

**CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE CWMLLYNFELL HALL  
ON THURSDAY 19<sup>th</sup> JULY 2012 AT 6.30 P.M.**

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

**37. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their absence were received from Councillors M Evans and T H J Kendrick.

**38. MINUTES**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**39. MATTERS ARISING**

**(a) Minutes 29(a) - Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park**

It was reported that a meeting had been held with representatives of Wicksteed Leisure Ltd on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2012 to discuss the final details of the proposed contract including the position of all fencing. A revised quotation in the sum of £122,450 had accordingly been received which had taken into account an alternative access for contractor's vehicles and adjustments to maintain the cost of the scheme within the grant funded budget that was available to the Council after other costs such as the fees imposed by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council had been taken into account.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council had also provided photographs of the condition of the access lane which were intended to be inserted into the lease as a schedule of condition in respect of which the County Borough Council would undertake to maintain the access lane in no worse a condition than evidenced by the photographs. The photographs however showed the access in a condition that was not acceptable or safe to be used as an access to the proposed play area. Currently the access was in a worse condition than that evidenced in the photographs as there was a mass of weeds covering much of the paved area and some debris had been left close to the access lane together with protruding bolts where a fixture had been removed.

The Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation had granted its consent to the grant of the lease by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to the Community Council. The draft lease received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council had accordingly been submitted to One Voice Wales so that legal advice could be obtained on its contents.

Whereupon the meeting of the Council stood adjourned so that members of the Council could view the proposed play areas site, examine the condition of the

access and discuss the position of all fencing including the proposed wall and railings that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council had undertaken to provide on the side adjoining Gwilym Road.

Following the site inspection the Council discussed the details of the scheme, position of fencing and viewed the artist's impression that Wicksteed Leisure Ltd had provided. The condition of the access lane and the work that the County Borough Council should undertake before compiling photographic evidence of the condition was also discussed.

**Resolved** that:

1. the design of the scheme, and the proposed position of fencing, walls and railings be accepted as being acceptable for the proposed play area;
2. subject to the legal advice on the contents of the lease being favourable and to a revised photographic schedule of condition being provided that the lease with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council be entered into so that the grant providers may authorise the placing of an order with Wicksteed Ltd for carrying out the scheme.

#### **(b) Minute 31 - East Pit Regeneration – Community Engagement Programme**

A notification had been received from SLR Consulting Ltd that further public exhibitions and consultations would take place in connection with the proposals for the restoration of the East Pit Opencast Coal Site which included an extension of time and expansion of the site. Details of the proposals were on display at Cwmllynfell Hall during the current week and a representative of SLR Consulting Ltd had been present on the 16<sup>th</sup> July to answer questions and discuss the proposals.

A response dated 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012 had been received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in respect of the issues that the Community Council had raised regarding the current restoration proposals vis-à-vis the conditions imposed in the planning permission granted in 2004. The County Borough Council had indicated that the 2004 consent was the current enforceable permission which had a requirement to restore in accordance with the restoration strategy set out in the application. The County Borough Council had however been approached by SLR Consulting Ltd on behalf of the owners of the site with a view to entering into a dialogue on the current circumstances at the site and the need to seek approval for an extension of the period of coaling after November 2012. If a planning application was submitted broadly within the features currently being publicised by SLR Consulting Ltd it would have to be considered on its own merits.

A copy of the conditions imposed in the 2004 planning permission and the schedules relating to the restoration and reinstatement together with extracts from the Environmental Statement referred to in the planning conditions had been circulated to members of the Council prior to this meeting

A further communication dated 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012 was also received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council giving notification that SLR Consulting Ltd had submitted a Scoping Request in respect of the proposed restoration strategy which required the County Borough Council to give its opinion on the information to be

provided in the Environmental Statement that would accompany the planning application in respect of the proposed scheme.

**Resolved** that:

1. SLR Consulting Ltd be informed that Cwmllynfell Community Council expects to see restoration and reinstatement of the site in compliance with the planning permission granted in 2004 and as detailed in Schedule B and C and the Environmental Statement submitted with that application but to include alternative proposals to:
  - (a) improve communications by road, rail, cycleway and footpath between Gwaun Cae Gurwen and Cwmllynfell and;
  - (b) selective redevelopment that is sympathetic to the environs to attract inward investment and the creation of employment in tourism and other suitable industry.
2. the Council's views be also forwarded to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Peter Hain MP, Mrs Gwenda Thomas AM and the First Minister Mr Carwyn Jones AM who had been the Chair of the Planning Decision Committee of the National Assembly that had granted planning permission for the current development in 2004;
3. in respect of the current Scoping Request, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council be informed that the Community Council expects the County Borough Council to require that a full and detailed Environmental Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment to be carried out.

