

COEDFFRANC COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 18th May 2016 at Carnegie Hall.

Attendance: Cllrs APH Davies, J Davies, DK Davies, HR Richards, B Richards, R Didcote, P Bebell, H Bebell, A Wingrave, M Harvey, P Davies, J Thomas, I Whitehead Ross, K Whitehead Ross, HC Clarke.

494: Apologies: Cllrs P Fellows, JS Jones.

495: To receive Declarations of Interest.

Cllr M Harvey declared an interest in item 500 P2016/0383 and left the room during the discussions. Cllr DK Davies declared an interest in item 505 and left the room during the discussions.

Additionally, it was noted that no Member that had declared an interest in the last meeting took any part in the approval of the minutes for that meeting.

496: To approve and sign the Minutes of Previous meetings: -

a) Council Meeting held on 4th May 2016.

Approved as a true and accurate record.

497: Matters arising from the minutes. (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

None.

498: To receive and approve the accounts schedule for payments and to select two account numbers for a full explanation at the next meeting.

Accounts were received in the sum of £7,543.49. Account No's 86 and 101 were selected at random for an explanation by the clerk at the next meeting. Copies of the accounts were circulated and the Clerk responded to member's queries.

499: To receive an explanation from the Clerk concerning Account No's: 56 and 71.

The Clerk provided explanations, which were accepted by the Council.

500: Planning Applications:

P2016/0364 – Alterations to external appearance and replacement car parking to allow for conversion of garage to living accommodation and hardstanding. 141 Crymlyn Parc, Skewen. (Applicant – Mr Wells, 141 Crymlyn Parc, Skewen).

No observations.

P2016/0383 – Five and Four storey academic building with associated soft and hard landscaping. Swansea Bay Campus, Fabian Way, Crymlyn Burrows, Neath SA1 8EN. (Applicant – Mr Owen Rees – Swansea University, Singleton Park, Swansea SA2 8PP).

Objections about lack of parking within the development.

Late Application: P2016/0400 – Detached Garage. 4 Wern Rd, Skewen, Neath SA10 6DN. (Applicant – Mr Andrew Curtis, 4 Wern Road, Skewen, Neath SA10 6DN).

No Observations.

Cont...

501: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which he or she represented the Council.

Cllr P Bebell reported that the Annual Chair's Dinner had gone well and thanked everyone for attending. Cllr J Thomas reported that he and Cllr H Bebell had attended the Skewen Historical Society Book Launch which had been a successful event.

502: To receive a letter from Peter Black.

It was noted that the Dram Road is not owned by the Community Council, and therefore, the Community Council could not install lighting there.

The Members discussed the request for a shelter. It was agreed that shelters tend to attract youths who cause antisocial behaviour, so the Members agreed that they would not be in favour of installing a shelter.

Resolved: That the Clerk informs Mr Peter Black of the above.

503: To receive/approve the Annual Investment Strategy for 2016/17.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Annual Investment Strategy is approved and signed.

Cllr HC Clarke left the meeting at this point.

504: To receive/approve the Annual Policy Risk Schedule for 2016/17.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Annual Policy Risk Schedule is approved and signed.

505: To receive a letter from Skewen Short Mat Bowls Club requesting that the Community Council remove their debt from the bad debt entry at the end of the financial year.

The Members discussed the contents of the letter from the Short Mat Bowls Club. It was stated that the Short Mat Bowls Club should be made to pay the outstanding invoice for the damage done to the Christmas Decorations. It was reported that the hall is for everyone not just the Short Mat Bowls. The Members also discussed the alleged Health and Safety issue raised by the Short Mat Bowls Club of having the Christmas tree in the main Hall. Cllr A Wingrave reported that the tree is too tall to go anywhere else within the hall. It was agreed that for Health and Safety reasons the mat closest to the tree will no longer be permitted whilst the Christmas Decorations are up. Additionally, it was agreed that a wooden guard would be put around the base of the Christmas tree so that bowls could not roll under the tree.

Resolved: That the Clerk should inform the Short Mat Bowls Club that the debt will not be withdrawn. Additionally, the Clerk was asked to inform the Short Mat Bowls Club that whilst the Christmas decorations are up in future, that use of the mat closest to the tree will not be permitted due to the Health and Safety concerns raised by the Bowls Club. It was also agreed that a wooden guard would be put around the base of the Christmas tree so that bowls could not roll under the tree. Furthermore, that Clerk was asked to inform the Short Mat Bowls Club that the hall is for everyone's use and enjoyment not just for the Bowls Club.

506: To receive a request from the Scouts to use the grassed area at the side of the Scout Hall in Skewen Park for their District Beaver Sports Afternoon on Saturday 4th June 2016.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That permission is given.

507: To receive information from the Clerk and Cllr A Wingrave regarding the possibility of the Community Council Leasing Llandarcy Institute as a Community Centre from NPTCBC.

The Clerk and Cllr A Wingrave reported on the information they had obtained. The Members discussed the information provided. It was noted that the response regarding Jersey Marine Community Centre had been very disappointing, with only 7 out of 300 household returning their questionnaire. It was also noted that within the responses there was no interest from the residents in forming a new Management Committee for Jersey Marine Community Centre.

Cllr APH Davies reported that it would be important to have Break Clauses in any Lease Agreement so that the Community Council could withdraw from the Lease if the cost become too much of a burden. The Clerk reported that she has not been given any indication of the cost of the Lease to date, and that she had been told that the Community Council should be able to acquire a grant to cover some of the costs of the Lease. Cllr A Wingrave reported that she had spoken to residents in Llandarcy, and that there is an interest to form a Management Committee if the Community Council did Lease the building. Cllr H Bebell informed that Members that the Youth Department of NPTCBC that have been located in the building over the past few years have not handed the keys back in as yet.

The Clerk suggested a site visit.

Resolved: That the Clerk arranges for a site visit. Additionally, permission was given for the Clerk and Cllrs A Wingrave and H Bebell to continue to investigate the issue.

508: To receive a request from Tornado Films to use Carnegie Hall on May Bank Holiday weekend for filming.

The Members discussed the information.

Resolved: That permission is given provided that they vacate the building by 10pm on Tuesday 31st May, and agree to pay for any costs associated with any damage done whilst they use the building.

509: Correspondence.

a) To receive a response from South Wales Police to update the Council in the incident reported in Qtr 4 of the Vandalism Report.

The information was noted by the Members.

The Clerk was asked to invite Tim Barrell to a future Meeting.

b) To receive a response from South Wales Police regarding the Council's request for additional patrols in Skewen Park.

The information was noted by the Members.

c) To receive information from One Voice Wales regarding their Larger Council's Conference to be held on 6th July 2016 and the Royal Welsh Showground.

The information was noted by the Members.

Cllr J Thomas
Chair