

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT CWMLLYNFELL HALL ON
THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2013 AT 6.30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillor R Evans (Chairman) presided
COUNCILLORS: R M Davies, M Evans, D Lloyd, R P Morgan, D C Phillips,
N L A Price, J C Rees, D B Thomas and S Williams

87. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for their absence were received from Councillor T H J Kendrick and Councillor C E Richards (Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council).

88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this juncture.

89. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 10th October 2013 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

90. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minutes No 76(a) - Cwmllynfell Cemetery Improvements

It was reported that work had commenced at the cemetery. Some adjustments to the scheme had been explored with a view to making savings in the final contract price. Enquiries had also been made of the Habitat Surveyor in the County Borough Council's Countryside and Wildlife Team as to whether the Authority would be prepared to contribute towards the seeding of a wildflower meadow in the lower section of the cemetery extension as a means of reducing the cost of future maintenance. Unfortunately Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council were not able to contribute but the Habitat Surveyor had given advice about conserving the biodiversity of the site.

An approach had also been made to the Manager of Cwmnantlleici Quarry, Ynysmeudwy as to whether the quarry would be prepared to donate some material to the scheme in order to make further savings.

Resolved that:

1. the report and the efforts made to effect savings be noted;
2. further discussions about the future management of the lower section of the cemetery extension be entered into with the Habitat Surveyor in the Countryside and Wildlife Team of the County Borough Council following completion of the scheme.

(b) Minute 76(c) – Gwrhyd Quarry Site Liaison Committee

It was reported that no further expressions of interest had been received from local residents wishing to serve on the above committee.

Resolved that the matter be considered further at the next meeting of the Council and in the meantime the vacancies be advertised further and an invitation extended to the Governing Body of Cwmllynfell School to appoint a representative.

(c) Minute 77 - Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service

A letter dated 18th November 2013 was received from Mr C Margetts Group Manager for the Neath Port Talbot County Command of the Service in which he thanked the Council for attempting to accommodate him at one of its meetings but as it was not possible for him to attend he reminded the Council that the opportunity to comment on the Improvement Plan would end on the 29th November.

Resolved that the situation be noted.

(d) Minute 80 - County Borough of Neath Port Talbot – Library Service Review

Resolved that it be noted that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council had been convened on the 28th November 2013 to consider the above matter.

(e) Minute 84(b) – Audit Fee

A communication was received from Mazars LLP in response to the Council's query about the fee charged in respect of the audit for the year ended 31st March 2013. The Auditors provided a copy of the scale of fees approved by the Wales Audit Office which confirmed that the fee was correct at £575 plus VAT.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

(f) Minute 85 - Planning - Deposit Local Development Plan

A communication was received from the Team Leader – Planning Policy to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in response to the Council's representations about the Deposit Local Development Plan and particularly that a Settlement Limit had not been set for Rhiwfawr. The communication suggested that the best way forward was for the Community Council to submit a plan showing the proposed settlement limit for Rhiwfawr.

During the Council's consideration of the matter it was concluded that the limit shown on the approved Unitary Development Plan was too restrictive and that there was merit in including the Coedffaldau area within the settlement limit.

Resolved that a plan be submitted to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council showing an "envelope" around the Rhiwfawr and Coedffaldau area within which the County Borough Council be requested to identify a settlement limit that it would be prepared to consider.

91. DEVELOPMENT OF WEBSITE

A letter dated 1st November 2013 was received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council together with an agreement to enable the Council to apply for the relevant funding of up to £500 to assist in the development of a website. The funding would have to be claimed before the 31st March 2014.

Resolved that the agreement be signed on behalf of the Council by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

92. NEATH PORT TALBOT MAGISTRATES' COURT

A communication dated 21st October 2013 was received from Ms Joanna Jenkins the Chair of the Neath Port Talbot Youth Panel and a senior magistrate of the Neath Port Talbot Criminal Justice Area. The communication drew attention to the consultation document relating to the proposed closure of Neath courthouse, the merger of Neath Port Talbot and Swansea magistrates' benches and the transfer of criminal cases to Swansea. The Rt Hon Peter Hain MP had launched a campaign to save Neath Port Talbot Magistrates' Court which the Council was invited to support.

Resolved that the Council's objection to the proposed closure be conveyed to the HM Courts and Tribunals Service.

93. NPT ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT AWARENESS RAISING EVENT – 12TH DECEMBER 2013

Resolved that the invitation received for the Council to participate in the above event be noted.

94. HOUSING (WALES) BILL

A letter dated 21st October 2013 was received from the Chair of the Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee of the National Assembly for Wales in connection with the above bill which would be introduced in November to address housing issues.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

95. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Applications for Financial Assistance

Resolved that the under-mentioned application be not entertained and the applicants informed that it is the Council's practice to assist the organisation by making a grant to local schools to defray the cost of pupils' membership subscriptions:

Urdd National Eisteddfod 2014 - Meirionnydd

(b) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that the following accounts be paid:

1662	Mazars LLP	Audit Fee	690.00
1663	Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath	16.50
1664	Payroll	Gross salary October	£267.80

96. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Planning Applications

Resolved that consideration of the following application be deferred in order for the Council to view the plan of the proposed development:

App No:

P2013/0397 Detached building incorporating 2-2 bedroom apartments and new car parking area on land adjacent to Samuels Court and 2-4 Samuels Road, Cwmllynfell

(b) Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan

Resolved that it be noted that a pre-hearing meeting would be held on the 11th December 2013 at Llanelli.

(c) Regional Technical Statement for Aggregates – 1st Review Consultation

Resolved that the notification of the consultation arrangements regarding the above matter received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council be noted.

97. REPORTS

The following matters were reported:

South Wales Police Statistics
(within 1 mile of centre of Cwmllynfell)

All Crime

September 0

- Police Neighbourhood News October 2013
- East Pit East Revised OCCS Liaison Committee and Report of Technical Working Party

Notification from One Voice Wales of the official launch of the Framework Programme for Wales's Commemoration of the First World War - Cymru'n Cofio - Wales Remembers 1914-1918;

- Welsh Government Nature Funding Consultation;
- Defective Bridge – Footpath 14 near Lewis Avenue;
- PCSO Tomos Price promoted to Police Constable - congratulations

The meeting terminated at 8.10pm.