

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE RHIWFAWR HALL
ON THURSDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 6.30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillor R Evans (Vice Chairman) presided
COUNCILLORS: R M Davies, T H J Kendrick, J C Rees, D B Thomas and S Williams.

47. APOLOGIES

Apologies for their absence were received from Councillors M Evans, M Jones, D Lloyd, R P Morgan, D C Phillips and C E Richards (Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council)

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this juncture.

49. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 19th July 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

50. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 39(a) - Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park

It was reported that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had signed the lease on the 29th August 2012 following expiry of the notice that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council had served under the Landlord and Tenant Act. Copies of the lease had been provided to the Welsh Government (ALFW) and WREN in order to satisfy the grant requirements. Approval to commence the project had been received from the Welsh Government (ALFW) but WREN required details of the agreement between the Council and Cwmllynfell Hall with regard to the day to day management of the facility. The Chairman and the Clerk had met the previous day with representatives of the Hall Committee who had agreed to write to WREN outlining their commitment to co-operate with regard to the management arrangements. As soon as the WREN's approval to commence the project had been received an order would be placed with Wicksteed following which there would be a 6-8 week lead in period to the commencement of the project.

Resolved that the report be noted and the action taken be approved and the

(b) Minute 39(b) - East Pit Regeneration – Community Engagement Programme

A letter dated 21st August 2012 was received from SLR Consulting Ltd in which it was indicated that the information presented thus far represented a set of concepts that they would like to develop into a new planning application to plan ahead for the closure of the site in such a manner that provided the best possible opportunity to create a sustainable development for the area.

They claimed to be pleased with the public response to their project and also claimed that a very favourable response had been received from the Design Commission for Wales.

SLR also addressed the points that had been made on behalf of the Community Council in a letter dated 17th August 2012. They acknowledged that they intended to submit a new planning application that would supersede the 2004 permission and claimed, inter alia, that the new application would be vastly superior in terms of its environmental response as well as its wider socio-economic benefits. They dismissed the representations that had been made by the Council that the proposals as drawn up were disingenuous in view of their obvious failure to fulfil the requirements of the planning permission.

An acknowledgement to the Council's representations had been received from the office of the First Minister Mr Carwyn Jones in which it was indicated that a response would be made by the 13th September 2012 but no such response had been received. An acknowledgement had also be received from Mrs Gwenda Thomas AM's office and a letter of acknowledgement had been received from the Rt Hon peter Hain MP in which he requested to be kept informed about the issue.

Resolved that the First Minister be reminded that he had not provided the promised response and copies be sent to the other correspondents.

(c) Minute 44 - Delegation Arrangements – August Recess

It was reported that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had met on the 29th August 2012 and the following action had been taken under the plenary powers conferred in minute 44 of the last meeting:

Payment of Account No: 1600 Playsafety Ltd £75.60

Planning Applications -

- } Retention of static caravan for two years during
- } construction of dwelling – 24-25 Ochrywaun
- } P2012/0041
- No objections } Detached dwelling - land adjacent to former 24-25
- } Ochrywaun P2012/0366
- } One dwelling – land adjacent to 52 Rhiw Road
- } P2012/0672

Neath Port Talbot LDP – Places reserved for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to attend Swansea Valley stakeholders meeting Cwmllynfell Hall 25/9/12

Resolved that:

1. the matter be noted;
2. substitute representatives be authorised to attend the Stakeholders' meeting on the 25th September if the appointed representatives are unable to attend.

51. RoSPA – ANNUAL INSPECTION – RHIWFAWR PARK

The annual safety inspection report in respect of the park at Rhiwfawr was received from RoSPA. Overall, the report was favourable and the only action recommended was as follows:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Report</u>	<u>Recommended Action</u>
BMX track	Safety Zone – obstacles comprising fence at side of track	Discuss with the manufacturer or supplier
Multi-play area	The equipment failed to meet the requirement of the relevant standard due to the possibility of entrapment	Monitor and check on routine basis
Safety surfacing Swing – toddler	Debris Metal – paintwork not in good condition	Remove debris De-rust and coat with paint meeting EN 1176 – 4.1.1 [1998]
Safety surfacing	Surface depression of at least 25mm over 600mm	Monitor hollow under surface

Resolved that:

1. the report be noted and the recommended action taken;
2. RoSPA be informed prior to the next inspection that the area referred to in the report concerning the BMX facility is the return track and that RoSPA had been consulted with regard to the design prior to construction.

52. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES

A letter dated 2nd August 2012 was received from the above panel together with the draft report for 2013/14. The report referred to the fact that the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 had extended the remit of the panel to include payments to members of community and town councils.

Resolved that the panel be informed that the Council supports the principles outlined in the report.

53. TACKLING POVERTY ACTION PLAN 2012-2016

Resolved that the notification dated 6th August 2012 from the Welsh Government that the above action plan had been launched on the 25th June 2012 be noted.

