C Jones, M C Jones, D Lloyd, D C Phillips, J C Rees
D B Thomas and S Williams.
- ATTENDING:** Councillor C E Richards, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

140. APOLOGIES

Apologies for their absence were received from Councillors M Evans and V B Fox.

141. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this juncture.

142. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council, held on the 16th March 2011, be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

143. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 128(a) – Western Valleys Strategic Regeneration Area

The Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting of the Swansea Valley Forum on the 24th March 2011. A presentation had been given by Marjorie Bartlett, Regional Manager of South West Workways on the initiative which had been based on the successful Neath Port Talbot Transitional Employment Initiative. The project would be delivered across Neath Port Talbot, Swansea, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire. Details were circulated of the scheme which provided support for the Economically Inactive, JSA claimants - unemployed 12 months (Flexible New Deal) and Future Jobs Fund - unemployed over 6 months. Chris Ashman, Programme Director of the Western Valleys SRA had provided information on the budget for 2011/12 which had been reduced to £5.5 million but the time span had been extended.

Resolved that the report be noted

(b) Minute 128(b) – Cemetery Development

It was reported that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Clerk had met with Mr Russell Dobbins, the Welsh Assembly Government Fund Manager for the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund on the 29th March 2011. Feedback had been received on the panel's assessment of the Council's application and a revised application would accordingly be submitted for consideration at the next meeting of the panel.

Resolved that the report be noted.

(c) Minute 128(c) - Bumblebee Project – Rhiwfawr Park

It was reported that the area designated as a wildflower meadow had been seeded on the 8th April and that pupils of Rhiwfawr Primary School had participated in the project. It was also reported that, the Chairperson, Councillor M Jones and the Clerk had met with officers of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council on the 19th April to discuss the maintenance of the wetland area and the offer that they had made to engage a contractor at no cost to the Council in order to remove willow scrub seedlings from the marshy grassland and other work including removal and thinning of some larger willows, a rhododendron and some ash saplings. A ditch would also be blocked so as improve the pond area.

Resolved that the offer received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council for the abovementioned maintenance work to be carried out at no cost to the Council be accepted and that the Council's appreciation be conveyed to the officers concerned.

(d) Minute 128(d) – Development of Tennis Courts, Gwilym Road

Resolved that it be noted that Councillor C E Richards and an officer of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council would meet with the Clerk of the Council in early May to discuss the measures necessary to enable the proposed development to take place.

(e) Minute 135 - One Voice Wales – National Training Programme

Resolved that the further information received from One Voice Wales on the Bursary scheme for Councillor training be noted.

(f) Minute 139 – Inspector Dean Thomas

Resolved that it be noted that inspector Thomas had agreed to attend the meeting of the Council to be held on the 15th June 2011.

144. ONE VOICE WALES – ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND GENERAL MEETING

Resolved that the invitation received from One Voice Wales for the Council to be represented at the conference which would be held at Pontrhydfendigaid on the 8th October 2011, be noted.

145. WELSH FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY – EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STRATEGY 2011

Resolved that the invitation received from the Welsh Assembly Government for the Council to comment on the above draft strategy be noted.

146. PEOPLE AND ARTS IN NEATH PORT TALBOT

An invitation was received from Trilein Ltd for the Council to be represented at a forthcoming meeting which had been commissioned by Neath Port Talbot Council to help shape future Arts provision.

Resolved that the matter be referred to Councillor M C Jones to consider whether to represent the Council.

147. KEEP WALES TIDY INITIATIVE MAY 2011

Information on the above initiative was received from South Wales Police. The Clerk reported that he had suggested to PCSO R Thomas that he may wish to liaise with the schools concerning the matter.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

148. PROPOSED BUS SERVICE CHANGES

A letter dated 23rd March 2011 was received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in which details were given of changes that had come into effect on the 18th April. The services did not however seem to affect the community.

Resolved that the information be noted.

149. WESTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION – STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

Resolved that the invitation received for the Council to be represented at a forthcoming workshop be noted.

150. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Audit of Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2011.

A notification was received from Mazars, the Council's Auditors that the appointed date for the audit of accounts for the year ended 31st March 2011 was the 30th September 2011.

Resolved that the necessary arrangements be made for the audit and the submission of the Annual Return.

(b) Applications for Financial Assistance

Consideration was given to applications for financial assistance including those deferred until this financial year.

