SEVEN SISTERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED BLAENDULAIS

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 2nd March 2015.**

Present: Chairman: Mr. L.C. Jenkins.

Councillors: Miss C. Freeman, Mr. S.K. Hunt, Mr. B. Mackenzie,

Mr. B.L. Parfitt (clerk), Mr. P. Parfitt, Mr. M. Rivers,

Mrs. G. Smith and Mr. D.C. Thomas.

Others: P.C. John Stone.

**1. Apologies for Absence**. Mr. D. Francis.

**2. Declarations of Interests**.

Mr. Phil Parfitt in item no.8(iii). Mr. Rivers and Mr. Thomas in item no. 9 and the Chairman and Mr. Rivers in item no.17, when they left the room.

**3. Policing Matters**.

The Chairman welcomed PC Stone to the meeting.

(i) There were now 4 officers, including PCSO Tennet, on the same shift. This made for easier communication and the ability to carry out operations.

(ii) There were 13 crimes recorded in January which included 8 violent crimes. Violent crime was a no. 1 priority for the police but it did take up a lot of police time. PC Stone would provide further details of the violent crimes to the clerk.

(iii) Members pointed out that communication between the police and the Council is essential so that feedback on operations could be passed to the community. This would indicate to the public that police are acting on information given.

(iv) In order for the police to gain a prosecution 4 or 5 sources of intelligence are required so that a case can be built up. The police find that people are reluctant to report crime due to the fear of repercussions. Intelligence from the public is paramount.

(v) The PC repeated Sgt. James’ statement that the PC & PCSO’s duties were collecting information/intelligence and, therefore, will not spend a lot of time on the beat. It was commented that PCSO Beynon was seen around the village much more often that PCSO Tennet.

(vi) The parking problem on yellow lines near the school was brought up. PC Stone explained that prosecutions for parking on yellow lines was the responsibility of NPT CBC. The police can only prosecute for causing obstruction.

(vii) PC Stone was prepared to meet members at the police station.

(viii) For the next PACT meeting brief to be :-

Parking at the school, drugs and violent crime.

The Chairman thanked PC Stone for attending the meeting.

**4. Minutes of the meeting held with the police and NPT Homes on 17th Feb. 2015**

It was RESOLVED that the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

**5. Matters Arising**.

(i) Residents of the Brynbedd site are concerned that there is no police presence on “the beat” due to the new policing method. Also, NPT Homes do not patrol in the evening but do pass complaints to the police response unit.

1

(ii) Members were of the opinion that the community was not receiving the service from the police for which it was paying. Mr. Hunt informed members that it is up to the community to tell the police what is the preferred and best method of policing in Seven Sisters. Members decided that the preferred method of policing was presence on “the beat” with the PCSO having more contact with youngsters. The Chairman volunteered, as spokesperson, to take these views to the police.

(iii) PC Stone was due to retire in 3 months time. There was no guarantee that he would be replaced.

**6. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 10th February2015**.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

**7. Matters Arising**.

(i) Mr. Emyr Lewis. Mr. Thomas had spoken to the RFC and Mr. Hywel Morgan would soon provide the clerk with details of Mr. Lewis’ service to the club.

(ii) School Patrol. NPT would confirm whether it was prepared to extend the Agreement to 2017.

(iii) Clean-up event. Mr. Hunt informed members that this would take place at the end of May.

**8. Community Hall and CHAOSS**.

(i) A donation of £300 had been received by CHAOSS from the Nant Helen Benefits Fund.

(ii) An invoice for £506 (excl.VAT) had been received for repairs to the boiler.

(iii) The annual contract with Security Centres Ltd. for services at the hall was due to end on 30th April. The clerk would discuss taking over the contract with Nite Lite.

**9. Recreation Ground**.

On the 17th February Mr. Thomas and the clerk had met Mr. Rivers, in his capacity as secretary to the Miners’ Welfare, and Mr. Morse of CISWO re. CHAOSS taking over management of the Rec’. The Welfare also owned land between the Rugby Club and the railway (approx. 1 hectare) which CISWO, with the consent of the Welfare and following its successful registration at the Land Registry, wished to transfer, freehold, to this Council. CISWO had no objection to the Council then leasing this additional land together with the Rec’ to CHAOSS.

