**COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE SYCAMORE TREE INN COLWINSTON ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 14TH 2014 AT 7.30PM

1. **ATTENDANCE**

Councillors:

G. Bates Chairman

E.H. Lewis Vice Chairman

Mrs H Maclehose

Mrs. C. Roach

B. Kennard

W. Bellin

Mrs J Horton

County Councillor Ray Thomas

Clerk: Jane Motte

One member of the public was present.

The meeting commenced with a presentation by Elise Faulkner, Affordable Rural Housing Enabler with The Vale of Glamorgan. She outlined the work of her department which includes working with Community Councils and residents to identify housing needs. She is currently working on updating the Local Housing Market Assessment which informs discussions with developers and as part of that work, she would very much like to encourage people to sign up to the Housing Waiting List if they think they have or are likely to have a housing need now or in the future. This can include current residents of the village or family members who would like to live in the village but cannot afford to do so. It can also include family who want to return to look after elderly relatives. If people don’t register then it is possible for developers to say that there is no demonstrated need for affordable housing which then impacts on the amount of affordable housing they have to provide and where that might be.

There is currently a shortage of Social Rented Homes in the Vale. She works with Community Councils to develop a local lettings policy, so that local people are prioritised when new properties become available, which will usually be via a Housing Association. A good example of this is in St Mary Church, where a small number of properties were built that have been let to-among others- a teacher at the school and a family with a severely disabled child who have a fully adapted house.

Councillor Lewis raised the point that anyone who wants to self- build a property, which can be a successful route to an affordable property, are now penalised by a fee amounting to 35% of the eventual value of the property. This makes such projects unaffordable. EF said she would take the question back to the Vale as the policy conflicts with her own aims.

She provided details of her services and urged the Council to remain in contact with her as the outcome of the Redrow planning application becomes known. The Chairman thanked hr for the useful and informative presentation.

1. **APOLOGIES**: None
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

See Item 6

Councillor Kennard returned his completed Declaration of Interest Form and the Clerk reminded everyone else to return theirs at the next meeting.

Councillors Kennard and Bellin had been advised by the Standards Officer that they could apply for a Dispensation re their interest in the planning application for the land to the rear of St David’s School. This is because their interests are common to a significant proportion of the general public. In Councillor Kennard’s case, he has particular expertise of value to contribute. Even without a dispensation, they can make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a Council meeting, prior to a debate or vote. Councillor Kennard has applied for a dispensation. The Clerk reported that she had received an email from the Standards Department at the Vale which was being circulated to all Community Councils and which had further copies of the Application Form attached to it, which she will circulate.

Despite this, it was felt that there were still some substantive questions that remained unanswered, particularly with regard to the position of very small councils. Councillor Maclehose will raise this at the next meeting of One Voice Wales and it was suggested that it might be appropriate to take it up with Assembly members as well.

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting, which took place on Tuesday 9th September 2014 had been previously circulated by the Clerk and were accepted unanimously as true and accurate records. It was proposed by Councillor Maclehose and seconded by Councillor Lewis that they be accepted. The Minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman and the Clerk. These will be placed on the website in due course. A hard copy will be available if requested.

1. **MATTERS ARISING**

* Defibrillator: the Clerk had not yet heard from Marc Allen and will try again.
* Ownership of Little Hill: the Clerk reported that she had so far been unable to find any trace of the sale of the rights across the car park to Brains Brewery.

1. **PLANNING MATTERS**

* **Land at the rear of St David’s School**

As their applications for dispensations have not yet been approved, Councillors Bellin and Kennard declared personal interests in this matter and withdrew from the meeting.

No date has yet been set for the hearing of the Redrow Application. It appears that not all of the consultees have responded and Planners have said that the application is unlikely to be heard in October. The Chairman reported that contractors acting for Welsh Water have been trying to find out where storm water is entering the system and have recently lined some drains at the lowest point in the village by the church. When the outcome of that work is known, Welsh Water will be in a position to submit their response to the application.

Councillors Bellin and Kennard re-joined the meeting at this point.

**Other Applications:**

* 2014/01155/FUL (RL) Brocastle Barn Cottage – conversion of barn to 3 bed residential dwelling. The Clerk had circulated details of this and there were no comments or objections from Councillors.

**Local Development Plan:**

There have been no further developments re the LDP. Councillors raised the question of the development of Llandow Newydd, which has gained significant support from residents in the Western Vale. County Councillor Thomas said that plans for a development, including housing and shops for the top end of the airfield had been opposed by The Vale. Councillor Kennard questioned the 5 year Housing need forecast figures which he feels are over stated and that if a more realistic view was taken, the various developments approved since last November have kept building to meet that on track, thus reducing the need for large developments in the rural villages.

