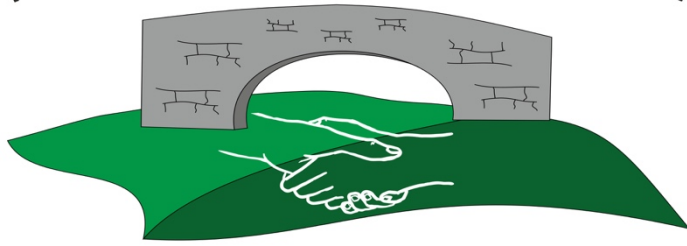


# Risca East Community Council



...working with you

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Minutes of the meeting of Risca East Community Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018.

641. To sign the register and to receive apologies.

641.1. Community Councillors present: Councillors John Blackburn, Dawn Derraven, Philippa Leonard and Sue Thorne

641.2. Apologies were received from Councillors Dai Davies, Zoe Davies, Rob Derraven Arianna Leonard and Nigel George.

642. To receive representatives from the Police.

642.1. There was no representative present at the meeting.

643. To receive representations from the public.

643.1. Over 35 members of the public were in attendance to protest against the proposed Community Centre at Holly Road. The Chairman explained that the Council allowed 15 minutes for the public and only one person should speak on behalf of the whole group.

643.2. Mr. Stephen Ransome made the following points to the Community Council:-

- There is a lack of available sewage capacity. Problems were encountered when Trenewydd and High Trees were built. How is this to be addressed?
- Is the land to be sold or leased?
- There is an ongoing problem with Japanese Knot Weed. Is this to be a problem?
- The amount of traffic on the road is not conducive to further development.
- What are the intended uses of the proposed building. A detailed list of activities is required
- What are the proposed opening/closing times of the proposed community centre?
- Has anyone considered the lack of housing for the elderly in the area. It seems to be a forgotten generation.
- Who is funding the project – the cost is sure to be in the hundreds of thousands, Where is this money coming from and could it be better spent on other projects.
- Why was an article printed in two separate newspapers stating that Ty Sign is a deprived area. Who made the decision to make such a sweeping statement?

643.3. The Chairman invited comments/questions from the floor.

- An representative of Caerphilly County Borough Council has denied having conversations with certain members of the public who have raised questions relating to the development.
- Cllr. Philippa Leonard assured the meeting that Caerphilly County Borough Council was not using any of its funds to pay for the development.

- It was suggested that a public meeting should be called with representatives of Caerphilly County Borough Council to discuss the development and action group's objections to the development.
- Cllr. John Blackburn suggested that they get professional help. He offered to speak to members of the group afterwards to give them the names of solicitors that may take on their case.

643.4. It was **agreed** that the points raised by the action group be forwarded to Caerphilly County Borough Council.

643.5. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and explained that the Community Council needed to continue with the published agenda.

644. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were **agreed**.

#### 645. Matters Arising

645.1. Minute 635.3 – Remuneration of Councilors - The Clerk confirmed that the forms would be available in February/March of next year.

#### 646. Clerk's Report

646.1. The Clerk provided a financial statement of the 2018/19 income and expenditure as at 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 which showed a total spend of £3,985.81 with income received to date of £12,752.77. The bank balance was £49,112.08

646.2. The Council **accepted** the Clerk's report.

647. The Clerk's schedule of correspondence was received and the actions **agreed**.

#### 647.1. Requests for Financial Assistance

- Two representatives from the Special Unit helping and supporting Autistic Children at Risca Community Comprehensive School gave a presentation explaining the activities of the Unit. Their hope was to expand the facilities but they needed extra funding which the school was not able to provide. After a series of questions and answers it was **agreed** that the Community Council would be prepared to financially support the unit but only on a modest basis. The two ladies agreed to come back to the Council with ideas and financial estimates which the Council could then consider.
- TLC Café Community Group – request for financial assistance to pay for a bus to take under-privileged families to Porthcawl for a day trip at a cost of £325. The Council **agreed** to the cost of £325 but an invoice from the bus company was required and also confirmation of who the cheque was payable to.
- Cllr Dawn Derraven submitted a detailed document reporting a breach of the Code of Conduct by Cllr. Zoe Davies. It was noted that Cllr. Davies had previously been reminded of her need to comply with the Councillors' Code of Conduct (see minute 584.). The Clerk advised the meeting that he wanted to refer this to Caerphilly County Borough Council's Monitoring Officer for their advice on how to proceed with this.`

648. Risca East/Risca Town joint meeting.

648.1. Cllr. Sue Thorne printed an copy of the details relating to the Summer Fayre. She asked Councillors to confirm the time that they would be available on the day.

649. To receive a report from Councillor Nigel George

649.1. Cllr George had previously apologised for being able to attend the meeting.

650. Local Issues

- 650.1. Ty Sign Ward – Cllr. Sue Thorne reported on a recent One Voce Wales meeting and the possibility of reorganization of Local Government and the implications for Community and Town Councils in terms of increased responsibilities.
- 650.2. Pontymister Upper Ward – Cllr. John Blackburn commented on the standard of the re-surfacing of Gelli Avenue. He requested that the work be inspected by officers from Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- 650.3. Trenewydd Ward – Cllr. Dawn Derraven reported that vans were being parked on footpaths on High Trees and causing an obstruction for pedestrians. Cllr. Philippa Leonard agreed to raise this with the Highways Department of Caerphilly County Borough Council. Cllr. Derraven also agreed to speak to the Community Support Officer

651. To Consider Planning Applications

- 651.1. 18/0409/FULL – Land at Holly Road, Ty Sign – Construct community hall and resource centre with associated car parking, access from Holly Road and garden space.

Signed.....Chairman 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018