

COEDFFRANC TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Statutory Meeting of the Council Meeting held on 15th August 2018 at the Memorial Hall.

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

1347: Apologies: Cllrs B Richards, M Harvey, K Amos.

It was agreed that in the interest of the members of the public attending the meeting that Item 1373 would be brought forward.

1373: To receive a Motion Moved with Notice to rescind the Councils decision taken on the 16th May 2018 to remove the fixed football goal posts in Jersey Marine Park pending further investigations into alternative arrangements.

The Clerk reported that there have been significant number of complaints from the residents at Jersey Marine with regards to the decision to remove the goal posts at Jersey Marine Park. The Clerk also reported that she had received a petition with 192 signatories, and had been informed that there is one being on line that she had no access to. Additionally, the Clerk had received correspondence from Crymlyn Primary School regarding access to their property. Cllr A Wingrave reported that she had secured funding from NPTCBC via a Section 106 Agreement that could be used to provide alternative equipment. The Members agreed that it was in everyone's best interests to investigate alternative arrangements.

Resolved: That the Motion to rescind the decision taken on the 16th May 2018 is moved. To defer this item to the Estate Committee who will extend an invitation to Full Council for a site meeting for further investigations at Jersey Marine Park.

1348: To receive Declarations of Interest.

Cllr A Aubrey declared an interest in item 1353 and left the room during the discussions. Cllr K Whitehead declared an item 1351 and left the room during the discussions. Cllr APH Davies declared an interest in 1363 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.

1349: To approve and sign the Minutes of Previous meetings: -

a) Council Meeting held on 18th July 2018.

Approved as a true and accurate record.

b) Finance & General Purposes Meeting held on 18th July 2018.

Approved as a true and accurate record.

c) Estates Committee Meeting held on 1st August 2018.

Approved as a true and accurate record.

1350: Matters arising from the minutes. (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The Clerk reported that she had received written confirmation for the Award of Funding in relation to the initial setting up of the joint working arrangements for compliance in relation to GPDR between Town/Community Council in the Neath Borough. The Clerk informed the Members that as she has been the person nominated as the project lead by the Welsh Government it would fall to Coedffranc Town Council and the Clerk to administer the funding. This would mean that Coedffranc Town Council would be responsible for paying/reclaiming and handling the funding which would come in two instalments.

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The Clerk reported that if the Council agrees to these terms, the Clerk and Mayor need to sign the agreement so that it can be initiated.

Resolved: That the Clerk and Mayor sign the Agreement so that it can be initiated.

1351: 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 £31,427.93 Account No's 300 and 326 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

1352: To receive an explanation from the Clerk concerning Account No's: 252 and 261.

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

1353: Planning Applications:

To receive a Report on Planning Applications that have been dealt with between meetings.

Late Planning Applications:

P2018/0656 – Change of use of residential dwelling (Class C3 to a HMO Class C4). 17 Elba Crescent, Crymlyn Burrows, Swansea SA1 8QQ. (Applicants – Mr Anton Rimko of 5 Vaindre Drive, St Mellons, Cardiff CF3 0LL).

Objections were made on the following grounds: There is not enough parking for five additional residents, the amount of extra refuse the additional residents would create, the noise issue for local residents. Additionally, the Members wished to know the number of HMO's that have already been converted and what the limit would be.

P2018/0663 – Replacement of existing 96 sheet poster display with a 48 sheet internally illuminated display and associated logo box. (Land to south of Fabian Way, Neath SA10 6JW. (Applicants – Mr Patrick Fisher, Wildstone Capital, C/o Agent).

No observations.

P2018/0564 – Installation of four high power electric vehicle (EV) charging points, 8 high power units, transformer station unit structure and retaining walls and demolition of existing car wash. Skewen Service Station, Layby off A465 to Skewen Service station, Skewen Neath SA10 7DR. (Applicant – Mr Marcus Groll, Ionity GMBH, Moosacher Strasse 88, D.80809 Munchen, Germany).

No observations.

P2018/0624 – Certificate of lawful development (existing) for a HMO (Class C4). 26 Elba Crescent, Crymlyn Burrows, Swansea SA1 8QQ. (Applicant – Mr David Winchester of Tjarogatan 63, 257 33 Rydeback, Sweden).

Objections were made on the following grounds: There is not enough parking for five additional residents, the amount of extra refuse the additional residents would create, the noise issue for local residents. Additionally, the Members wished to know the number of HMO's that have already been converted and what the limit would be.

P2018/0660 – Multi-Faith Centre. Swansea Bay University Campus, Fabian Way, Crymlyn Burrows, SA1 8EN. (Applicant – Mr Benjamin Dix, Swansea University, Estates Section, Union House, Singleton Park, Swansea University SA2 8PP).

The Members queried why so much space is needed, what large events are going to be held in the 2 large rooms, what the rooms will be used for, and where are the existing Faith Facilities? The Council Members requested more detailed information before commenting.

1354: To receive a report from any Member concerning meetings at which he or she represented the Council.

Cllr K Whitehead reported that he and Cllr M Harvey attended the Boundary Commissions Review. Cllr Whitehead reported that information was provided regarding the boundaries of Coedffranc.

1355: To receive a report from the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

Cllr APH Davies reported on the Meeting.

4) Resolved: That Qtr 1's Accounts are approved. Additionally it was agreed that there should be a virement from the festival budget of £1,200 into the Christmas lights budget.

5) The Aged Debtors were noted.