**(c) Minute 35(d) – Banking**

It was reported that the rate of interest being offered by Nat West for a 12 months fixed interest bond was 3%.

**Resolved**, in view of the fact that the Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park scheme is due to commence in the near future, that the amount to be placed on deposit be limited to £10,000.

**(d) Minute 46 – Cemetery Gates**

It was reported that Councillor C E Richards had arranged for the necessary repairs to the stone pillar to be carried out. Councillor J C Rees had carried out measures to enable the gates to be held in the open position. Angharad Pearce Jones had also indicated that she had carried out a routine post installation inspection of the gates and that she intended to tighten or replace bolts on the small gates to rectify movement in the hinge. She would also install plates for the drop bolts on the large gates.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and the participants thanked for their action.

**40. CORRESPONDENCE**

**Resolved** that the following items of correspondence be noted:

- Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> June 2012 from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council regarding the next meeting of the Liaison Forum on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2012;
- Letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> June 2012 from Scouts Wales regarding a study into the impact of Scouting;
- Letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012 from the Welsh Government regarding the Birthday 2013 Honours List;
- Media Release dated 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012 regarding the Neath Port Talbot Hospital;
- Trip to “Edible Todmorden” – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2012

#### **41. CONSULTATION PAPER ON PAYMENTS BY PARISH AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND CHARTER TRUSTEES**

A consultation paper was received from the Department for Communities and Local Government in respect of proposals to repeal legislation that places restrictions on parish councils in England and community councils in Wales when making payments. Currently every cheque or order for the payment of money had to be signed by two members of the council. The proposed change would allow councils to adopt modern methods of payment.

**Resolved** that it be agreed that the two signature rule should be removed from legislation and as such the proposed measures be supported.

#### **42. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **(a) Applications for Financial Assistance**

Consideration was given to applications for financial assistance.

**Resolved** that:

1. a grant in the following sum be made to the under-mentioned organisation:

Cwmllynfell Rugby Club    £500

2. it be agreed in principle that a grant be made towards the cost of the under-named attending the Special Olympics National Summer Games 2013 but that the applicant be informed that the Afan Gymnastics Club should apply on his behalf and also provide details of the costs that will be incurred by the applicant in attending the games together with details of any other financial assistance that has already been provided by other organisations:

Daniel Johnson, Cwmllynfell

##### **(b) Payment of Accounts**

**Resolved** that the following accounts be paid:

	No		£
	1594	Cwmllynfell RFC	500.00
		Grant	

1595	Ramblers' Association	Subscription	95.00
1596	Payroll	Net Salary June	212.11
1597	Inland Revenue	Income Tax	53.03
1598	Payroll	Net Salary July	212.11
1599	Inland Revenue	Income Tax	53.03

#### **43. PLANNING MATTERS**

##### **(a) Planning Application**

**Resolved** that no objection be raised to the following planning application:

App No:

P2012/0369 Proposed garage at 26 Ochrywaun, Cwmllynfell

##### **(b) Proposed Atlantic Array Offshore Wind Farm**

**Resolved** that the letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012 from RWE npower renewables in which notice was given of the pre-application consultation on the above proposal be noted.

#### **44. DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS – AUGUST RECESS**

**Resolved** that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, acting together, or in the event of their being unavailable any other two Members of the Council, acting together, be authorised to discharge the functions of the Council in respect of any matter referred to them by the Clerk of the Council as requiring urgent attention before the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

#### **45. NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**Resolved** that the date of the next ordinary meeting of the Council be changed to the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

#### **46. REPORTS**

The following matters were also reported:

South Wales Police Statistics (Note: Statistics include Cefn Bryn Brain and Ystradowen)	All Crime (see categories below)	May	5
	Anti Social Behaviour		2
	Criminal damage and Arson		2
	Other theft		1

- PACT – next meeting Cwmllynfell Hall 9<sup>th</sup> August 2012;
- Diversion – bridge replacement Lower Cwmtwrch;
- Cemetery – plots for ashes;

Councillor C E Richards reported on County Borough Council matters, including the following:

- Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park – appreciation for co-operation;
- Proposed animal trespass fencing – report of meeting held at National Assembly – site meeting pending;

The meeting terminated at 8.20pm.