

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday 6 July 2016

Present Councillor KK Manneh (in the Chair), Councillors SWJ Ashley, S Brooks, LJ Chaney, M Day, S Evans, R Jones, D Standing, WJ Walker and DJ Williams

(Councillor Manneh chaired the meeting as Councillor Evans was delayed)

Also Clare Facey (Administration Officer)

ESP16/009 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor R Seabourne (operation) and Torfaen County Borough Council Councillor John Cunningham.

ESP16/010 Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have and sign the Interests Sheet to give details of the nature of the interest.

ESP16/011 Planning, Highways, Footpaths and Licensing Matters

(a) Planning & Highways Matters

Members considered outstanding planning list 1145.

It was **recommended** that no objection is offered to list 1145.

(b) Schedule of Torfaen County Borough Council Planning Decisions

Members considered a schedule of recent decisions of Torfaen County Borough Council.

It was **recommended** that the decisions are noted.

(c) Public Footpath at Court Farm Road, Llantarnam

Members noted that on 20 June 2016 Torfaen County Borough Council confirmed the above named Order under S.53 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981.

Members considered the Confirmation of the Order and Plan and it was **recommended:-**

(i) that the information be noted.

(ii) that Torfaen County Borough Council's Officer, Fiona Ford, be thanked on behalf of Cwmbran Community Council for all of her efforts in resolving this matter.

(d) Little Pen-y-Waun

Members considered a report received from Councillor Standing, who updated members further.

Councillor Standing proposed that he would meet with Stephen Peel, Torfaen County Borough Council's Senior Officer of Building Conservation, to discuss a Scheme of Works on the Archeology of Little Pen-y-Waun and report back to members at a future meeting. Members also suggested liaising with the ward members Councillor's Manneh and Matthews.

It was **recommended** that Councillor Standing reports to a future meeting and that he is thanked for his excellent detailed report.

ESP16/012 Neighbourhood Services Matters

Councillor John Cunningham (Torfaen County Borough Council's Executive Member Neighbourhoods) was unable to attend the meeting.

Councillor Walker informed members that he had received an email from Councillor Cunningham answering some of his concerns relating to the last Environmental Committee meeting.

Councillor Walker emphasised the continual problems in his ward, whereby, the playing fields and footpaths were not being maintained even after reassurances that they would be looked at. He expressed his concerns over 5 foot grass being unattended and the risk of fires.

Members felt that a formal letter should be sent to Councillor Cunningham and copied to the Chief Executive, expressing the Council's grave concerns relating to Llantarnam Playing Fields, areas by Court Farm Road and footpaths in Llantarnam Ward.

Councillor Jones raised concerns over many areas within Cwmbran Community Council where grass was not being maintained whether in playing fields or weeds growing through pavements. Members were in agreement that someone should take responsibility for this as it increases the risk of fires.

Members suggested that a separate formal letter be sent, drawing the attention of Torfaen County Borough Council, on the extremely long unmaintained grass in the Cwmbran Community Council area. The Council has grave concerns of the proximity to properties and the dangers of fires. Members asked that the letter be copied to the Chief Fire Officer in Cwmbran.

It was **recommended:-**

- a) that the Clerk write a letter to Councillor Cunningham highlighting Councillor Walker's continued concerns, to be copied to the Chief Executive at Torfaen County Borough Council.
- b) that the Clerk write a letter to Councillor Cunningham expressing Cwmbran Community Council's concerns at all grassed areas being neglected and the need for immediate action to prevent fires occurring, especially during the summer term. To be copied to the Chief Fire Officer.
- c) that the position be noted.

Signed

(Chairman, Cwmbran Community Council)