

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT CWMLLYNFELL HALL ON THURSDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2014 AT 6.15P.M.

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

ATTENDING: Councillor C E Richards (Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council)

130. COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

Councillor Richard M Davies demonstrated the website that he had built on behalf of the Council. Councillor Davies explained that the current version of the website was being hosted free of charge but that the Council had the option of paying a charge for the website which would eliminate the display of advertisements. It was also possible to purchase a domain name for the Council. Arrangements had been made with the translation unit at Swansea to translate pages on the website together with any other documents that the Council required to be translated. A charge of £50 per 1000 words would be made for translating. The cost would be met by the grant from the Welsh Government which would be received via Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.

Resolved that:

1. the website and the arrangements made for translating documents be approved;
2. Councillor Davies be thanked for the work that he has undertaken in creating the website.

131. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for their absence were received from Councillor R Evans, D Lloyd and S Williams.

132. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this juncture.

133. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 16th January 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

134. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minutes 122(a) - Cwmllynfell Cemetery Improvements

It was reported that weather conditions had hampered progress since the last meeting but the only work that remained to be carried out was the laying of tarmac and seeding of the disturbed areas. The contractor had been requested to import some top soil in order to blend the headstone foundations and the ashes graves with the surrounding areas. The seeding would be carried out in the spring. A further account had been received from the contractor.

Resolved that the report be noted.

(b) Minute 122(b) - Planning - Deposit Local Development Plan

Consideration was given to the “Alternative Sites” consultation document that had been received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council.

Resolved that inclusion of the following Alternative Sites and Settlement Limits that in the Local Development Plan be supported:

New Sites:

AS(N)53 - Land to the North of Penybryn, Cwmllynfell (adjoining Y Clos - off Gwernant)

Amended Settlement Limits:

AS(SL) 51 - Land adjoining 50 Pen-y-Rhiw, Rhiwfawr (SiteA)

AS(SL) 52 - Land adjoining 50 Pen-y-Rhiw, Rhiwfawr (SiteB)

AS(SL) 53 - Penrhiwfawr (including Coedffaldau)

(c) Minute 122(c) - County Borough of Neath Port Talbot – Library Service Review

It was reported that a further meeting had been held to agree arrangements for the transfer of responsibility for the library to the Cwmllynfell Hall Committee. The discussions at the meeting had included expediting any outstanding repairs, transfer of the library photocopier to the hall, training of volunteers and renewal of books.

A notification was also received from Cwmllynfell Hall that a public meeting would be held on the 24th February in relation to the library.

Resolved that the report be noted and that members be encouraged to attend the public meeting on the 24th February 2014.

135. NEATH PORT TALBOT CVS – YOUTH VOLUNTEERING SHOWCASE

Resolved that the invitation received from Neath Port Talbot CVS for the Council to be represented at the above event on the 18th March 2014 be noted.

136. WELSH NATIONAL MARINE PLAN

Resolved that it be noted that the Welsh Government is consulting on the above plan.

137. BUS SERVICE REVISIONS

Resolved that the letter dated 4th February 2014 from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council containing details of revisions to bus services be noted.

138. CONFERENCE – “CONSERVING AND MAINTAINING WELSH WAR MEMORIAL HERITAGE

Resolved that the invitation received from One Voice Wales for the Council to be represented at a conference at Builth Wells on the 27th March 2014 in connection with the above matter be noted.

139. ONE VOICE WALES – MOTIONS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Resolved that the invitation received from One Voice Wales to propose motions for the Annual Conference be noted.

140. SOUTH WALES WORKWAYS PROJECT

A letter dated 10th February 2014 was received from the above organisation in which it was indicated that they would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Council to discuss ways in which they could raise the awareness of the support available to assist people into employment by overcoming barriers to work.

Resolved that a representative be invited to attend the next or subsequent meeting of the Council.

141. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES

A letter dated 12th February 2014 together with the Final Annual Report for 2014/15 was received from the above panel. The report contained the panel's determinations in respect of remunerations that were payable to elected members of local authorities etc including community and town councils. The determination included an authorisation for community and town councils to decide whether to make payments of a maximum of £100 per year to their members for costs incurred in respect of telephone usage, information technology, consumables etc.

Resolved that the information be noted.

142. VELINDRE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, YSGOL HENDRE SPECIAL SCHOOL AND BRYNCOCH PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT

A consultation document was received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council on their proposal to amalgamate Velindre Community School and Ysgol Hendre Special School and increase the range and number of specialist planned places currently available; and also cease to maintain Bryncoch Pupil Referral Unit and provide for the pupils at a secondary assessment centre attached to the amalgamated school. Comments were invited by the 16th March 2014.

Resolved that the information be noted.

143. PONTARDAWE TOWN COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING 6th MARCH 2014

An invitation received from Pontardawe Town Council for the Council to be represented at an open meeting to be held on the 6th March 2014 when there would be an opportunity to question elected representatives on topical issues. The panel would include the Rt Hon Peter Hain MP, Mrs Gwenda Thomas AM, Mr Byron Davies AM, Ms Bethan Jenkins AM, Mr Peter Black AM, Ms Suzy Davies AM together with County Councillors Mike James, Linet Purcell, Rebeka Lewis and David Lewis.

Resolved that the invitation be noted.

144. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) BYELAWS ACT 2012

A communication was received from the Welsh Government in which it was indicated that they were consulting on new guidance and subordinate legislation under the Local Government (Wales) Byelaws Act 2012. Views were sought on the Statutory Instruments to facilitate implementation of the Local Government (Wales) Byelaws Act 2012 (the Act); and the guidance to support authorities in exercising functions under the Act. The consultation period would close on the 11th May 2014.

Resolved that consideration of the matter be deferred.

145. ADJUDICATION PANEL FOR WALES' ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013.

A letter dated 10th February was received from the above panel in which a notification was given that the above report had been published.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

146. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Applications for Financial Assistance

Consideration was given to applications for financial assistance.

Resolved that:

1. it be noted that Councillor C E Richards will pursue enquiries as to whether the following applicants can obtain a grant from the Community Chest:

Cwmllynfell Short Mat Bowls Club – Purchase of Short Mat Carpet;

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

Cwmllynfell & District Bowls Club £400;

3. consideration of the following application be deferred so that enquiries may be made of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council as to whether grass cutting at the churchyard can be added to the Community Council's grounds maintenance contract:

St Margaret's Church Cwmllynfell – Grass Cutting;

4. a grant in the following sum be made to the under-mentioned organisation in the 2014/15 financial year and that the grant be paid in three instalment to coincide with the receipt of the Council's precept:

Cwmllynfell Hall £10,500 (£7,000 hall costs + £3,500 library);

(Note: The Hall Committee had invited the Council to appoint a representative to attend its meetings).

5. the following applications for grant be not entertained:

Neath Shopmobility
Teenage Cancer Trust

Walk for Life Kidney Wales Foundation

(b) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that the following accounts be paid:

1674	Cwmllynfell & Dist Bowls Club	Grant	£400.00
1675	Ian Davies Ltd	Repairs to Cemetery Wall	£3,336.00
1676	T Richard Jones (Betws) Ltd	Stage payment cemetery	£11,625.90
1677	The Consortium	Stationery	£104.12
1678	Neath Port Talbot CBC	Grounds maintenance 2013	£4,678.80
1679	Payroll	Salary January	£267.80

147. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Planning Applications

Resolved that:

1. an objection be raised to the following application on highway grounds and that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council be requested to carry out a comprehensive assessment of the highway implications of the planning permissions in force and applications that are awaiting determination which have an impact on the roads leading to Rhiwfawr and that particular regard be given to the fact that Bryn Road which is devoid of footways and narrow in places is the route used by children travelling to and from Cwmllynfell School and the playgroup."

App No: P2013/0212

Proposed surface coal mining and associated reclamation of abandoned opencast mine (amended application) at Fforch Egel Farm, Gwrhyd Road

2. Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council be informed in respect of the following application that the Council would not in principle raise an objection to a limited extension of time of three years from the 30th November 2012 for working within the perimeters of the site which was the subject of the 2004 planning permission, subject to there being appropriate safeguards, compliance with MTAN2 and the conditions imposed in the 2004 permission and subject also to the deposit of a bond with the Local Planning Authority jointly by the applicants and the owners of the site to cover the entire cost of a restoration scheme for the area of the 2004 planning permission which complies fully with the conditions imposed in that planning permission (P/2002/917 & A-PP 185-07-014) and any additional enhancing conditions required by the Local Planning Authority to improve the area and contribute to community benefits including measures to boost the economy in surrounding communities by improving road, rail, footpath and cycleway communications over the restored site thereby enabling the attraction of inward investment by the creation of employment opportunities on the restored site which are sympathetic to the environs of the site.

App No: P 2013/0530

Planning Application pursuant to section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act for the variation of Condition 3 of Planning permission A-PP185-07-014 to retrospectively enable the continuation of the extraction of coal for three years from the 30th November 2012 at East Pit East Opencast Coal Site

(b) Planning Appeal

A notification was received that an appeal had been lodged against the refusal of the following planning application:

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

Resolved that the Planning Inspectorate be informed that the Community Council is opposed to the proposed development as it would result in the over development of the site, the loss of residential amenity and an increase in disturbance to the existing properties. As such the Council supports the reasons that the Local Planning Authority gave for refusing the application and urges the Planning Inspectorate to dismiss the appeal.

(c) Planning System Consultation

A notification was received from One Voice Wales that the Welsh Government was consulting on plans to change the planning system in Wales which included proposals for closer working between community and town councils and local planning authorities.

Resolved that the proposed measures be supported.

(d) Tidal Lagoon – Swansea Bay

Resolved that it be noted that a planning application had been submitted in respect of the above proposal.

(e) Tata Steel, Port Talbot Works

Resolved that the community consultation in relation to plans for a new power generation facility at the Port Talbot Steelworks be noted.

148. REPORTS

The following matters were reported:

- South Wales Police Statistics All Crime (see categories below) December 4
 - Burglary 1
 - Vehicle Crime 1
 - Criminal Damage and arson 2
- Police – Neighbourhood News;
- East Pit East Revised Opencast Coal Site Liaison Committee Minutes;
- Lighting standard and cables – Mynydd Bach, Rhiwfawr – road subsidence;
- Highway Conditions near Cwtch
- Gwrhyd Quarry – Haulage Route
- Cycle Path – former railway line – fencing and dangerous drainage ditches

Councillor C E Richards reported on the following matters:

- East Pit - Application P2012/1073 ("Lakes at Rhosamman) determination due May
- Cycle Path continuation to Cwmtwrch

The meeting terminated at 8.19pm.