

CYNGOR CYMUNED CWMLLYNFELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT RHIWFAWR HALL
ON THURSDAY 18th JUNE 2015 AT 6.30 P.M.**

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

19. CONDOLENCES – THE LATE MRS JEANNE PAGE

The Chairman referred with deep regret to the fact that Mrs Jeanne Page, Secretary of the Rhiwfawr Community Association, wife of former Councillor Edward J Page and sister of former Councillor Mari Jones had passed away.

All present stood in silent tribute as a token of respect.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this juncture

21. MINUTES

Resolved that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on the 21st May 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

22. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 9(g) – East Pit East Revised Opencast Site – Liaison Committee

A communication dated 1st June 2015 was received from the Head of Planning, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in which she acknowledged that the representations on the Site Liaison Committee needed to be updated. She also referred to the fact that it was a condition of the recommendation in respect of the planning application that had recently been considered by the County Borough Council that a Site Liaison Committee be re-established. Therefore if the Welsh Government removed the direction to enable consent to be granted the County Borough Council would make necessary arrangements to ensure that the community was appropriately represented.

Resolved that the response be noted.

(b) Minutes 11(a) – Planning Application P2012/1073 – East Pit East Revised Opencast Coal Site

A copy of a letter dated 2nd June 2015 from the Chief Planner, Welsh Government to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council was received. The Chief Planner, under the authority of the Minister of Natural Resources, had decided that the above planning application did not raise planning issues of more than local importance and as such that it should not be called in for determination by the Welsh Ministers. As such the direction that had been issued under Article 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 which had stopped the County Borough Council from granting planning permission had been cancelled. The County Borough Council could therefore grant planning permission in accordance with the decision to

approve the application that had been taken by the Planning Committee on the 28th April 2015.

Upon receiving the notification the Clerk had enquired of the Planning Directorate of the Welsh Government whether there was a review or scrutiny process that could be invoked in respect of the decision. Ms Clare Dicks of the Directorate had responded to indicate that there was no such review or scrutiny process in being and emphasising that when a call in request was received officials considered the policy issues relating to the application and consulted with the relevant policy officials and statutory bodies who provided advice in respect of identified policy issues.

A letter dated 15th June 2015 was also received from the Minister of Natural Resources in which an invitation was extended to the Council to be represented and to contribute to the discussions and debate at an Opencast Coal Summit at Cardiff on the 9th July 2015

Resolved that:

1. the notification that the Welsh Government had decided not to call in the planning application be received with regret and that every possible avenue be pursued to mitigate the effect of the decision on the community;
2. the Clerk of the Council be authorised to represent the Council at the Opencast Summit at Cardiff on the 9th July 2015 and to submit a relevant question/discussion point for debate.

23. STATUTORY GUIDANCE ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION

A communication was received from One Voice Wales in connection with the Statutory Guidance that had been issued on access to information and the requirement for Community and Town Councils to maintain a register of interests and to make it available on their websites. The Clerk confirmed that he was liaising with Councillor Richard Davies in connection with the required changes to the website.

Resolved that the matter be noted.

24. CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION FOR WALES - COMMUNITIES SECTORAL ADAPTATION PLANS

Resolved that the invitation for the Council to be represented at a workshop to be held on the 13th July 2015 be noted.

25. RESOURCE EFFICIENT WALES

A communication was received from the above organisation which offered information and help on saving energy and water and reducing waste to communities and householders. The Clerk reported that he had forwarded the information to Cwmllynfell Hall so that they could consider whether they could benefit from the advice.

Resolved that the information be noted.

26. PUBLIC HEALTH (WALES) BILL – PROVISION OF TOILETS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE

A communication dated 10th June 2015 was received from the Welsh Government in which a notification was given of the above Bill which sought to bring together a series of practical actions in order to have a positive impact on health and well-being. Amongst the proposals was a duty placed upon each local authority in Wales to prepare and publish a local toilets strategy on the provision of toilets available for use by the public in its area.

Resolved that the information be noted.

27. NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL – CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2015-16

Resolved that it be noted that the above plan had been published and was available on the County Borough Council's website.

28. MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN 2015 – 2020 & ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2015-16

Further to Minute 168 of the meeting of the Council held on the 15th April 2015 a communication was received from the Fire and Rescue Service's Corporate Head of Prevention and Protection in response to the Council's enquiry about arrangements for reviewing the effectiveness and monitoring the continued suitability of fire safety measures together with the routine checking of fire hydrants.

The Corporate Head of Prevention and Protection confirmed that their free Home Fire Safety Check were prioritised for the households that had been identified as being of higher vulnerability and risk. In most cases the measures undertaken to improve home fire safety would be the provision and fitting of smoke and heat alarms. The Service also provided a wide range of other equipment when specific risks were identified. Deep fat fryers were not routinely provided and the service had also reviewed their provision of electric blankets and were likely to amend the process but would continue to provide free testing. Fire Hydrants were routinely checked on a 24 month inspection cycle.

Resolved that the information be noted.

29. NATURAL RESOURCES WALES – BRIEFING NOTE – SHALE GAS AND HYDRALIC FRACTURING

Resolved that the above briefing note which had been prepared for One Voice Wales be noted.

30. HIGH STREET CAMPAIGN – 19th – 26th SEPTEMBER 2015

Resolved that the above campaign by the Welsh Government to engage businesses and the public to support their High Streets be noted.

31. WALES GREEN ENERGY AWARDS

Resolved that the information provided by Renewable UK in connection with the above awards be noted.

32. ONE VOICE WALES TRAINING STRATEGY 2015-19

Resolved that the details of the above strategy be noted.

33. FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Annual Report and Governance Statement – Year ended 31st March 2015

Resolved that the Summary Receipts and Payments Statement and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March 2015 having been approved (Minute 170(b) of 15 April 2015 refers), the Council hereby approves the Annual Report and Governance Statement for 2014/15.

(b) Applications for Financial Assistance

Consideration was given to applications for financial assistance.

Resolved that:

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

Cwmllynfell & Rhiwfawr Branch – Active Wales £400

2. consideration of the application from the under-mentioned organisation be deferred in order that the organisation may be requested to complete the Council's application form and submit audited accounts:

Home Start Dinefwr

(c) Payment of Accounts

Resolved that the following accounts be paid:

No			£
1741	Cwmllynfell & Rhiwfawr Branch – Active Wales	Grant	400.00
1742	Calico Internet Ltd	VAT on previous account	4.80
1743	Payroll	Net salary May	218.95
1744	HMRC	Income Tax	54.74

34. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) Planning Application

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

App No: P2015/0372

Alteration to front boundary wall and creation of vehicular access at 1 Rhiwfawr School, Rhiw Road, Rhiwfawr

(b) Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan – Matters Arising from Hearings

A notification was received from Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council that a public consultation would be undertaken during July and August 2015 into the above matters.

Resolved that the Council's submissions in respect of a Settlement Limit for Rhiwfawr and Coedffaldau be reiterated if they have not been included.

(c) Powys Local Development Plan – Deposit

Resolved that it be noted that a consultation on the above matter commenced on the 8th June 2015

35. REPORTS

(a) The following matters were reported:

South Wales Police Statistics (within 1 mile of centre of Cwmllynfell)	All Crime (see categories below)	April	13
	Anti Social Behaviour		6
	Burglary		1
	Criminal damage and arson		1
	Drugs		1
	Other crime		1
	Shoplifting		1
	Vehicle Crime		1
	Violent and sexual offences		1

- Police Neighbourhood News May 2015;
- MPA/Aggregate Levy Plaque – Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park – arrangements for installing the plaque have been unsuccessful but alternative arrangements being pursued;
- Clerk of the Council – Advance Notice of intention to terminate employment in due course;
- PACT Meeting – 25th June 2015;
- Cyclepath – lack of maintenance.

(b) Parc Cymunedol Llynfell Community Park – Graffiti Art

The Clerk reported that as a result of the problems that had been encountered with graffiti at the park he had pursued a suggestion that had been made previously by officers of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council that a graffiti artist be engaged to decorate the skateboard ramps in an acceptable manner in conjunction with local youths and children. Enquiries had been made of Mr Lloyd Roberts (Graffiti Art – Workshop Commissions) who was the artist that had been engaged by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in various locations. A quotation of £450 had been received from Mr Roberts for carrying out a workshop in conjunction with the summer play scheme that would be held at Cwmllynfell Hall.

Resolved that the quotation in the sum of £450 from Mr Lloyd Roberts for carrying out the workshop as described above be accepted.

The meeting terminated at 8.10pm.