

COEDFFRANC COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 16th April 2014 at Carnegie Hall.

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

9705: Apologies: Cllrs JS Jones, B Richards, J Davies.

9706: To receive Declarations of Interest.

Cllrs APH Davies and P Bebell declared an interest in item 9711 as Members of the Planning Committee. They left the room during discussions.

Cllr M Harvey declared an interest in item 9717. He left the room during discussions.

Cllr HC Clarke declared an interest in item 9720 and left the room for the decision.

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.

9707: To approve and sign the Minutes of Previous meetings: -

a) Council Meeting held on 2nd April 2014.

Approved as a true and accurate record with the exception of item 9701 which should have stated “to” Jersey Marine not “in Jersey Marine.

b) Personnel Meeting held on 2nd April 2014

Approved as a true and accurate record.

c) Estates Committee Meeting held on 9th April.

Approved as a true and accurate record.

d) Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 9th April 2014.

Approved as a true and accurate record.

9708: Matters arising from the minutes. (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

None.

9709: 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 £10,718.45. Account No's 54 and 57 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.

9710: To receive an explanation from the Clerk concerning Account No's: 1 and 28.

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

9711: Planning Applications: -

Late Application: P2014/0267 – Retention of 2 externally illuminated wall mounted signs. The Travellers Well, 8 Dynevor Place, Skewen. (Applicant – Mr Hartson, The Travellers Well, Skewen).

No observations.

9712: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which he or she represented the Council.

None.

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9713: To receive a report from the Personnel Committee.

Cllr P Bebell reported on the meetings and the information was noted.

9714: To receive a report from the Estates Committee.

Cllr R Didcote reported on the Meeting.

2) The Members discussed the issue. It was noted that the Committee had provided a report on the condition of the fence for Skewen Park and for the front fence of the Cemetery. It was suggested that the more urgent work is done as soon as possible, with the rest of the works being completed on a rolling programme over the next 3 or 4 years.

Resolved: That the urgent works detailed in the report will take priority, and the remaining works at both sites are completed on a rolling programme over the next 3 or 4 years. That the hedge already in place around the Cemetery is sufficient as a boundary, and that the internal railings should be removed from the hedge line where it is possible without damaging the hedge.

3) **Resolved:** That permission is given to place the container on the grass area alongside the Changing Pavilion in Tennant Park with the following conditions:

Container size 10'x8'

Painted suitable green colour

Repainted every 3 years.

Ground Rent at £1.00 per week

All Costs to associated with the purchase and installation of the container to be paid by Coedffranc Football Mini & Junior Club.

9715: To receive a report from the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Cllr APH Davies reported on the Meeting.

2) **Resolved:** that Qtr 4's Accounts are approved.

3) The information was noted by the Members.

4) The information was noted by the Members

9716: To receive information from First Cymru regarding the launch of the Better Journey Card (copy enclosed).

The information was noted by the Members. It was suggested that this scheme is a PR exercise, and that the money would be better spent on providing buses for the disadvantaged and elderly population.

9717: To receive further information from Mr Andrew Packington regarding rugby balls entering his premises.

The information was noted by the Members

9718: To receive a letter from Peter Black AM requesting signs at either end of New Road in Jersey Marine.

The Members discussed the request.

Resolved: That the Clerk should inform Peter Black AM that this issue should be referred to NPTCBC.

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9719: To receive an update on the blockage of the Tow Path to Jersey Marine.

The Clerk reported that she was still waiting to hear back from Skewen Angling Club to confirm if they are responsible for dredging the canal.

Cllr H Bebell stated that if dredging did not take place in the Canal it could cause flooding issues further up on the canal. Cllr DK Davies reported that the blockage is actually in the Coedffranc Central Ward, not in Jersey Marine, and that the path is currently impassable.

Resolved: That the Clerk reports back to Council once she has received a response from Skewen Angling Club.

9720: To receive information/costs regarding an alternative specification (to that provided in November 2013) for a sound system for the Memorial Hall using a specification provide by Cllr HC Clarke.

The Members discussed the information. Cllr HC Clarke provided the Members with technical information on the differences between the two specifications.

Resolved: That the Council purchase the higher specification equipment, which includes installation. The lowest tender for the higher specification equipment was approved.

9721: To receive information/decide what to do regarding the money currently invested in NatWest and the investment held in NPT Credit Union.

The Clerk informed the Members that NatWest are not currently issuing Fixed Term Bonds. The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the £30,000.00 invested in NPT Credit Union should remain in place. The £30,000.00 currently held in NatWest should be placed in a savings holding account to get a better rate of interest, until such time that the Clerk can arrange for the money to be reinvested in a Fixed Term Bond.

9722: To receive and respond if appropriate to the National Assembly for Wales invitation to submit written evidence regarding a Committee Inquiry: Making Laws in the Fourth Assembly.

The information was noted.

Emergency Item

a) To receive a request from Skewen Cricket Club for a loan.

The Clerk reported that there had been a change in the Legislation from the 1st April 2014, and as an unintended consequence of the Amended Consumer Credit Regulations 2014, Local Authorities may now be required to register with the Financial Conduct Authority if they are providing any form of credit. The Clerk reported that Local Authorities are currently taking legal advice to find out if the legislation will include Local Authorities.

The Members discussed the information.

Resolved: That the decision is deferred until the Clerk contacts the Director of Finance for NPTCBC for further information, and reports back to Council once she has received a response.

9723: Correspondence.

a) To receive a Consultation Document and respond if appropriate in regard to The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Amendment) Order 2014 from the Welsh Assembly Government

The information was noted by the Members.

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9724: 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.

9725: To discuss/decide what action should be taken regarding the Lease Agreement for Jersey Marine Community Centre.

The Clerk reported on several concerns about the management of Jersey Marine Community Centre. The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Clerk should write to the Secretary of the Management Committee for Jersey Marine Community Centre expressing the Council's concerns, and asking for a copy of their accounts, full contact details of the existing Management Committee, a copy of an up to date Constitution, and details of when the next AGM will take place. It was agreed that the letter should be sent by Recorded Delivery with a response deadline of the 13th May. The Clerk was asked to report back to the Council at the next available Council Meeting following the deadline for a response.

**Cllr A Wingrave
Chair**