

COEDFFRANC COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Statutory Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 20th September 2017 at Carnegie Hall.

Attendance: Cllrs APH Davies, DK Davies, A Wingrave, JS Jones, M Harvey, P Davies, J Thomas, K Whitehead, AR Aubrey, MA Fender, D Harvey, LJ Pocock, C Wingrave, TJ Bevan, C Fletcher.

998: Apologies: Cllrs B Richards, K Amos.

999: To receive Declarations of Interest.

Cllr A Aubrey declared an interest in item 1004 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.

1000: To approve and sign the Minutes of Previous meetings: -

a) Council Meeting held on 6th September 2017.

The minutes for item 985 paragraph 3 were amended to “Cllr P Davies stated that he was not happy with what had occurred”. The remainder of the minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

1001: Matters arising from the minutes. (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

None.

1002: 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 £10,504.78. Account No's 346 and 350 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.

Resolved: That the payments are approved.

1003: To receive an explanation from the Clerk concerning Account No's: 287 and 330.

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

1004: Planning Applications:

P2016/0868 – New 61 space overflow car park, access road, pedestrian link footpath and associated engineering works. Proposed single storey gym extension to front elevation of sports academy building and the retention of change of use from Sports Pavilion (Class D2) to Restaurant (Class A3), a rear conservatory and the retention and completion of rear raised decking area. Llandarcy Academy of Sport, Llandarcy, Neath SA10 6JD. (Applicant – Llandarcy Park Ltd, Llandarcy Academy of Sport).

Cllr A Wingrave reported that there is an ongoing issue with people using the Academy parking in Llandarcy Village due to a shortage in parking.

No objections to the Application were raised.

Late Application: P2017/0874 – Part two storey, part single storey side extension plus single storey rear extension and the widening of the existing parking area. 4 Pant Y Sais, Jersey Marine, Neath. (Applicant – Mr Griffiths, 4 Pant Y Sais, Jersey Marine, Neath).

No observations.

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1005: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which he or she represented the Council.

Cllrs P Davies, J Thomas, APH Davies and DK Davies attended a Book Launch. They all reported that the event had been informative and enjoyable.

1006: To receive the Auditor General for Wales' Audit Certificate and Report, and approve the Report.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Annual Return Audit Certificate and Report is approved.

The Clerk was thanked for the preparation of the information provided for the audit.

1007: To receive information regarding the Welsh Government White Paper Consultation Stakeholder Briefing Document from Clare Jenkins Chief Officer.

The information was noted by the Members.

1008: To discuss lifting the 3 hr Parking Restrictions on Jersey Marine Beach to 24hrs as raised by Cllr T Bevan.

Cllr T Bevan reported that he is concerned that the parking for Jersey Marine Beach is restricted to 3 hours. It was reported that the cost is £2.50 for the 3 hours. Cllr Bevan reported that it takes 20 minutes to walk to the beach from the car park, therefore, by the time a family carrying beach equipment gets to the beach, they have very little time before they need to start packing everything away to make their way back to the carpark. It was reported that there is alternative access, however, this is owned by the Golf Club and crosses tidal water. Cllr Bevan circulated photos so that Members could see the distances involved. It was reported that Swansea University are in charge of the SSSI and manage the access and car park. It was also noted that the time restrictions had originally been imposed to discourage students using the carpark. Cllr Bevan suggested having different rates/time restrictions, or being free of charge at the weekends. The Members discussed the issue. It was agreed that the restrictions are deterring tourism in the area.

Resolved: That the Clerk writes to Vice Chancellor Richard Davies, Mr Gareth Nutt (NPTCBC), Cllr HC Clerk (NPTCBC Local Member) and Cllr A Wingrave (Cabinet Member for Tourism NPTCBC) to request that the charge is changed to £3.00 for the full day at the weekends. There should also be prominent signage stating "Beach Users Only".

1009: To receive/respond if appropriate to the NPTCBC Education, Leisure & Lifelong Learning Service Strategic School Improvement Programme Consultation Document.

The information was noted by the Members.

1010: To receive information regarding the Reform of the Data Protection Legislation – General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Bill and decide what actions to take.

The Clerk reported that this issue is on the Agenda for the next Larger Councils Forum and requested that no decisions are taken until she has obtained information on how other Town/Community Councils are dealing with this issue.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That no action is taken until the Clerk has obtained information on how other Town/Community Councils are dealing with this issue.

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1011: To approve an Agreement with NPTCBC to allow the Community Council to use NPTCBC's lamp posts for the Christmas Decorations.

The Members discussed the issue. It was suggested that the Community Councils Solicitor reviews the Agreement. However, it was noted that if the Council did not sign the Agreement, NPTCBC would not allow the Community Council to erect the Christmas Decorations.

Resolved: That the Agreement is approved and signed.

1012: To receive notification that the Community Council's Planning Application for overspill car parking has Approval of Full Planning Permission, and discuss/agree what actions to take to progress the issue.

The Members discussed the issue. It was suggested that to progress the issue, the Clerk should obtain quotes for the work to ensure the Community Council can afford the associated costs. It was noted that the Clerk would need to get professional drawings and specifications completed before the work could be put out to Tender.

Resolved: That the Clerk should proceed by sourcing/authorising a company to provide the professional drawings and specifications. Once the drawings/specifications have been provided, it was agreed that the works are put out to Tender.

1013: Correspondence.

None.

1014: To resolve to exclude the public for the following item pursuant to Regulation 4 (3) and (5) of Statutory Instrument 2001 No. 2290 and Paragraph 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

The Press and public were excluded from the room.

1015: To receive confidential information from the Clerk regarding ongoing staffing issues for the Council to discuss/approve what actions need to be taken to progress the issue.

The Clerk provided an update on the ongoing staffing issues. The Clerk provided a breakdown of the costs associated with the changes to the roles being discussed.

Resolved:

- That the Clerical Assistant's rate is increased to SCP 20 in line with neighbouring Town and Community Councils.
- That a member of staff on restricted duties is re-allocated to the position of Assistant Handy Man, and that the vacancy created by this move is advertised and filled. It was agreed that to get the Sports Turf Maintenance qualifications and experience needed, the post would be advertised at SCP 16.
- That the Community Council advertises for, and appoints, a Health & Safety and Support Officer who will undertake all the Health & Safety duties, and some of the Supervisory functions. It was agreed that this post would be advertised at the market value pay rate.