Resolved that:

1. grants in the following sums be made to the following organisation:

| | |
|--|--------|
| Cwmllynfell Hall | £6,000 |
| Powys Citizens' Advice Bureau, Ystradgynlais | £200 |

2. grants in the following sums be made to the under-mentioned and the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 incurs the expenditure which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area or of its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:

| | |
|---|------|
| Y Boblen – Royal Wedding “Street Party” | £100 |
| Marie Curie Cancer Care South West Wales | £200 |
| Royal British Legion – Battle Back Appeal | £15 |

3. the following application be not entertained:

Mencap Cymru

(c) Grass Cutting 2011 Season

A communication dated 18th April 2011 was received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council quoting the sum of £3,805.86 for carrying out the Council's grass cutting requirements for the 2011 season, made up as follows (4 cuts during season other than as indicated below):

| | | |
|---|--|-----------------|
| 1 | Cemetery including herbicide alongside roadway | £2,556.16 |
| 2 | Cwmllynfell Chapel Grounds (inc Watcyn Wyn memorial) | 346.48 |
| 3 | Rhiwfawr Park (Note: – Former bowling green and play area - fortnightly cut), (Remainder excluding wildflower meadow but including Wetland area alongside paths – 4cuts), Wildflower meadow 2 cuts | 737.62 |
| 5 | Litter Picking and herbicide application | 165.60 |
| | Total | <u>3,805.86</u> |

Resolved that the quotation received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in the sum of £3,805.86 be accepted;

(d) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that the following accounts be paid:

| No | | | £ |
|------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| 1517 | Cwmllynfell Hall | Grant | 6,000.00 |
| 1518 | Powys CAB - Ystradgynlais | Grant | 200.00 |
| 1519 | N Evans – Y Boblen | Grant – Street Party | 100.00 |
| 1520 | Marie Curie Cancer Care | Grant | 200.00 |
| 1521 | Royal British Legion Appeal | Grant | 15.00 |
| 1522 | Payroll | Net salary March | 212.11 |
| 1523 | Inland Revenue | Income Tax | 53.03 |

151. PLANNING MATTERS

Resolved that consideration of the following planning application be deferred pending the receipt of further information from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council:

App No:

P2011/0250 Proposed restoration and aftercare details under condition 61 9schedule B) and condition 62 (schedule C) of planning permission ref: APP-185-07-14 in respect of the East Pit East Opencast Coal Site

152. MEMORIAL TREE – CWMLLYNFELL CEMETERY

Note: Councillor D C Phillips declared his personal interest in this matter and withdrew from the meeting whilst it was being considered.

Further to Minute 121 of the meeting of the Council held on the 16th February 2011, it was reported that Councillors J C Rees and D B Thomas had met at the cemetery to consider the request received from Major G A Ervine for permission

to plant a silver birch tree at the cemetery in memory of family members. It had been decided to recommend that permission be granted for the tree to be planted in line with other trees near the south western corner of the cemetery. Advice had been received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's arboriculturist that the tree should be planted no nearer than two metres from the boundary wall.

Resolved that permission be granted to Major Ervine to plant a silver birch tree in the location described but no nearer than two metres from the boundary wall.

153. REPORTS

The following matters were reported:

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|
| • South Wales Police Statistics – February | All Crime, viz: | 3 |
| | Burglary | 1 |
| | Anti Social Behaviour | 1 |
| | Other Crime | 1 |

Noted that these above statistics had been collected by the revised accounting method and they included areas within Carmarthenshire;

- Damaged street name sign – Ochrywaun;
- Welsh Water Inspection cover displaced– Railway Terrace;
- Tree felling Penybryn by Celtic Energy – debris left;
- Request by Rhiwfawr Hall for permission to remove hawthorn bushes near hall;
- Footway Gwernant – root damage.

Councillor C E Richards also reported on various issues, including:

- East Pit East OCCS – Liaison Committee – distribution of community grants;
- Rhiwfawr Hall awarded grant towards improvements;
- School Improvement programme – proposed closure of Rhiwfawr school referred to the Welsh Assembly Government;
- Animal Tress fencing – awaiting Welsh Assembly Government approval to Section 194 application;
- Waiting restrictions near Railway Terrace imminent.

Resolved that:

1. the reports be noted;
2. Rhiwfawr Community Association be permitted to remove the hawthorn bushes near Rhiwfawr Hall;

The meeting terminated at 8.00pm.