

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT CWMLLYNFELL HALL
ON THURSDAY 21ST MAY 2015 AT 6.30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillor R M Davies (Chairman) presiding pro-tem
COUNCILLORS: M Evans, T H J Kendrick, R P Morgan, D C Phillips and D B Thomas.
ATTENDING: Councillor K Lloyd (Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council)

1. COUNCILLOR KRISTINE LLOYD

The presiding Chairman welcomed Councillor Lloyd to the meeting and congratulated her on being elected to represent the Cwmllynfell Electoral Division on the County Borough of Neath Port Talbot. Councillor Davies emphasised that historically the County Borough Councillor and the Community Council had co-operated well for the benefit of the community but acknowledged that the County Borough Councillor also had a strategic County Borough wide role to fulfil which was sometimes not in accord with the priorities of the Community Council.

2. OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

Councillor Richard Davies thanked his fellow members for the support that they had given to him during his year of office and referred to some of the issues that the Council had been involved in such as primary health services in the community, the planning issues concerning the East Pit East Revised Opencast Site and various consultative documents. He also expressed his pleasure that the Council had received the Mineral Products Association / Aggregate Levy for Wales Award for Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park. Councillor Davies also expressed his appreciation for the support that the Vice-Chairman and the Clerk of the Council had provided during the year.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2015/16

Resolved that Councillor John C Rees be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing Municipal Year.

As Councillor J C Rees was not present at the meeting the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Undertaking to comply with the Council's Code of Conduct would be subscribed at a later date.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2015/16

Resolved that Councillor R Paul Morgan be appointed Vice Chairman for the ensuing Municipal Year.

Councillor R P Morgan then subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Undertaking to comply with the Council's Code of Conduct.

Councillor R P Morgan (Vice Chairman) presiding

5. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for their absence were received from Councillors R Evans, D Lloyd and J C Rees.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R M Davies declared his personal interest in agenda item 7 – Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies – Cwmllynfell Hall

7. DAY, HOUR AND VENUE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Resolved that:

1. future ordinary meetings during the ensuing municipal year be held at the following venues at 6.30pm. (6.15pm. when the Council is due to receive a presentation or address) on the third Thursday of each month, other than the month of August when there shall not be a meeting:

Rhiwfawr Hall

June 2015
September 2015
November 2015

April 2016

Cwmllynfell Hall

July 2015
October 2015
December 2015
January 2016
February 2016
March 2016
May 2016 (Annual Meeting)

2. the above arrangements be varied if necessary, as circumstances require, at the discretion of the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman.

8. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Resolved that:

1. a Cemetery and Environment Committee be appointed comprising all Members of the Council.
2. a Rhiwfawr Park Liaison Committee be appointed comprising the following members to promote the use of the facilities at the park and to liaise with local organisations and individuals to encourage voluntary effort in managing and monitoring the use of facilities:

Councillors:
Chairman
Cllr R Evans

Councillors:
Vice-Chairman
Cllr N L A Price

9. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

(a) Governing Bodies of Local Schools

Resolved that it be noted that the under-named school governor had been appointed to represent the Council on the governing body of the following school and that the term of office was as follows:

Cwmllynfell School - Councillor R M Davies - term of office expires May 2016

(b) Cwmllynfell Hall Committee

Resolved that:

1. Councillor R M Davies be authorised to represent the Council at meetings of the Committee of Cwmllynfell Hall;
2. in the event of Councillor R M Davies being unavailable to attend a particular meeting the Vice-Chairman Councillor R P Morgan be authorised to deputise.

(c) One Voice Wales

Resolved that:

1. the Council be represented on the above-mentioned association by the Chairman, Councillor J C Rees and the Vice-Chairman Councillor R P Morgan;
2. Councillor D Lloyd be appointed to deputise in the event of either representative being unable to attend;
3. Councillor R P Morgan be appointed as the Council's Training Champion to liaise with One Voice Wales on training matters.

(d) Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council - Liaison Forum

Resolved that:

1. the Council be represented on the above Liaison Forum by the Chairman, Councillor J C Rees and the Vice-Chairman Councillor R P Morgan;
2. Councillor D Lloyd be appointed to deputise in the event of either representative being unable to attend.

(e) Cwm Nant Lleici Site Liaison Committee

Resolved that the Council be represented on the above Committee by Councillor R P Morgan.

(f) South Wales Police - Spotlight on Police Meetings & Partnerships and Communities Together (PACT) Meetings

Resolved that the Council be represented on the above by Councillor R P Morgan.

(g) East Pit East Revised Opencast Site Liaison Committee

Resolved that:

1. the Council be represented on the Liaison Committee by Councillor D C Phillips;
2. Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's attention be drawn to the fact that the residents' representatives are not attending meetings of the Liaison Committee.

(h) Gwrhyd Quarry Site Liaison Committee

Resolved that the Council be represented on the Liaison Committee by Councillors R P Morgan and N L A Price.

(i) Aman Group of Local Councils

Resolved that the Council be represented on the above group by the Chairman, Councillor J C Rees and the Vice Chairman Councillor R P Morgan.

10. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 15th April and the Extraordinary Meetings of the Council held on the 23rd April 2015 be confirmed and signed as correct records.

11. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minutes 164(a) & 177 – Planning Application P2012/1073 – East Pit East Revised Opencast Coal Site

The Clerk reported that support had been sought from both Friends of the Earth and the Open Spaces Society to the representations that the Council had decided to submit in respect of the planning application and the report of the Head of Planning to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council which was due to be considered by that Authority's Planning Committee on the 28th April 2015. The abovementioned organisations had supported the Council's representations and the Open Spaces Society had also invited the Council to join the organisation.

The Clerk reported further that a letter containing the Council's comments on the report of the Head of Planning as outlined in minute 177 had been forwarded to her by email on the 26th April. However, a response had been received from her on the 27th April that she was unable to take the correspondence into account as the County Borough Council had adopted a protocol which had imposed a cut off for such correspondence at 4.30pm on the penultimate working day immediately preceding the associated Planning Committee. For Tuesday meetings any such representations therefore had to be submitted by no later than 4.30pm on the preceding Friday. The Clerk had protested that the Council's representations had been silenced in this way and had drawn attention to the apparent contradiction between the protocol and the Planning Code of Conduct which the authority had also adopted. In an attempt to ensure that the Council's views were received by the Planning Committee the Clerk had therefore forwarded a copy of the letter to each member of the Planning Committee. It was reported by Members of the Community Council who had been present in the public gallery at the meeting of the Planning Committee on the 28th April that the Chairman had directed members of the Committee to ignore the letter. The Clerk had continued to complain on the Council's behalf and had raised the matter with the Council's Monitoring Officer who had responded indicating that if the Community Council continued to be dissatisfied that it could invoke the complaints procedure.

It was also reported that a copy of a letter dated 27th April 2015 from the Welsh Government's Chief Planner to the Head of Planning, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council had been received in which a direction had been issued to the County Borough Council under Article 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 not to grant planning

permission in respect of application P2012/1073 or any development of the same kind without the prior authorisation of the Welsh Ministers. The direction did not prevent the County Borough Council from processing the application or refusing planning permission.

In the event the County Borough Council's Planning Committee had resolved to 'approve' application P2012/1073 on the 28th April. The decision notice granting planning permission could however not be issued as a result of the above-mentioned direction.

Resolved that:

1. the Council become members of the Open Spaces Society at a cost of £45;
2. a formal complaint be made to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council protesting at the way that the Community Council's letter containing comments on the report of the Head of Planning had been prevented from being submitted to the Planning Committee on the 28th April 2015;
3. it be emphasised that the Council is mindful of the situation concerning employment but is confident that continued employment can be achieved by the restoration of the site to a satisfactory standard as specified in the 2004 permission as amended by 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
4. assistance be sought from Planning Aid in preparing a submission to the Welsh Government to re-emphasise why the planning application should be called in for determination by Welsh Ministers;
5. the Coal Authority be invited to comment in respect of the situation that prevails at East Pit including the ongoing liability that will exist in the event of the site not being restored satisfactorily and/or the operators and owners ceasing to have a viable interest.

(b) Minute 167 – Review of Designated Landscapes in Wales

Resolved that the details of the above review be noted.

12. WAR MEMORIAL GRANT

Details were received from One Voice Wales of the grants for War memorials that the Welsh Government was offering in order to repair and conserve community war memorials as part of the First World War centenary commemorations. The Clerk reported that he had forwarded the information to Cwmllynfell Hall so that consideration could be given to whether any attention was required to the memorial plaques located at the hall.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

13. POST BOX – GWILYM ROAD, CWMLLYNFELL

Further to Minute 160 of the meeting of the Council held on the 19th March 2015, a communication was received from Royal Mail confirming in response to the Council's representations that a post box would be installed on the forecourt of CK's Supermarket within the next twelve weeks.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

14. RoSPA – ANNUAL INSPECTION OF PLAY AREAS

It was reported that the annual inspection of the play area at Rhiwfawr Park and Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park would take place in June.

Resolved that:

1. the matter be noted;
2. consideration be given in due course to engaging a graffiti artist to adorn the skateboard ramps at Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park in order to combat the graffiti that has taken place.

15. NEATH PORT TALBOT CVS – OPEN EVENTS

Resolved that it be noted that an invitation had been received from Neath Port Talbot CVS for the Council to be represented at an event to demonstrate their online directory which would be held at Cwmllynfell Hall on the 2nd June 2015.

16. STATUORY GUIDANCE – ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS

The statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government in relation to making certain information available electronically was received.

Resolved that arrangements be made to modify the Council's website as necessary in order to comply with the guidance.

17. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that the following accounts be paid:

No			£
1735	The Consortium	Stationery	76.03
1736	Neath Port Talbot CBC	Hire of Commercial Bin	62.06
1737	Open Spaces Society	Subscription	45.00
1738	Calico Internet Ltd	Website Domain	24.00
1739	Payroll	Net salary April	218.95
1740	HMRC	Income Tax	54.74

(b) Application for Financial Assistance – Cwmllynfell & Rhiwfawr Active Wales

Resolved that consideration of the above application be deferred until the next meeting so that the applicants may meet the Council's application requirements.

18. REPORTS

The following matters were also reported:

South Wales Police Statistics (within 1 mile of centre of Cwmllynfell)	All Crime (see categories below)	March	10
	Anti Social Behaviour		2
	Criminal damage and arson		1
	Other theft		1
	Public Order		1
	Shoplifting		2
	Violent and sexual offences		3

- Police neighbourhood News April 2015;
- Gwrhyd Quarry – Transportation and restoration matters
- Cycleway – former railway track – maintenance of verges, trees and ditches required

Councillor Mrs K Lloyd reported on the following matter:

- Removal of trees – Heol Daniel.

The meeting terminated at 8.00pm.