Further, on 26th February Mr. Thomas and the clerk met with Mr. Rivers and

Mr. Christie, Welfare Chairman, when they were informed that the Welfare committee were due to meet to discuss the hand over. Members decided to accept the offer made by CISWO subject to confirmation from the Welfare and the land being successfully registered.

**10. Brynbedd Cemetery**.

(i) A clean-up was required before Palm Sunday on 29th March 2015.

(ii) Mr. Phil Parfitt was organising the felling of dead trees.

**11. Meetings attended by Members**.

(i) Mr. Thomas and the clerk had met Ben Riseborough at NPT CBC offices to discuss Stage 2-Expression of Interest for the RDP grant for computer classes. Forms needed to be completed and submitted for Stage 2.

2

(ii) Mrs. Herdman and Mr. Hunt had attended a meeting with NPT CBC when alternative ways of providing summer playschemes were discussed. Funding was a problem as was insurance and training for volunteers. A further meeting was to take place. The clerk was asked to contact Communities First enquiring as to whether there was funding available. Mrs. Herdman had previously been involved with youth work and she may have knowledge of trained youth workers at the next meeting.

(iii) An up-date on the blue badge scheme to be on the agenda for the next Liaison Meeting.

**12. Planning matters**. None.

**13. Correspondence**.

(i) Details of the annual audit had been received from Mazars Ltd. the external auditors.

(ii) A letter from NPT Council re. “Court Deputy Savings Proposals” outlined the increases in fees for legal services to the public.

**14. Clerk’s Report**. It was RESOLVED that the following be passed for payment:- Cheque No. £ p

Neil Roberts, Cemetery 502383 200. 00.

M. Miles, February 2015 384 as per contract.

Y. Roberts, Librarian, February 2015 385 83. 00.

B.L. Parfitt, February 2015 386 307. 20.

BT Calls and alarm line 387 169. 65.incVAT

BT Broadband 3 mths 388 86. 40 “ “

Y. Roberts, 2 days relief caretaker 389 97. 50.

Martin’s Electrical, lighting repairs 390 115. 20 “ “

Eric Collier, Boiler Repairs 502391 607. 20 “ “

**15. Land near Marigold**. Nothing to report.

**16. Road seats etc**. Nothing to report.

**17. Vacancy for clerk.**

Mr. Thomas took the chair for this item. Of the three applications for the post two had since withdrawn leaving Mr. Rivers as the only candidate. Members were not prepared to offer the post to Mr. Rivers as the only candidate as it was considered that Council should appoint via an interview procedure. It was proposed by Miss Freeman, seconded by Mr. Hunt that the post be re-advertised in the Evening Post. There were no amendments. The clerk would continue unpaid.

**18. To rescind minute 18(v) of 1st Dec. 2014**

It was unanimously agreed to rescind the minute reporting the proposed resignation of the Chairman.

**19. Any Other Business**.

Mr. Thomas had recently telephoned the primary care centre for an appointment. He had been informed that Dr. Jones was not covering this area on that day.

Mr. Mackenzie would raise the matter with Dr. Jones on his visit to the centre later in the week.

Chairman: L.C. Jenkins signed at the meeting. Date: 13.04.15 3

**Clerk’s Report to the meeting on 13th April 2015**.

**Income. £ p**

CHAOSS, hall rental 6000 00

Cemetery 470 00

**Accounts for Payment.**

M. Miles, April 2015 as per contract

Eric Collier, annual boiler maintenance 222 00 inc.VAT

South Wales Evening Post, advert 288 00 “ “

Corona Gas, February 2015 421 94 “ “

Cemetery Rates 530 20

PAYE and NIC 1079 37

Y. Roberts, librarian, March 2015 83 00

**Correspondence**

David Sanders Land near Marigold Place

Mazars Ltd. Forms for Annual Audit

Police Crime Stats for February 2015

NPT CBC Welsh Govt. White Paper - Power to Local People

**Planning Matters** None to date.

4