

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT CWMLLYNFELL HALL
ON THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER 2014 AT 6.30 P.M.**

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

97. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for their absence were received from Councillors R P Morgan and C E Richards (Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council).

Resolved that the Council's best wishes for a speedy recovery be conveyed to Councillor C E Richards.

98. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this juncture.

99. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 20th November 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record

100. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 86(b) - Rhiwfawr Rushlands

A quotation at a day rate of £360.82 was received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council for carrying out selective thinning of trees and cutting back of brambles at the above location. The amount of work to be carried out would be determined and agreed beforehand.

Resolved that:

1. the quotation received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council be accepted;
2. consideration be given to compiling a management plan in due course.

(b) Minute 86(c) – Footbridge – Path 14 – near Lewis Avenue

A further communication had been received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in response to the Council's suggestion that the above footbridge traversed the boundary between Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Carmarthenshire. The County Borough Council had referred to a plan of the local authority boundary and had concluded that the bridge appeared to be located outside the administrative area of Neath Port Talbot. The matter had accordingly been referred to Carmarthenshire.

Resolved that the response be noted and that the outcome of the approach to Carmarthenshire County Council be awaited.

(c) Minute 90 - Draft Contaminated Land Strategy Consultation

Consideration was given to responding to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council consultation on the above strategy.

Resolved that enquiries be made to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council as to whether the site of the former refuse tip at Cefn Bryn Brain which is close to the Community and County Borough boundary is featured within their strategy as the site is reputed to contain low level radioactive waste from the former Anglo Celtic Clock Factory, Ystradgynlais.

(d) Minute 95 - Planning Application No: P2012/1073 – East Pit East Revised Opencast Coal Site

It was reported that information had been obtained from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council that the above application would not be laid before the Planning Committee for determination until the New Year.

Resolved that:

1. Mr Carl Sargeant AM., Minister for Natural Resources be invited to meet the Council in order to afford the opportunity for the Council to convey its concerns about the East Pit East Revised Opencast Coal Site, which was originally granted planning permission by the National Assembly;
2. Mrs Gwenda Thomas AM, Councillor R G Jones (Chair of Planning Committee - Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council) together with representatives of Gwaun Cae Gurwen and Quarter Bach Community Councils be invited to attend the meeting.

103. BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTIES 12th, 20th & 28th MAY 2014

A notification dated 27th November 2014 was received from One Voice Wales offering the opportunity for the Council to nominate the current Chairman and guest to be selected to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party on one of the above dates. Thirty places had been allocated to One Voice Wales which would be distributed by drawing lots.

Resolved that the invitation be noted.

101. CHIEF INSPECTOR JOANNA WILLIAMS – SOUTH WALES POLICE

A letter of introduction dated 30th November 2014 was received from Chief Inspector Joanna Williams who had been appointed to be responsible for the Neath, Pontardawe and Port Talbot area.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

102. DEVOLUTION, DEMOCRACY AND DELIVERY WHITE PAPER – REFORMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A communication dated 10th December 2014 was received from the Welsh Government in which it was indicated that a report containing the responses that had been received to the consultation on the above white paper had been published. The Council had supported the submission that had been made by One Voice Wales.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

103. LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS (WALES) ORDER 2014

A communication dated 10th December 2014 was received from the Returning Officer, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in which attention was drawn to the above order the effect of which was to extend the term of office of councillors elected to County, County Borough and Community Councils by one year from 2016 to 2017.

Resolved that the information be noted.

104. “MAKING BETTER USE OF PUBLIC ASSETS” - SEMINAR

Resolved that the invitation received from the Wales Audit Office for the Council to be represented at a seminar on the above subject be noted.

105. DRAFT NATIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2015

A communication was received from One Voice Wales in which attention was drawn to the Welsh Government’s consultation on the above plan. One Voice Wales intended to submit a co-ordinated response so member councils were invited to submit their comments to the association by the end of February.

Resolved that consideration of the matter be deferred until the February meeting of the Council and in the meantime the link to the publication be circulated to members.

106. GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN WALES – PRACTITIONERS GUIDE UPDATE

A communication was received from One Voice Wales in which attention was drawn to the above update.

Resolved that the matter be noted and the Clerk be requested to report in due course on any action that is required as a result of the update.

107. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) CCTV – Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park

It was reported that an approach had been received from Cwmllynfell Hall to improve the CCTV at the park in order to aid monitoring. The installer had accordingly been requested to provide a quotation or installing an additional camera.

Resolved that the quotation received from Property and Life Protection Systems, Ystradowen in the sum of £320.76 for supplying and installing an additional camera be accepted.

(b) Pension Regulations – Automatic Enrolment

A letter was received from the Pension Regulator in which attention was drawn to the provisions of the Pension Act 2008 whereby every employer with staff in the

UK would have to automatically enrol those who met certain criteria into a workplace pension scheme and contribute towards the pension. Currently the level of salary paid by the Council gave the Clerk the right to join a pension scheme but there was no compulsion.

Resolved that the information be noted.

(c) National Salary Award for Local Council Clerks 2014/15.

A notification was received from the One Voice Wales of the national salary award applicable from the 1st January 2015. Additionally, a non-consolidated payment was payable in December 2014.

Resolved that the Clerk's salary be increased as follows to reflect the approved salary scale and the above-mentioned award:

£3,284.28 per annum (6/37 of spinal point 22)

Non-consolidated (one off) payment - £16.22

(d) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that the following accounts be paid:

No			£
1712	Society of Local Council Clerks	Subscription	88.00
1713	Neath Port Talbot CBC	Hire of Commercial Bin	57.98
1714	Neath Port Talbot CBC	Translation Charges	9.89
1715	Cwmllynfell Hall	Grant – final stage payment	3500.00
1716	Payroll	Net salary November including Non Consolidated payment	227.22
1717	HMRC	Income Tax	56.80

108. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Planning Application

Resolved that no objection be raised to permission being granted

App No:P2012/1073 – 44 Gwilym Road, Cwmllynfell -
Variation of Conditions 7 and 8 of Planning Application P2012/0131 to extend the period of time for submission of the Reserved matter for a further three years.

App No: P2014/1098 – 65 Gwilym Road, Cwmllynfell – Single Storey Extension

109. VACANCY – PENRHIWFAWR WARD

Resolved that it be noted that the agenda item relating to the above matter had been withdrawn as a result of the new information that had been received.

110. REPORTS

The following matters were also reported:

South Wales Police Statistics	All Crime (see category below)	October	1
	Public Order		1

- Rock Hill, Rhiwfawr – unsatisfactory drainage arrangements;
- Gwrhyd Quarry – Number of lorry movements exceeding planning requirements including clashing with school travel times and overburden being transported from the site;
- Car Park – Heol Daniel – review situation regarding usage by contractors at next meeting;
- Rt Hon Peter Hain MP – notification of files being destroyed upon termination of office;
- Report of discarded needles at Samuels Road – Neighbourhood Watch undertook to report;
- Defective street light near Lewis Avenue

The meeting terminated at 7.58pm.