6) The vandalism Report was noted.

1356: To receive a report from the Estates Committee.

Cllr A Wingrave reported that the Committee had held a meeting with the Scouts Representatives in relation to their request to extend the footprint of their land.

Resolved: That Skewen Scout Group should be given an additional 10 meters directly behind their existing compound, and that the cost for the Lease Agreement inclusive of the new land should be set at £75.00 per annum.

1357: To review/authorise the Council's Standing Order.

The Members reviewed the Standing Orders.

Resolved: That the Standing Orders are approved.

1358: To review/authorise the Council's Financial Regulations.

The Members reviewed the Financial Regulations.

Resolved: That the Financial Regulations are approved.

1359: To receive/approve the Annual Investment Strategy for 2018.

Resolved: That the Annual Investment Strategy for 2018 is approved and that the Public Sector Deposit Fund is added to the list of approved investors.

1360: To receive/approve the Well-being of Future Generations Annual Plan.

Resolved: That the Annual Investment Strategy for 2018 is approved with the following amendment "the name Coedffranc is welsh and means French Man's Wood".

1361: To discuss/comment/approve if appropriate if the Council should relocate its investment from Nat West into the Public Sector Deposit Fund.

The Clerk reported on the issue. The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Council's investment is to be relocated to the Public Sector Deposit Fund to obtain a higher interest rate.

1362: To receive/comment if appropriate on the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales draft proposals.

Cllr K Whitehead reported on the information he had acquired at the Consultation Event. Cllr Whitehead reported that the Consultation only applied to the County Borough Wards not the Town/Community Council Wards. Cllr APH Davies suggested that the Council should comment on the numbers of electorates within the West Central and Central Wards. Cllr APH Davies suggested that the Council should request that the boundaries for West Central and Central are moved to allow some of the electorate in West Central to move to the Central Ward. The Members discussed the issue in depth. It was agreed that all of the external boundaries should remain unchanged.

Resolved: That the issue is deferred to the next meeting to allow time for Cllr APH Davies to investigate the issue and draft figures and maps.

Cllrs M Fender and L Pocock left the meeting at this point.

1363: To receive a request for financial assistance from Skewen & District Historical Society to refurbish the grave of Sir Samuel Thomas Evans in St John Church Cemetery.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That a donation of £200 is given.

1364: To discuss the parking issues at Swansea University Campus as raised by Cllr T Bevan.

Cllr T Bevan reported on the ongoing parking issues at Jersey Marine Beach. Cllr Bevan reported that he has received numerous complaints from fishermen, birdwatchers and families because they are not being given enough time to enjoy the facilities at the beach and dunes. Cllr Bevan reported that at present there is only a limited time of 3 hours permitted on week days. Cllr Bevan reported that he wanted the current restrictions lifted to allow 24/7 parking to allow the beach to be used for the people of Coedffranc. Cllr Bevan also reported that the car park cost had been increase by £1.00 since last year which he felt was unacceptable. The Members discussed the issue. It was reported that the 20 spaces were supposed to be for residents to use, but it appears that they are currently used by staff working in the University.

Resolved: That the Clerk writes a letter to the University asking for unlimited parking, 7 days a week at an acceptable set price.

1365: To discuss/appoint a Town Councillor to sit as a representative on the Management Committee at Caewathan Community Centre.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the Coedffranc Town Council Representative will be Cllr A Aubrey.

1366: To receive details of local bus service revisions.

The information was noted by the Members.

1367: To receive a letter from a member of the public praising the way the park is managed and requesting a shelter.

The Members discussed the issue. It was reported that since the old shelter had been removed the amount of dog foul in the area had been reduced because dog owners had been sitting in the shelter, and not paying attention to their dogs, therefore, dog owners were not picking up their dog foul.

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The Council's budget was discussed and it was noted that at present the Council does not have the funds to install a new shelter. There were also concerns about youths congregating in a shelter and behaving in an anti-social manner. It was also noted that there are no shelters in the Gnoll Park or Margam Park.

Resolved: That the Clerk should write a letter to inform the resident that their comments were appreciated, but unfortunately, their request for a shelter was not approved at this point in time.

1368: To discuss/approve providing financial assistance towards a new kitchen in Crymlyn Burrows as raised by Cllr A Wingrave.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That a donation of £258 is to be given.

1369: To discuss/agree a standardised height for the hedge in Coedffranc Cemetery.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That the item is deferred to the Estates Committee.

1370: To receive a response from NPTCBC regarding a complaint concerning the condition the Christmas Lights were returned in.

The information was noted by the Members.

1371: To receive/respond if appropriate to a Welsh Government consultation on Petroleum Extraction Policy in Wales.

The Members discussed the issue.

Resolved: That Cllr APH Davies drafts a letter of objection on behalf of the Council.

1372: To receive the August Newsletter and the recommendations from the Local Government Review Panel.

The information was noted by the Members.

1374: To receive an offer for a donation of two picnic benches from the Royal British Legion to go into the park at Jersey Marine if the football apparatus is taken away.

The Members discussed the offer.

Resolved: That the Clerk thanks the resident for their offer and informs them that their offer has been declined.

1375: Correspondence.

a) To receive an email from Environmental Health with regards to the complaints that have received about the goal posts at Jersey Marine Park.

The Members discussed the contents of the email.

Resolved: That the Clerk sends a response to the Environmental Health Department updating them on the Council's actions.

Cllr K Whitehead
Mayor