**CRYNANT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 30th October 2014**

**1. APOLOGIES**

Nil

**2**. **REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE**

Community Councillors: Mr. R Miles (Chairman)

Mr. M Evans

Mrs. P Wood

Mr. B Michael

Mr. R Power

Mrs. A Hart

Mr. P Shopland

Mr. B Lewis

County Councillor Mrs. K Pearson

Mr. R Evans (Clerk)

**3.** **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Community Councillors as per schedule of Councillor Interests held.

County Councillor Pearson: Planning Matters.

4. **POLICE REPORT: Sergeant Jayne James, P.C. Martin Jenkins, South Wales Police**

**Sergeant James** said that Crynant continued not to have their own PCSO, at least up to the New Year. PCSO Hill, however, is now driving and will be more mobile. Crime in the village continued to be low.

**RP** referred to off-road motor biking and some people believe that bikers can go on forestry land. Sergeant James and PC Jenkins were adamant that this was not the case and no biking was allowed off-road in the whole of the South Wales Police area, and bikes owned by the owners could be taken away. Some biking clubs were allowed but had to have Public Liability cover.

Sergeant James hoped that Inspector Davies, the newly appointed Inspector, would be able to attend a meeting of the Council when available. Attendance at meetings by the Police were prescribed to be for up to three times in the year, but Sergeant James hoped that she would be able to attend more than that, especially when PCSO’s were attending on their own. **BM** made reference to young people congregating regularly at the rear of the Rugby Club, and said that signs limiting use of the car park to people who attend at the Club will be installed. Security lights may be considered. A black BMW car had been seen at the Club and in other locations in the village and the Police were interested in locating the car

**5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES TO THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Minutes re: the full Council Meeting held on 30th October 2014.

Proposed accurate by: **PS** Seconded by: **ME**

No Objections No abstentions

**6. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no Matters Arising.

**7.** **COUNTY COUNCILLOR PEARSON**

The Rights of Way meeting was to be held on 15th January 2015 in Neath.

The footpath from the Kingfisher will bypass a resident’s property and enter into Treforgan.

A black-box censor at the junction of Brynawel and Maesmawr is to be installed. If the flash deters traffic the censor will be used regularly.

Two people are claiming ownership of land at Cefn Coed which is delaying when a bus stop can be placed.

The state of the roof at the Chapel of Ease is worsening, while it is not known who owns the land on which the Chapel of Ease stands. **ME** expressed his objection against money being spent on the Chapel of Ease. **PS** was concerned that the Chapel of Ease was a medieval building. Letters had been sent to the Church of Wales by the Council last year but no positive answer was received regarding the repair of the Chapel of Ease. **RM** had previously spoken to CADW about possible funding and this might be considered again.

There was a high level of water in the culvert near the Fork Lift Trucks. Dredging was required and the Borough council needed to make sure the road would not flood.

**KP** informed the meeting that she was no longer a member of the Borough Council’s Planning Committee.

**8.** **REPORTS**

**Free Running Area**

The Clerk reported that the Free Running Area located in the playground had been completed. It was intended that funding for the project would be channeled to the Council from Groundwork so that the Council could in turn meet the costs of the project and the contractors, HAGS-SMP. Groundwork had confirmed that they had the funds “to cover the whole cost of the project”, but no funds were paid and an invoice for the project has now been forwarded to the Council by the Contractor.

Mr David Michael, Solicitor for Neath Port Talbot Council, has been briefed on the matter and has advised that he be contacted in the event of an approach from the Contractor.

A grant for a new set of swings in the playground, amounting to £5,000 has been confirmed, following the removal of the former swings which could not remain in the prior area due to the installation of the Free Running Area. The grant is from Awards for All, part of the Lottery Fund.

**BM** reported that a gravestone in the cemetery had collapsed but contact with the family could be made as a known name in the village was on the grave.

**PS** said that Welsh Government were laying down new rules, including putting restrictions on access to areas previously used for the annual Steam Fair at Cen Coed. Cefn Coed was also losing 20% of its funding from Welsh Government.

**BM** asked what Neath Port Talbot Borough Council’s plans were for the cemetery in the future and that **KP** should seek what the Council’s plans were.

**PS** Asked about the machine for gathering up leaves. **KP** said it had been operating in Brynawel but would investigate the matter with the Borough Council.

**RP** said that footpath 13 – Pen Pentre Cottages to the forestry entrance - had been blocked by fencing and he queried whether the Borough Council had changed the direction of the footpath with no gates and therefore no entrance. New signs should be placed if the path was being diverted.

Two quotes had been provided in respect of the painting of major parts of the Community Centre, one quote of £2,260 and the other of £2,022. It was **AGREED** that the lower quote be accepted – that of Howard Locke – subject to proof of Public Liability.

It was agreed at the last meeting that a quote be provided by Spic’n Span to clear overgrowth at the rear of Bethel Chapel. The quote received was £400. It was debated whether it was justifiable to sanction the work due to the poor condition generally of the Chapel and the extent of its future, especially as there were a number of chapels already in the village.

A vote was taken on whether the Council should meet the cost of clearing the overgrowth on a one-off basis.

Proposed: **BM** Seconded: **PS**

For 5 – Against 3

Abstentions: Nil Objections: Nil

**9.** **FINANCE REPORT (HT)**

Bank Balances as at 30th October 2014

Community Council: £41,630

Savings Account: £ 2,796

Community Association: £12,865

**Total: £57,291**

Authorisation: £ 4,318

**Total: £52,973**

**10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application Number: P2014/0766

Applicant’s Name/Address: Mr. David Evans

35 Nant Celyn

Crynant

Neath, SA10 8PZ

Site Location: 35 Nant Celyn

Crynant

Neath, SA10 8PZ

Proposed Development: Works to two trees covered by Tree Preservation Order T285 – (Ta) Oak Tree crown reduction and removal of decayed and crossing over branches and removing the epicormic growth – (Tb) Sycamore tree, crown reduction and removal of decayed and crossing over branches.

Easting: 279431 Northing: 205577

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Observations: Nil

**March Hywel Wind Turbine Planning Appeal**

The March Hywel Protection Group were seeking donations from the Council and any residents interested in joining the Protection Group to help meet the costs in respect of the March Hywel Wind Turbine Planning Appeal.

**11. AUTHORISATIONS**

**Community Council - October 2014**

NPTCBC (DD) £ 80.00

Barclays Bank (DD) £ 4.00

HRMC (Sept) £ 225.53

St Margarets Church £ 792.00

Royal British Legion (Poppy Appeal) £ 18.00

E G Nicholas £ 753.93

R Evans £ 449.15

Saw Oil £ 18.00

Stamps (R. Evans) £ 7.44

Crynant Landscapes £ 897.42

**Total: £3,080.47**

Payments Proposed: **PS** Payments Seconded: **PW**

Abstentions: **Nil** Objections: **Nil**

**Community Association: October 2014**

Signs Express £ 84.90

B Michael £ 28.00

SWALEC (DD) £ 284.51

I Sadler £ 840.42

**Total: £1,237.83**

Payments proposed: **PS** Payments seconded: **PW**

Abstentions: **NIL** Objections: **NIL**

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

**13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**RM** was making arrangements for an evening to mark Cliff Davies’ retirement after many years of service as a Councillor in Crynant. A possible date may be in the second half of November, with the Gradon being the likely venue.

**Meeting Closed At 8.50 pm**

**DATE OF NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY, 30th OCTOBER 2014 COMMENCING at 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WOODLAND ROAD CRYNANT.**

Minutes Proposed as accurate: Seconded:

Abstentions: Objections:

Signed: Chairman Date: