

LLANTWIT FARDRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANILLTUD FAERDREF



Minutes of a meeting of the Llantwit Fardre Community Council held on Tuesday 29 January 2019 at the Council Office, at the rear of the Carnegie Parish Hall, Main Road, Church Village, Pontypridd CF38 1PY.

Present: Councillors J. James (Chairperson), R. Butler, M. Diamond, B. James, C. Johnson, A. Raines, G. Stacey, N. Tizard-Lee, L. Walker and A. Watts.

In attendance: Mrs. J. Stuckey - Clerk and Executive Officer.

1. Apologies

Noted

- 1.1 An apology for his absence from this meeting was received from Councillor S. Bristo (missed train). Councillor A. Handley was absent from the meeting, no apology for absence was received.
- 1.2 The remarks relating to the frequency of attendance of Councillor Bristo and the question of his ability to represent the residents while residing away from the area.

Resolved

- 1.3 That the Standing Orders be checked, and powers be delegated to the Clerk/Chairperson to write to Councillor Bristo on this matter.

The Chairperson addressed the meeting to ask that the order of the agenda be altered to allow representation from a grant applicant to be heard ahead of other business.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor L. Walker declared that he knows all the members of the Tonteg Chamber of Trade. A grant application from this organisation will be reconsidered at this meeting.

3.Public Break

Noted

Clock

- 3.1 A member of the public asked whether the Council were aware that the clock on the Carnegie Parish Hall is not working properly. Reference was made to the £11k that was raised to return the clock to working order and that this matter needs to be investigated.
- 3.2 The Clerk advised that the clock had recently been serviced and that the problem reported will be investigated.

Memorial Benches

- 3.3 Thanks were expressed for the memorial benches.

Members of the Public Remaining in the Chamber During Meetings

- 3.4 Councillor L. Walker raised the issue of allowing members of the public to remain in the Chamber for the whole of the meeting. Reference was made to legislation allowing for this decision. The question as to whether the document referred to was relevant in Wales.

The Clerk reminded the meeting of the need to keep certain information, such as may be contained in grant applications and relating to terms/conditions of service of staff, confidential.

Resolution - Councillor Walker

That members of the public be allowed to remain in the Chamber for the duration of the meeting.

- 3.5 Item seven on the agenda includes elements of staffing and the public should not be party to that discussion. The view that the Data Protection regulations should be checked before a decision is taken and, therefore, this item should be deferred to the February meeting pending these regulations being checked. The response, from Councillor Walker, that the Data Protection regulations do not apply in this instance.

Resolved

- 3.6 With Councillors R. Butler, M. Diamond, C. Johnson, A. Raines, N. Tizzard-Lee and L. Walker voting for the motion.

Councillors B. James and J. James voting against the motion

Councillor G. Stacey abstaining. **The resolution was carried.**

4. Presentation

- 4.1 The presentation made by OB in support of his application for grant funding to further his aim to compete in Judo at Olympic level. The presentation included details of OB's achievements to date, training and competition requirements and future.
- 4.2 OB confirmed that he is a member of a Judo organisation. His current funding is primarily from his parents.
- 4.3 Members praised OB for his achievements and ambitions and wished him every success for the future commenting that he is a great ambassador for the area.

Resolved

- 4.4 That OB be awarded the sum of £1k. That this sum must be paid via a recognised association.

5 Minutes

The minutes of the following meetings were received and approved:

- Council – 10th December 2018
- Committee – Appointments/Staffing 14th January 2019

6. Report from the Police

There was no report received.

7. Report of the Clerk/Executive Officer

Street Lighting

Noted

- 7.1 The remedial work to the lighting in Central Park has been ordered. The work will be undertaken by a local firm and is expected to be carried out by the end of the week. The work to upgrade the lighting in and around the Carnegie Parish Hall has also been awarded to the same local firm.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Noted

- 7.2 There have been no responses to the request for suggestions as to what the CIL allocation might be spent on.
- 7.3 A past application for speed restriction measures on Church Road was turned down due to a lack of funds. A question was raised as to whether this could now be funded from the CIL allocation.
- CIL funding may be used for speed restrictions. Councillor Walker will liaise with the Highways Department at RCT CBC on this matter and report back.

- 7.4 The Chairperson put forward the purchase of grit/grit storage bins from the CIL fund.
- 7.5 Members should inform the Clerk as to what they would like to include on the list of items to be purchased from the CIL allocation. These items will be checked against the CIL guidance document. The guidance requires the Council to indicate what will be required going forward. Expenditure has to be approved by RCT CBC.

Playgrounds

Noted

- 7.6 The Chairperson tabled a draft document, indicating the condition of the parks/play areas, which was drawn up following the receipt of information from RCT CBC. Reference was made to the Working Party, set up at a previous meeting, to address the issues relating to these areas. The proposal that this working party meets in the near future and that CBC L. Hooper and resident Mr. R. Jones be invited to attend the meeting.
- 7.7 Costings will be needed for inclusion in the budget. A member of the public has expressed concern that Lower Woodlands is to close. The Chairperson is not aware that such a decision has been taken.

The need to draft a 3 – 5year plan and get it costed in order to progress this matter. There is an indication in the report that some of the equipment has no play value.

Resolved

- 7.8 That the Working Party meets on Monday 25th February 2019 at 6.00pm.

KRUF

Noted

- 7.9 Councillor Walker proposed that this event be supported and volunteered to marshal the event. It will take place on Sunday 2nd June.

