

COEDFFRANC COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 4th September 2013 at the Carnegie Hall.

Attendance: Cllrs APH Davies, DK Davies, R Didcote, P Bebell, H Bebell, A Wingrave, P Davies, J Thomas, I Whitehead Ross, K Whitehead Ross, P Fellows, HC Clarke.

9422: Apologies: Cllrs M Harvey, HR Richards, B Richards, JS Jones, J Davies.

9423: To receive Declarations of Interest.

Cllrs APH Davies and P Bebell declared an interest in item 9428 as Members of the Planning Committee. They left the room during discussions.

Cllr HC Clarke declared a Personal Interest in item 9438.

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.

9424: To approve and sign the Minutes of Previous meetings: -

a) Council Meeting held on 14th August 2013.

Approved as a true and accurate record.

9425: Matters arising from the minutes. (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

None.

9426: 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 £12,790.80. Account No's 262 and 282 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.

9427: To receive an explanation from the Clerk concerning Account No's: 232 and 250.

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

9428: Planning Applications: -

P2013/0711 – Reserved Matters for the construction of the College of Business and Economics, and Residential Buildings 5, 8, and 11 (amended design than approved under Planning Application P2012/0888). (Applicant – Swansea University and St Modwens Properties).

No observations.

P2013/0719 – Retention of single storey rear extension for use as residential flat. 68 New Road, Skewen. (Applicant – Mrs Madge, 1 Howells Terrace, Alltwen).

No observations.

P2013/0424 – Use of buildings and land for equestrian/livery use (Certificate of lawfulness Existing). Oak Tree Farm, Drummau Road, Skewen. (Applicant – Mr J Smith, Oak Tree Farm).

More information was requested.

Late Application: P2013/0798 – Retention of front porch. 18 New Road, Skewen. (Applicant – Mr Roberts, 30 Tregelles Road, Longford).

No observations.

9429: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which he or she represented the Council.

The Clerk reported that she had attended a meeting with the Head of Corporate Strategy & Democratic Services to discuss the Charter Agreement with NPTCBC and the Town & Community Councils. The Clerk reported that a draft document would be circulated shortly for discussion/approval.

9430: To receive/discuss/approve the proposals for the Playground in Jersey Marine funded by the Section 106 money, which were drafted by NPTCBC Play Works following the consultation they carried out in Jersey Marine Village.

The Members discussed the issue. It was suggested that the issue of low maintenance landscaping should be added into the specification along with assurances that inflation and any delay in the project would be agreed within a fixed price at the time of Tendering.

The Members thanked Allison Harris and Sophie Wright for all the work they had put into the project to date.

Resolved: That the specification/proposal is approved with the addition of low maintenance landscaping, and that the Tender is to incorporate any costs relating to inflation and any delays in the project.

9431: To discuss/approve a request made by South Wales Police for the Community Council to provide suitable accommodation to provide a base for three PCSO's to operate out of for the Coedffranc area.

The Members discussed the issue.

It was suggested that the Computer Suite in Carnegie Hall could be made into suitable accommodation for the PCSO's, and some of the Members inspected the room. Some Members felt it would be a shame to lose the facilities of the computer suite, and that perhaps we could consider offering accommodation on the first floor. Members discussed the issue of disabled access if the accommodation to be offered was on the first floor. Cllr A Wingrave reported that the computer equipment is very basic, with no software of any real value to the public, and that at the moment there is no internet access. Cllr Wingrave reported that it would be very costly to bring the Computer Suite up to date with licences for Office Suite, and for any other software packages needed to enhance the Computer Suite to encourage better use of the facilities.

It was suggested that Huw Griffiths be invited back to view the rooms and discuss in more detail what it is exactly that they need.

Resolved: That the issue is deferred to the F& G Committee for their recommendations and that Huw Griffiths attends the meeting to discuss his needs.

9432: To receive a request from Coedffranc Football Mini and Junior Club to use the pitch that has been given back over to the Council from Lonlas when it comes back into use for their Junior sides, and to use the outfield of the cricket pitch for mini football pitches. Additionally to house a lockable container somewhere by the edge of the car park in Skewen Park or in Tennant Park.

The Members discussed the issue.

It was suggested that the Council should not Lease the pitch which used to belong to Lonlas Youth Club exclusively to any one Club.

It was suggested that once the pitch has been brought back into use – which will be next season, the pitch should be available to hire on a permit basis to clubs within the locality. The Members felt it was not appropriate to use the Cricket Club outfield for pitches on a permanent basis. The issue of placing a storage container in one of the Parks was discussed but Members felt that more information was needed.

Resolved: That that the Council should not Lease the pitch which used to belong to Lonlas Youth Club exclusively to any one Club.

It was agreed that once the pitch has been brought back into use – which will be next season, the pitch will be available to hire on a permit basis to clubs within the locality. The Council turned down the request to permanently mark out pitches on the Cricket Outfield. The Clerk was asked to contact the Club to find out where they currently store their equipment and report back if appropriate.

9433: To receive a request from Harp Rovers AFC to use the pitch that has been given back over to the Council from Lonlas when it comes back into use.

The Members discussed the issue.

It was suggested that the Council should not Lease the pitch which used to belong to Lonlas Youth Club exclusively to any one Club.

It was suggested that once the pitch has been brought back into use – which will be next season, the pitch should be available to hire on a permit basis to clubs within the locality.

Resolved: That that the Council should not Lease the pitch which used to belong to Lonlas Youth Club exclusively to any one Club.