1. **WORLD WAR ONE COMMEMORATIONS**

The Clerk reported that, following some additional work on the plans, she had resubmitted the revised application for the new Memorial to planners at the Vale and was awaiting a response. In view of the wish to unveil the memorial on Remembrance Sunday (November 9th), the Chairman had spoken to Marcus Goldsworthy at the Vale who had said that planning would be content for the installation to go ahead once the statutory consultations had taken place. The application will be fast tracked and will be dealt with at officer level.

The Chairman reported that it had not proved possible to cut the original stone, so a new smaller one had been obtained and is ready to be installed. The Chairman had spoken to Reverend Kettle who has agreed to hold a small service on the Village Green at 10.45am on the 9th. Mathew Prichard and relatives of the other men being commemorated have been invited to attend. The Clerk will send an invitation to Medwyn Evans, who organised the Bike Ride last year and presented the plaque to the village and will also draft and then circulate a round robin note that can be taken round the village. Details will also be put on the village and Community Council websites. It was suggested that there should be coffee etc. available in the Sycamore Tree after the service.

Councillor Bellin said that he had had had a number of photographs and other World War One memorabilia relevant to the village framed and it was agreed that it would be appropriate to have them on display in the Sycamore Tree, subject to the agreement of the landlord.

1. **CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk reported that she had received the following correspondence:

* The Clerk and Councillor Roach had contacted the PCSO about the untaxed vehicles which have reappeared in the church car park. She is following it up with the Housing Department Vale as the vehicles are still there.
* The PCSO has said that if anyone is interested in re-establishing a Neighbourhood Watch in the village to contact her.
* Details of various posts on Public Bodies which had been circulated to Councillors
* Details of various training courses run by OVW taking place over the autumn.
* Information about the Law of Consultation Guidance, together with a Practitioners manual for Public Engagement, from One Voice Wales
* Details of the public consultation on Draft Enforcement Policy from the Welsh Language Commissioner.
* Copies of the PowerPoint presentation from the Special Community Liaison meeting on September 21st.
* Confirmation of the alteration of the age range at St David’s School, to include a nursery class.
* Details of the Review of Designated Landscapes in Wales
* Details of a Community Planning Seminar taking place on November 18th which is being run by Planning Aid Wales
* Copy of the Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales
* Agenda and papers for the Vale of Glamorgan Council meeting on September 29th – including copies of the Scrutiny Annual Report and the Annual Review of Performance re the Improvement Plan Part 2.
* Details of new Terms and Conditions from HSBC

1. **Finance Report:**

Balances of the Council’s accounts as at September 30th were:

Current Account: £ 2895.46 credit

Deposit Account: £ 3184.63 credit

Invoices for Payment:

£419.21 to J. Motte re Clerk’s Salary for the 3 months to 30/09/2014.

£210.00 to Mazars re Annual return. The Clerk has displayed the finalised Return on the Notice Board as required.

£64.80 to W. Bellin re the printing of 3 posters showing World War One photographs and memorabilia, which will be displayed in the Sycamore Tree to coincide with the unveiling of the new War Memorial.

These payments were approved unanimously.

1. **TRAINING COURSES**

* The Clerk is attending a session for Clerks in Barry on Thursday October 16th which will cover a number of items, including the Reshaping Services Programme and issues affecting Development and Building Control and Visible Services.

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

* Volunteers from the Cardiff and Vale Conservation Group carried out clearing work round the Well and the bridge area. They had commented on work done some years ago at the well which had included removing a lot of silt from the well. This may need doing again and it was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting. The Clerk has not yet received an invoice from CVC for the work.
* The Clerk said she had looked into the question of village allotments and had recirculated information from the Welsh Government about a Green Paper published in July 2014, which contains proposals to make more land available for allotments. It outlines plans to identify and supply land for allotments. The Small Holding and Allotment Act 1908 and the Allotments Act 1925 are still force in England and Wales, which impose a duty on local authorities and Community Councils to provide land for allotments on demand. This means a representation in writing by any 6 registered parliamentary electors but a deadline is not specified or how it should be done. The Green paper proposes to address these issues. The Consultation period closed on October 6th. Councillor Lewis will pass this information on to Rob Ryder.
* Councillor Lewis reported that the car park to the west of the Church and the area around the salt boxes are both very overgrown. The Clerk will contact Phil Beamon and ask that cutting etc. be carried out as it was last year.
* County Councillor Thomas reported that The Vale will not voluntarily agree to merge with either Cardiff or Bridgend as part of the review of the structure of local authorities in Wales.
* The Chairman proposed that the Community Council should source this year’s Christmas Trees from a local supplier so that better quality ones can be obtained. Clive Edwards had offered to stake them in place in due course. This was agreed unanimously.

1. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

* The next meeting of the Community Council will take place on Tuesday November 11th 2014 at 19.30pm in the Sycamore Tree

SIGNED…………………………………………………………………

CHAIRMAN, COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DATE…………………………………………………………………….

SIGNED…………………………………………………………………

CLERK, COLWINSTON COMMUNTY COUNCIL DATE……………………………………………………………………