

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 17th February 2014 at 7.30pm in Llanbedr Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs David Sharman (*Chairman*), Elaine Lusted (*Vice Chairman*), John Morris, Ian Maberley, Dean Christy and Marc Jones. *Also in attendance:* Mr Chris Morgan and Mrs Tracy Nettleton (BBNPA). Cty Cllr John Morris and Maria James (*Clerk*).

Mr Morgan gave Mr Cook's apologies explaining he was unable to attend. He stated this was one of a series of meetings held with town and community councils within The Park in order to provide opportunity for councillors to talk directly to them.

Mr Morgan and Ms Nettleton answered a variety of questions from Members relating to the planning system. Topics included the LDP/local needs policy/ affordable housing/enforcement/agricultural ties/pre-planning advice. In answer to the question of whether flexibility could be introduced within the planning system to help local people to be able to afford to stay within the community it was reported planning permission runs with the land, not the individual.

When asked how much notice does The Park take of Community Councils it was explained the Council is a statutory consultee. If what is reported is material to the determination of the application it is duly assessed. Training sessions have been held to assist Councils in this regard.

The Chairman thanked both Mr Morgan and Ms Nettleton for attending and answering Members' questions. Mr Morgan and Ms Nettleton offered to return if required. They then left the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Fairclough.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** Nil.

3. **Planning Matters**

3.1 **Applications:**

14/10393/FUL: River Cottage, Llanbedr NP8 1SR Kitchen extension and area of decking. No objections. It was unanimously agreed to recommend approval.

3.2 **Decisions/Other:** The BBNPA has invited the Council to a Development Brief Key Stakeholder Discussion for Cwrt Y Gollen on 26th February.

It was agreed Cllrs Sharman, Christy and Morris (if available) will attend.

4. **County Council Report:** Cty Cllr Morris reported:

Budget: the budget goes to The Cabinet tomorrow (18th) - they will decide whether to bring it to full Council on 25th February. **Toilets:** situation has improved - toilets will remain in use until April 2015. **Highways:** several reports concerning roads/flooding have been received. He asked the Council to report any major holes/subsidence to Highways and keep him informed. **Cwrt-Y-Gollen:** from a brief look at the Development Brief there would appear to be no community benefits. Cllr Morris suggested they be asked to explain their interpretation of community benefit.

Cllr Christy reported a residence in Llangenny is experiencing problems with a blocked culvert which despite clearance repeatedly suffers blockage. It was suggested this be reported to Highways with the recommendation drainage be reviewed.

Cllr Morris left the meeting at 20.40pm

5. **Minutes of Meeting** [Page 1034 – 1037] It was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr Lusted and agreed the minutes of the January meeting be accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

6. **Matters Arising from the Above Minutes:** It was noted the scout hedge was incorrectly stated to have been cut last month. Cllr Jones reported he understood plans for this to be done are currently underway.

Cllr Christy reported despite an initial response to his enquiry regarding publicising the web site in the Red Kite magazine no further contact has been received. He will pursue the matter.

7. **Community Councillor Vacancy** (Llanbedr Ward): Applications have been received for the vacancy from Ms K Downhill and Mr C Alford. Following consideration Cllr Morris proposed Mr Alford be co-opted to serve on the Council. This was seconded by Cllr Mabberley. Cllr Jones proposed Ms Downhill. This proposal failed to receive a seconder. A vote was therefore taken in which it was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Alford onto the Council. The Clerk to invite Mr Alford to attend the next meeting.

8. **Glangrwyney Village Hall:** Documents required to finalise the Custodian Trust agreement have just been received from the Village Hall Committee's Solicitor, Mr Jonathan Dawson. In response to the request the Council has a member on the Committee Mr Dawson explained this would require amendment of the Committee's governing document (which has only just been changed) suggesting the Committee co-opt a representative for the Community Council pending a decision on changing the governing document. Members noted Cllr Llewelyn currently attends the Village Hall Committee meetings and were content for this to continue. Confirmation has been received that Land Registry fees will be paid by the Village Hall Committee.

Several members questioned whether it would be advisable to defer this matter until the documents (which had only just been received) have been fully considered.

It was proposed by Cllr Christy this matter be deferred to the next meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Sharman. A vote was taken with 4 FOR, 1 AGAINST and 1 ABSTENTION.

It was RESOLVED to defer to the March meeting.

9. **Llangenny Playing Field:** The Solicitors acting for the Trust have responded to the Council's offer to take over responsibility for the playground (on payment of a nominal fee for the freehold or payment of a peppercorn rent) by stating they will pass the request onto the Trustees however under the Charities Acts they have duties to obtain the best situation for the charity. This is not a negotiable situation, it is what the law states. Members were disappointed with this response and discussed ways of proceeding. Prior to any further action it was suggested a meeting be convened with the Solicitor acting for the Trust.

It was RESOLVED to contact the Solicitor to arrange a meeting to find out ways of proceeding which are acceptable to both sides. Cllrs Sharman, Jones and Lusted to attend.

10. **Noticeboards/Benches:** The Bench by the entrance to Hall Farm was reported to have been demolished by a lorry and despite making enquiries Cllr Jones has been unable to establish responsibility. He did however report a resident has offered to fundraise towards half the cost of replacement. It was also noted the bench on Bellfountain Road has suffered past damage. It was questioned whether a claim should be made for both benches under insurance?

The noticeboards were again reported as being in dire need of attention with specific reference to the Llangenny Noticeboard which the Clerk had recently been unable to open or close. Cllr Sharman offered to treat Llangenny Noticeboard when weather permits.