It was agreed that once the pitch has been brought back into use – which will be next season, the pitch will be available to hire on a permit basis to clubs within the locality.

9434: To receive a copy of the Report from Mazars (External Audit Body) and to approve/sign the Certified Annual Return for the financial year 2012/13.

The Members discussed the issue. The Clerk was thanked for her work.

Resolved: That the Annual Return is re-approved.

9435: To receive notification that the Community Council has been successful in its bid to WREN for grant funding for the Skate Park (copy enclosed).

Additionally to receive/approve a “To do List” from Paul Hinder and approve the payment of the third party contribution at £6,402.00.

The Members discussed the issue.

Cllr APH Davies reported that after many years of work to try and obtain funding he was delighted that the Community Council had been successful. Cllr APH Davies asked the Members to thank everyone that had worked towards the project to achieve this success. The Members discussed the issues on Paul Hinder’s “To Do List”.

Resolved: That the Clerk should write to WREN to confirm the following information.

- That the Approved Contractor is HAGS/SMP and it is anticipated that the final cost of the project will be £79,800.00.
- Cllr A Wingrave and Wendy Thomas will be the signatories for the project.
- Start and finish dates along with the number of claims will be confirmed following a meeting with the Contractor.
- Payment will be made directly to the Contractor and the Clerk will confirm their BACS details to WREN.
- Paul Hinder will Project Manage the project, and sign off on all Contractors works.
- The Clerk, Chair and Paul Hinder will agree a Publicity Plan, and that the details of any planned event will be passed to the Festival Committee for them to make the necessary arrangements.

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9436: To receive a letter from Neath Funeral Home regarding concerns about a water drainage problem at Coedffranc Cemetery.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the issue should be passed to the Cemeteries Committee for their recommendations.

9437: To receive a request for financial assistance from Skewen & District Industrial Heritage Association.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That a donation of £100.00 should be made.

9438: To receive/discuss responses regarding the Swansea Waste Water Treatment Plant off Fabian Way.

The Members discussed the issue.

Cllr H Bebell reported that the Plant is not fit for purpose, and that new equipment needs to be installed. Cllr Bebell reported that doors are being left open whilst this work is ongoing. Cllr Bebell reported that the Directors have been on site to inspect the Treatment Plant, and that the City & County of Swansea are enforcing the ongoing situation. It was reported that they have been given a time slot to make improvements or penalties would be incurred.

Resolved: That the information is noted.

9439: To receive an update and a copy of the initial Application Form to People and Places from Cllr I Whitehead Ross.

The information was noted by the Members and Cllr Whitehead Ross was thanked for his work.

9440: To receive information from One Voice Wales regarding the Appointment of Members to Community Health Councils.

The information was noted by the Members.

9441: To receive information from One Voice Wales regarding Changes to Householder Permitted Development Rights in Wales.

The information was noted by the Members.

9442: To receive information from One Voice Wales regarding Office of the Older Persons Commissioner Wales.

The information was noted by the Members.

9443: To receive the Neighbourhood News from South Wales Police.

The information was noted by the Members.

9444: To receive a response from NPTCBC regarding the erection of fencing around the University site off Fabian Way.

Cllr H Bebell stated that the reason the gates have been placed where they are is because that was what he had asked for to protect the SSSI from Off Road Bikers. Cllr Bebell reported that there is access for pedestrian use and that 24 car parking spaces have been provided. He reported the pedestrian access has been widened and that the security fence is only a temporary measure. Cllr P Bebell reported that the residents in Crymlyn Burrows have been promised that access to the Beach will not be blocked off.

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Cllr DK Davies reported that he had been unable to find any pedestrian access, and that the additional fencing was deterring visitors to the beach because the additional fencing was proving too difficult for the public who were carrying anything onto the beach and for children's pushchairs and the like.

Resolved: That that Cllr H Bebel contacts the Contractor to find out if additional signage can put up indicating the route for pedestrians, and report back to the Members at the next Council Meeting.

9445: To receive an invitation to Skewen and District Historical Society's Heritage Day.

The information was noted by the Members.

9446: To receive an invitation to participate in the Christmas Tree Festival at St John's Parish Church.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the invitation would be accepted with the Festival Committee to discuss/recommend the arrangements.

9447: Correspondence.

a) **To receive notification of the Domestic Abuse Service One Stop Shop service.**

The information was noted by the Members.

b) **To receive information from the Commission on Public Service Governance and Delivery for an open and informal drop in meeting being held in Gorseinon Centre on 23rd September 2013.**

The information was noted by the Members.

c) **To receive information from One Voice Wales regarding a vacancy on the Standards Committee for NPTCBC and nominate if appropriate.**

The information was noted by the Members.

d) **To receive notification from NPTCBC that an Appeal has gone to the Planning Inspectorate regarding Planning Application No: P2013/0179.**

The information was noted by the Members.

9448: 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.

Resolved: That the press and public are removed from the Meeting.

9449: To receive/sign the Counterpart Lease for Caewathan Community Centre.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Counterpart Lease should be signed.

9450: To receive/sign the Counterpart Lease for Crymlyn Burrows Community Council.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Counterpart Lease should be signed.

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9451: To receive/discuss/approve a Wayleave Agreement from Western Power to

move an electricity pole from the middle of Jersey Marine Playground (as requested during the consultation hosted by NPTCBC Play Works) to underground cabling.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Way leave Agreement should be signed for Jersey Marine and that the Way leave agreement for Crymlyn Burrows should also be agreed as part of the same agreement.

Cllr A Wingrave
Chair