

MINUTES OF ESTATES COMMITTEE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 10/12 ORCHARD STREET, NEATH
ON WEDNESDAY, 17TH APRIL 2019
AT 6:00 P.M.

15

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN: CLLR. MRS J. L. LOCKYER

COUNCILLORS: MS T. DAVIES
G. L. EVANS
P. JAMES
MRS L. JONES
G. MORGAN
MRS S.M. PENRY
M. PROTHEROE
A. SIMS

ABSENT: COUNCILLORS: J. EVANS

IN ATTENDANCE: KATHRYN CHARLES
SARA WHARMBY

1705 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. D. Flynn, Cllr. R. Price and Cllr. Mrs S. M. Marston.

1706 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. Mrs L. Jones and Cllr. M. Protheroe in respect of item 7 on the agenda.

1707 TO WELCOME REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH OLD ROAD AND FAIRYLAND ALLOTMENTS AND DISCUSS ALLOTMENT ISSUES

The Chair welcomed the representatives of the Fairyland Allotment site to the Meeting.

The Representative thanked Members for the new fence at the allotment site which had received very positive feedback.

The Representative stated that they were disappointed that they weren't informed of the increase in the allotment price that had been agreed in November.

Cllr. Ms T. Davies entered the Meeting at 6.06pm.

The Meeting discussed the reason for the increase and the reasons Allotmenters had recently been informed.

Cllr. P. James entered the Meeting at 6.09pm.

Members stated that a large financial investment to improve the site which had recently been undertaken. The Representative asked if it would be increased annually as this was the information he had received. Council were unaware of this however the Chair stated it doesn't have to be, but will be discussed.

The Representative asked if there was any progress with the road and car park as there had been complaints about parking on the main road since NPTCBC had installed double yellow lines. The Town Clerk explained that Council staff will have to have training and complete the work due to insurance. The Meeting discussed the current parking situation and how many cars can fit on site.

The Chair stated that Allotmenters had worked hard on the communal area and that they should have an official opening.

The Town Clerk stated that signs had been delivered for the wildlife pond and dog fouling, that the Representative could take with them.

The Representatives left the Meeting at 6.37pm.

1708 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BUS SHELTERS & ROADSIDE SEATS UPDATE

The Town Clerk stated that there was no update from the Councillors involved in the location of the Pine Grove bus shelter.

Members were informed that the request to place a seat outside Neath Market had been declined as it would restrict the area for deliveries. A Member stated that they had received a request to place a seat on Queen Street.

The Town Clerk stated that the 6 monthly bus shelter cleaning was due to take place.

1709 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON HALLS

The Town Clerk informed the Meeting that there was an internal schedule of site visits to check the cleanliness of the halls.

The Chair stated that, in the past, the Chair of Estates would do an inspection of the halls before the Estates Committee Meeting. **RESOLVED:** Town Clerk to arranged site visits before the Estates Committee Meetings.

1710 TO REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk informed Members that a Councillor had informed her about an issue with the Town Hall roof and with the Next building.

1711 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no objections to the following planning application(s) which had been received:-

P2019/0176

P2019/0305

P2019/0331

Planning Schedule					Date sent: 12.04.19	
Meeting: Estates April 2019	No. of Application	Applicant	Proposal	Location	Planning Officer	Recommendation
P2019/0176	Hale Construction South Wales	Removal of existing roof structure and provision of new roof to an increased height.	The Metal Box, Milland Road Ind. Est., Neath, SA11 1NJ	Chris Davies	No objections	
P2019/0305	Mr Aled Evans, Head of Education, NPTCBC	New demountable classroom, removal of section of wall between the school yard and the civic centre car park and change of use of part of the parking area to school yard and reinstate wall in new location.	Neath Welsh Primary School, Woodland Road, Neath, SA11 3AL	Jennifer Griffiths	No objections	
P2019/0331	Mr Simon Brennan, NPTCBC	Variation of condition 2 of planning approval P2017/1008 approved 24 th November 2017 (Change of use from county court (sui generic) to civic centre (B1) (to reduce parking area on the east side of building).	Neath and Port Talbot County Court, Forster Road, Neath, SA11 3BN	Jennifer Griffiths	No objections	

1712 TO DISCUSS ANY COUNCILLOR ISSUES AND RECEIVE REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

A Member stated that they had attended a Neath Bid Meeting and they had been informed that the Council logo would be on future advertising.

The Meeting discussed the Mayoress Easter Egg Appeal that had recently taken place. The Town Clerk explained the confusion regarding collection of some of the Easter eggs and Neath BID. Members discussed gifts for certain staff members who helped.

Clir. G. Morgan entered the Meeting at 7.02pm.

The Town Clerk stated the response had been overwhelming and suggested that they should continue to run the campaign annually.

1713 TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

A Member queried about allotments on Cimla Common. Members stated that this wasn't Council land.

A Member queried having a skateboard ramp by the park in Cimla. Members stated that this had already been explored.

1714 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS – TO CONSIDER PASSING A RESOLUTION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 TO TEMPORARILY EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC IN VIEW OF THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

The resolution was duly passed.

1715 TO DISCUSS INVESTMENTS PROPERTY LEASING ISSUES AND COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS

A) TO DISCUSS THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN ON THE REAR WALL AT NEATH CASTLE

An update from Hurley & Davies was circulated to Members. The Meeting discussed what further work they could do to make the wall safe until CADW had confirmed their intent. It was difficult obtaining stonemasons to undertake the work at such short notice. Fences were erected with warning signs attached. The information had been relayed to the Council's insurance company who confirmed that was all that could be done in the circumstances.

The Town Clerk updated the Meeting on the issue with the title deeds for Neath Castle and the Fairyland Allotment Site.

Members were updated on the reinstatement of the rear of the Burton Block.

Members were informed that a request had been received for a new snooker hall premises Neath. The Town Clerk stated it had been sent to the Council's property agents.

Members were updated on the 1st Floor of the Burton Block.

Members were informed that the tanking in the Basement property would be serviced annually.

The Town Clerk updated the Meeting on an email sent to the property agents regarding the old Next property.

1716 TO DISCUSS ANY STAFFING ISSUES

There were no issues to discuss.

1717 TO DISCUSS HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

The Town Clerk stated that the annual Fire Alarm Assessment and Audit had been completed.

1718 TO FIX A DATE AND AGREE AN AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The Chair advised that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, 9th May 2019. An agenda would be circulated in due course.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.