

**LLANTWIT FARDRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANILLTUD FAERDREF**



**COUNCIL**

**30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023**

**REPORT OF THE CLERK**

**1. BUDGETARY CONTROL – AUTHORITY TO SPEND**

1.1 Paragraph 4.5 of the Council's Financial Regulations states:-

*“In cases of extreme risk to the delivery of Council services, the Clerk may authorise revenue expenditure on behalf of the Council which in the Clerk’s judgement it is necessary to carry out. Such expenditure includes repair, replacement or other work, whether or not there is any budgetary provision for the expenditure, subject to a limit of £1,000. The Clerk shall report such action to the Chair as soon as possible and the Council as soon as practicable thereafter”.*

1.2 On the 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 following a visit to the play area at Efail Isaf (Old Village Hall), the Chair of the Leisure and Amenities Committee, the General Services Manager and the Clerk made a visit to The Ridings play area as concerns had been expressed by the Outside Operatives regarding a potentially dangerous tree which was overhanging the play area.

1.3 Following the visit to the play area, the Clerk contacted the appropriate Officer at RCTCBC, as the same concerns had been raised in October, 2021 to the same Officer. The response at that time was that there was good wood growth which had compensated for the rot on both sides.

1.4 A period of two years had past since the concerns had been emailed to RCTCBC and the cavity within the said tree had increased.

1.5 The matter was reported to the Leisure and Amenities Committee on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2023 but at the time of writing the report, no response had been received from RCTCBC.

- 1.6 The tree was inspected by RCTCBC on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 and it was confirmed that the tree poses a risk to users of the park. The park was closed with immediate effect and to avoid any further delay, the tree was taken down the following day (Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2023) by RCTCBC at an approximate cost of £375 to this Community Council.
- 1.7 The park was re-opened on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2023.
- 1.8 An invoice for the work undertaken by RCTCBC is to be submitted in the approximate sum of £375.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 In accordance with paragraph 4.5 of the Council's Financial Regulations to endorse the action taken by the Clerk in the arranging of the removal of the dangerous tree at The Ridings play area at an approximate cost of £375 (invoice yet to be received).