It was RESOLVED the Clerk make enquiries with the insurance company and establish amount of excess.

11. **Planning Consultation:** The Consultation document was noted to be too lengthy for consideration at this meeting. It was felt Councillors may wish to submit individual responses. The Clerk will approach Planning Aid Wales to establish whether they were able to provide a précis aide for circulation.

12. **Any Other Business:** None reported.

13. **Finance:**

13.1 *The following items were reported for payment:*

Clerk's salary £192/Expenses £25, HM Revenue & Customs £48, CRiC Membership Fee £36, One Voice Wales Membership £102

It was proposed by Cllr Lusted, seconded by Cllr Jones and agreed to pay the above.

13.2 **Risk Assessment:** The Clerk presented the annual risk assessment for consideration. It was discussed whether the Council and/or individual Councillors need to be registered with the ICO. The Clerk to make appropriate enquiries and report back.

13.3 *Other Financial Matters:* It was agreed the funding requests received [Item 16.28 and 17.1] would be considered when the Council decides its annual donations in June/July.

14. Highways:

Cllr Christy reported a resident in Llangenny was experiencing repeated problems with a blocked culvert (*this was noted in Item 4*)

Cllr Lusted reported blocked culverts have resulted in a house in Llangenny being flooded (by bridge – believe one culvert has been cleared but one remains blocked causing water to run down the road - urgently in need of attention. Road has slipped on road travelling towards Llangenny (from Llanbedr side) – keeps slipping.

Cllr Morris reported the road has slipped between Pen Cae Bleddyn and The Milaid (back road above Llanbedr)

Cllr Maberley reported the culvert by Ty Hir (Grwyne Fawr) is blocked and needs jetting

15. Reports on Meetings Attended:

Day Centre Maes-y-Fynnon: Cllr Sharman attended. Proposals include asking for volunteers to keep the Crickhowell Centre open. It would appear the Meals on Wheels service will disappear. Cllr Kathryn Silk is due to contact the Council with further information.

16. The following items of correspondence were noted and discussed as appropriate:

1. **OVW:** Natural Resource Management Bulletin - January 2014
2. **OVW:** Homes for Wales Bulletin from the Welsh Government homesforwales@wales.gsi.gov.uk
3. **CRiC:** Membership Fee - £30 plus VAT
4. **OVW:** Local Government Audit & Inspection Fee Scales 2014/15 Consultation (Proposed fee for audit £175)
5. **PAVO:** e-briefing February 2014
6. **OVW:** consultation document on Statement of Public Participation (SPP) for the Welsh National Marine Plan
7. **PCC:** Consultation on restructuring its services for Additional Learning Services and provision for supporting pupils with special education needs, in the early years/primary phase of education –
8. **BBNPA:** how your say on what they scrutinise next (circulated)
9. **CMBT:** Newsletter (circulated)
10. **PCC:** Regeneration Workshops – 12/02/15 – Elim Centre Brecon (circulated)
11. **Cllr Kathryn Silk:** notification of meeting with Cllr Daren Mayor - 11am 5th Feb re Maesyffynnon (circulated)
12. **PCC:** News Release Issued by Leader - Public Conveniences/Asset Transfers - Update for Town and Community Councils (circulated)
13. **LAF Press Release** (circulated via Cllr Maberley)
14. **Spinal Injuries Association:** Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 16th May 2014
15. **WG:** Wales Animal Health & Welfare Framework Group Appt of 5 Members (circulated)
16. **K Downhill:** confirmation of interest in council vacancy
17. **BBNPA:** Town and Community Training – 5-6.30pm - Thursday 3rd April 2014, Clarence Hall, Crickhowell
18. **OVW:** Invitation to submit up to two Motions for debate at the 2014 Annual Conference/AGM
19. **Police and Crime Commissioner:** October Newsletter
20. **Llangattock CC:** Talk by Prof. G. Williams - 'Behind the Stones' (Circulated)
21. **OVW:** Conserving and maintaining Welsh war memorial heritage conference 27th March 2014
22. **BBNPA:** Application 14/10393/FUL: River Cottage, Llanbedr NP8 1SR
23. **Cty Cllr Darren Mayor:** response re concerns regarding future of Maes-y-Fynnon in Crickhowell.
24. **Charles Crookes:** Llangenny Playground – to comply with the Charities Act the Trust must obtain the best possible terms for the Charity.
25. **Kidney Wales Foundation:** Walk for Life 27th April / Request for donation
26. **OVW:** Chairman (and Guest) has been selected to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party (3/06/14)
27. **BBNPA:** Invitation to attend Cwrt Y Gollen Development Brief Key Stakeholder Discussion – 26th February
28. **J Jones, St Peter's Church in Wales' School Gardening Club:** grant request

17. To receive **Miscellaneous/Late Items** of correspondence

1. **N Heffaran:** funding request - Llangenny Hall Children's Recreational Club
2. **OVW:** Membership fee £102
3. **OVW:** request for stories for The Voice
4. **WG:** Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report – February 2014 –
5. **WG:** Local Government (Wales) Byelaws Act 2012 – Implementation

6. **Paul Watson** - Master Thesis: Sustainable Development Questionnaire (request for responses)
 7. **BBNPA**: Development brief – Cwrt Y Gollen (circulated)
 8. **J Dawson**: legal documents re: Glangrwyney Village Hall (circulated)
 9. **C Alford** – application for Council vacancy (circulated)
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18. Clerk's Report/ Report/ Items for inclusion in the next Agenda

1. Promotion of Web site

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.15 pm.