54. ONE VOICE WALES – MOTIONS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE – 13th OCTOBER 2012

Resolved that the letter dated 17th August 2012 from One Voice Wales giving details of the motions that had been selected for debate in the Conference and Annual General Meeting be noted.

55. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS AND VOLUNTEER AWARDS 2012

Resolved that the communications received from the South Wales Police Authority outlining the arrangement for the election of Police Commissioners on the 15th November 2012 and inviting nominations for the Community Safety Volunteer Awards be noted.

56. STATUTORY GUIDANCE – POWER TO PROMOTE OR IMPROVE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING

A communication was received from One Voice Wales referring to the above guidance that had been distributed. Responses thereto were invited by the 23rd November 2012.

Resolved that consideration of the matter be deferred.

57. ONE VOICE WALES – RESEARCH STUDY – THE POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A questionnaire was received from One Voice Wales inviting member councils to participate in the above research study.

Resolved that the responses determined at the meeting be submitted in the completed questionnaire.

58. CITIZEN PANELS FOR SOCIAL SERVICES IN WALES

Resolved that the communication received from One Voice Wales outlining the arrangements for setting up Citizen Panels for Social Services in Wales be noted.

59. ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2012

Resolved that the notification received from Neath Port Talbot CVS in respect of nominations for the Environment Awards 2012 be noted.

60. NEATH PORT TALBOT CREDIT UNION

A letter dated 11th September 2012 was received from the Neath Port Talbot Credit Union outlining its success as a credit union and offering to attend a meeting of the Council.

Resolved that a representative of the Credit Union be invited to attend a future meeting.

61. ONE VOICE WALES TRAINING

Resolved that the invitation received for the Council to be represented at a training course on the Council meeting be noted.

62. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Annual Return of Accounts 2011/12

A letter dated 16th August 2012 was received from Mazars LLP, the Council's auditors indicating that there were no issues in respect of which they proposed to qualify their audit opinion, there were no matters which they wished to draw to the attention of the Council and they had not identified any misstatements that required to be corrected.

The Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer had therefore certified the return in accordance with regulation 8B of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) regulations 2005 (as amended).

Resolved that the Annual Return be approved and signed by the Chairman in accordance with Regulation 9 of the above regulations and sent to the auditors for final completion.

(b) Christmas Lights 2012

Resolved that a quotation received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in a letter dated 21st August 2012 in respect of the Christmas lights for 2012 which was made up as follows, be accepted:

Erection, dismantling and maintenance	£2,056.01 plus VAT
---------------------------------------	--------------------

Estimated Energy Cost: 2092.8 Kwh x £0.1494	£312.66 plus VAT
---	------------------

(c) Applications for Financial Assistance

Resolved that consideration of the following applications be deferred until January 2013 in accordance with the decision contained in minute 160(c)1 of the meeting of the Council held on the 19th April 2012.

NSPCC - Childline
Dyslexia Wales

Shelter Cymru
The Noah's Ark Appeal

(d) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that the following accounts be paid:

No			£
1601	One Voice Wales	Fee training course	15.00
1602	Payroll	Net Salary August	212.11
1603	Inland Revenue	Income Tax	53.03

63. PLANNING MATTERS

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

App No:

P2012/0141 Formation of pedestrian footpath/cycle track between Rhosamman and Cwmllynfell and other associated works (Amended Plan)

64. REPORTS

The following matters were reported:

South Wales Police Statistics (Note: Statistics include Cefn Bryn Brain and Ystradowen)	All Crime (see categories below)	July	17	June	7
	Burglary		3		
	Anti Social Behaviour		8		6
	Robbery		1		
	Violent crime		1		
	Criminal damage and Arson		2		
	Public Disorder and weapons		1		
	Other theft				1
	Drugs		1		

- PACT – Report of meeting 9th August 2012 and notification of next meeting on the 4th October 2012;
- Animal Stockproof Fencing – report of meeting with national assembly representatives – Cllr C E Richards to report further in due course on proposed measures in the preparation of a revised application;
- Defective watercourses and eroded surface – unclassified road leading to Blaennant Farm;
- One Voice Wales – Code of Conduct training - report

65. REPORT – OLD CEMETERY CWMLLYNFELL

It was reported that Groundwork had convened a meeting of interested parties on site on the 4th August 2012 to discuss the old cemetery and the footpaths in that vicinity. Present at the meeting were Gail Devine of Groundwork, Mr John Morris Landowner, Mr Kevin Lewis Tenant Farmer, Mr V B Fox Chairman of the Commoners Association and members of the Association together with Councillor D Lloyd Chairman of the Community Council. Following an inspection of the area it had been decided that the best option for all involved would be to pursue measures to redirect the footpath that currently passed through the farmyard so that it crossed the field thereby leading directly to the cemetery. Groundwork would pursue the matter with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Resolved that the report be noted and further developments awaited.

The meeting terminated at 8.35pm.