Resolved

- 7.10 That the event be supported. That recipients of grant funding from the Council be invited to participate. That plans for the event will be discussed at the next meeting.

Planning Applications from RCT CBC

Noted

- 7.11 The receipt of the planning applications forwarded to members for their information: Unit 1c Newton Industrial Estate; Cwm Isaf Farm; 13 Oakfield Crescent Tonteg; 17 Viburnum Rise, Llantwit Fardre; 56 Tudor Way, CF38 2NH; 24 Heol Dowlais, CF38 1BB; 45 Ffordd y Capel, CF38 1AP; Clariant Site Llantrisant Rd.; 56 Tonteg Close, CF38 1LU; 4 Coed y Dyffryn, CF38 1TQ; 2 Llys Llewellyn, CF38 2HQ; 32 Maes Eglwys, CF38 1EJ; 13 Bryn Terrace, CF38 2ER.

Gardening Competition

Noted

- 7.12 The proposal from Councillor Tizzard-Lee that the council must make a priority, awarding prizes to the winners of our allotment and cottage garden competition by the next meeting.

Resolved

- 7.13 That this proposal be agreed, and that Councillor Tizzard-Lee will deal with this matter.

Grant Application

Noted

- 7.14 Clarification was given by a member of the Carnegie Girls WI as to the amount of funding that was being sought to assist with the purchase of a defibrillator. It is intended that the defibrillator be housed in the telephone box on the main road. The sum requested is £300.
- 7.15 The explanation that the original request for funding had been deferred at the last meeting as the Chairperson was not present, he had also been looking into possible funding for this provision, so his feedback was awaited.
- 7.16 There is currently £514 remaining in the grant fund. There is another grant application for £200 to be considered. The proposal that the request for £200, made by the Tonteg Chamber of Trade, be granted and that the balance of £314 be awarded to the Carnegie Girls WI.

Resolved

- 7.17 That £200 be awarded to the Tonteg Chamber of Trade and £314 be awarded to the Carnegie Girls WI.

Grass Cutting

Noted

- 7.18 The proposal that all grass cutting, other than play areas, be outsourced. Last year the sum of £6,500 was spent on employing additional labour for this task. Outsourcing will allow the outside staff more time to undertake maintenance projects which will result in long term savings. A recent quote for the grass cutting was less than the amount paid for the casual labour last year.
- 7.19 A question was raised as to whether this move would result in job losses. Members of the public have expressed concerns that outside staff are to be made redundant.
- At this point the discussion was halted and resumed after the members of the public left the meeting.
- 7.20 The Clerk appraised the members of the concerns raised with her, relating to job security. Members expressed the view that there is no intention to reduce staffing, that tendering for the grass cutting was to free up staff to undertake other duties. The proposal by Councillor B. James that a letter be sent to the staff assuring them that there is no intention to reduce the workforce.

Resolved

- 7.21 That a letter be sent to staff assuring them that the Council does not intend to reduce the workforce.
- 7.22 That further consideration of this proposal be deferred until the next meeting.

Disposal of Assets

Resolved

- 7.23 That, as the disposal of some of the items on the list will impact on the decision on grass cutting, this matter be deferred to the next meeting.

Precept

Noted

- 7.24 The receipt of the detailed report of the drafting of the budget for the 2019 – 2020 financial year and the setting of the Precept. The observation that the end of year outturn for 2019 – 2020 will be low. The sum of £92k from reserves will be used to support the draft budget and Precept. It has been previously agreed that the Precept will not be increased for this year.

The question as to the future use of Ty Illtyd. An enquiry has been received regarding the leasing of the property as a training facility. Information has now been received from RCT CBC outlining restrictions in the covenant on the use of the building. This will need to be examined before future use may be agreed.

- 7.25 The proposal that the draft budget and the Precept be approved.

Resolved

- 7.26 That the draft budget and the Precept be approved as presented.

External Audit Report

Noted

- 7.27 The receipt of the report. The reserves include the savings for the replacement of the roof on the Carnegie Parish Hall. That the actions listed be undertaken

Resolved

- 7.28 That this report be approved and accepted.

Accountant Service

Noted

- 7.29 Councillor Walker informed the meeting that he had been notified that Paul Evans Accountants will no longer be able to act as the Council's auditors from April because of changes to working practices as required by HMRC.

Meetings

Noted

- 7.30 Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month. This should be reflected in the Standing Orders.

- 7.31 The Chairperson asked whether there should be two meetings of the full community Council each month and whether committees should also meet.

Members expressed the view that the current arrangements are working well and are preferred.

When asked by the Chairman the Clerk expressed the view that there does not appear to be a need to hold two meetings each month. In addition to this there would be a cost implication not only in producing the paperwork but in terms of manpower. There is an ongoing need to update policies and procedures and process and monitor projects, this cannot progress in an expedient manner if that work has to stop for the organising of/attendance at additional meetings to be undertaken.

The Chairperson requested that the Clerk produces a report on this matter.

The proposal, by Councillor Watts, that the Council continues to meet monthly, on the last Tuesday of the month.

Resolved

7.31 That the Council continues to meet on a monthly basis on the last Tuesday of the month.

Notification of Meetings and Works

Noted

7.32 It is a matter for the Clerk to determine whether individual members receive notification of matters under discussion with RCT CBC.

8. Conclusion

The meeting ended at 8.40pm.