

## COEDFFRANC COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at Carnegie Hall.**

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

Colin Morris from First buses attended the Meeting to inform the Members of the rationale for revising the 158 bus service.

Mr Morris reported that First Cymru investigate statistical data on each bus, including how many hours it is out, how many drivers are used, fuel used, how many passengers use the vehicle amongst other criteria, and this is used to produce a monthly report.

Mr Morris reported that the company are facing challenges and routes that are not profitable are being cut. He reported that it costs £75,000 to run each bus every year and that the cuts in the 158 route had been a commercial decision.

Mr Morris stated that surveys had been conducted on the route. This was disputed by the members of the public that were present.

Rosemary Morris and Melanie Fender were selected to ask questions to represent the public.

It was stated that there did not seem to be any logical reason for increasing the 159 route as it was missing out Caewathan, Bay View Gardens and Pen yr Alley and not picking any one up on the A465. It was noted that some residents have now started taking the train to Swansea and that the fare was only just over half the cost of the bus. It was noted that Select Buses have taken over some of the route, and that the public are going to look after the Company that is looking after them. It was queried if Skewen gets hit with cuts every time First Cymru loses funding and Mr Morris informed everyone that is not necessarily the case. It was stated that First Cymru is only interested in profits and takes no interest in serving the public. It was requested that First Cymru go back over the statistics and look at giving passengers a fairer deal. It was queried if smaller buses could be used on the route because the residents in the affected area are now cut off from vital services. It was queried why First Cymru are not more creative in the way that they run their services including the lack of late night services. It was also noted that due to timings it was often not possible to get connections. It was requested that First Cymru do not try to jeopardise the service that Select Buses run by changing the timings of First's bus to pick passengers up five minutes before the Select bus is due.

**9651: Apologies:** Cllrs J Davies, P Fellows, R Didcote, HR Richards.

#### **9652: To receive Declarations of Interest.**

Cllrs APH Davies and P Bebell declared an interest in item 9657 as Members of the Planning Committee. They left the room during discussions.

M Harvey declared an interest in item 9665 and left the room during discussion.

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.

#### **9653: To approve and sign the Minutes of Previous meetings: -**

##### **a) Council Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2014.**

Approved as a true and accurate record.

**Cont...**

**9654: Matters arising from the minutes. (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

Cllr APH Davies asked if a response had been sent regarding the Planning Bill Consultation. The Clerk explained that it had not been submitted.

**9655: 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 £5,581.82. Account No's 579 and 580 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.

**9656: To receive an explanation from the Clerk concerning Account No's: 538 and 539.**

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

**9657: Planning Applications: -**

**P2014/0117 – Garage conversion. Plot 96 Crymlyn Grove, Skewen. (Applicant – Mr Moore, 34 Cae Morfa, Skewen).**

No observations.

**P2013/0138 – Two storey dwelling incorporating rear conservatory (change of house type). Plot 24 Glas y Gorlan, Jersey Marine. (Applicant – Mr Jones, Plot 24 Glas y Gorlan).**

No observations.

**P2014/0849 – Construction of a building to enclose an electricity substation (amended plans). Land adjacent to Plot 68 Coed Darcy, Llandarcy. (Applicant – St Modwens Developments).**

No observations.

**Late Application: P2014/0154 – Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension. 39 Crymlyn Gardens, Skewen. (Applicant – Mrs Macarinelli, 39 Crymlyn Gardens, Skewen).**

No observations.

**Late Application: P2013/1083 – First floor side and rear extension. 5 Sunnyland Crescent, Skewen. (Applicant – Mr Evans, 5 Sunnyland Crescent, Skewen).**

No observations.

**9658: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which he or she represented the Council.**

The Clerk reported that she and Cllr APH Davies had attended the NPTCBC Liaison Forum and that she would report back at the next meeting.

Cllr P Bebell reported that her application to sit on the Bro Morgannwg Heath Board Committee had been successful.

Cllr A Wingrave reported that she had attended a Mini Tournament for disabled football teams and had a very enjoyable day.

**9659: To receive information from NPTCBC regarding the Neath Port Talbot Corporate Improvement Plan 2014-17.**

The information was noted by the Members.

**9660: To discuss refurbishing the War Memorial at Jersey Marine Community Centre as raised by Cllr H Bebell.**

This item was deferred to the next meeting because the request should have stated the Memorial at Crymlyn Burrows Community Centre.

**9661: To discuss if the old storeroom below the artificial sports turf pitch should be demolished for H & S reasons as raised by Cllr A Wingrave.**

Cllr A Wingrave stated that she felt that the building was a safety issue because children climb on the roof.

The Members discussed the issue.

**Resolved:** That the building is demolished.

**9662: To receive information from WAG regarding the Appointment of Chair of Emergency Ambulance Services Committee.**

The information was noted by the Members.

**9663: To receive information from WAG regarding the appointment of members for the Financial & Professional Services Sector Panel.**

The information was noted by the Members.

**9664: To receive information from the Insurance Companies regarding closing Skewen Park during periods of severe ice, frost or snow and discuss which way to progress.**

The Clerk read out the correspondence from the Insurance Companies.

The Members discussed the issue.

**Resolved:** That the Park would remain open in snowy, icy or frosty conditions but that signs would be put up to inform the public that conditions could be slippery.

**9665: To receive a copy of a letter from a resident from The Meadows in Skewen about a rugby ball going into the properties of The Meadows, and an initial response from the Clerk.**

The information was noted by the Members.

**9666: To receive information from WAG about Consultation Events for Marine Planning.**

The Members discussed the issue.

It was noted that the Community Council are obliged to Lease the ground to a Rugby Club as long as one exists in Skewen, under a Covenant in the original Conveyance Document.

**9667: To receive a copy of One Voice Wales' response regarding the Planning Review in Wales.**

The information was noted by the Members.

**9668: Correspondence.**

**a) To receive an email from the Town Clerk from Penarth to compliment Coedffranc Cemetery and staff.**

The information was noted by the Members.

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**b) To receive information from WAG regarding the Disposal of Local Authority Playing Fields Statutory Guidance.**

The information was noted by the Members.

**c) To receive information from NPTCBC regarding the Community Review 2013/14 – Second Stage Consultation (draft proposals).**

The information was noted by the Members.

**Emergency Items**

**a) Break in the Memorial Hall.**

The Clerk reported that there had been a break in at Memorial Hall and Council Offices.

The Members discussed the issue.

**Resolved:** That the Clerk should obtain quotes for an alarm system.

**b) Insurance Quotes**

The Clerk reported that she had received two quotations from the two largest sector insurance providers. The Clerk provided information on the costs.

The Members discussed the issue. It was noted that with one of the quotes, the Council would have to arrange for the annual independent playground inspection themselves.

**Resolved:** That Standing Orders are suspended to accept two quotes, and that the quote with the annual playground inspections incorporated by the Insurance Company should be accepted.

**9669: To receive information about a trip to Windsor & Bath to find out if any Members are interested in booking as raised by Cllr J Thomas (for information only).**

The information was noted by the Members.

**Cllr A Wingrave  
Chair**