

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 20th October 2014 at 7.30pm in Glangrwyney Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs David Sharman (*Chairman*), John Morris, Elaine Lusted, Dean Christy, Roger Llewelyn, Caroline Fairclough, Colin Alford and Ian Mabberley. Also in attendance: PCSO Stephen Legg and Maria James (*Clerk*).

PCSO Simon Legg was welcomed to the meeting. He apologised for not being able to attend previous meetings, however had been unable to do so due to shift patterns. He started by explaining the monthly crime up-date has been replaced with a newsletter which may mean statistics are not as up to date. He also emphasised the effectiveness of Twitter and encouraged Members to sign up. With regard to cars parking by the roundabout on Bellfountain Road he stated they are and will continue to police this. He also reported Dyfed Powys Police are working in conjunction with Gwent to tackle the problem of raves in Grwyne Fawr referring to the meeting scheduled for 17th November in Abergavenny Police Station. As far as crime is concerned he reported a push bike has been stolen from Glangrwyney, however we are lucky there is no major crime to report. PCSO Legg informed Members he will be leaving the area shortly however is due to be replaced by another PCSO who is local to the area. He also confirmed the number of police officers in Crickhowell is due to increase to three, as well as a PCSO, and whilst the police station may move, a police presence will remain in Crickhowell and policing levels will not drop. Members thanked PCSO Legg, following which he left the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence: Nil.

2. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Ian Mabberley (Item 3.b).

3. Planning Matters

(i) Applications

a. 14/11232/FUL: Proposed PC solar panel installation – St Peter’s Church, Llanbedr

It was noted the Listed Building Consent application for this property was considered and supported at the last meeting - the Council reiterated its previous support.

b. 14/11336/FUL: High head micro hydro scheme – Gargwy Fach Watercourse, Nr Pen Twyn Mawr, Crickhowell

Cllr Fairclough proposed the Council support this application. This was seconded by Cllr Lusted. A vote was then taken. It was resolved by majority vote (3 abstentions) to respond stating the Community Council supports renewable energy.

c. 14/11346/FUL – High head micro-hydro scheme with turgo runner in turbine house. System consisting of intake weir and separate forebay tank, pipeline and turbine house. Gwern-y-Bustach, Fforest Coal Pit NP7 7LT

It was resolved to submit a response (as for Item 3.b) stating the Council supports renewable energy schemes.

(ii) Decisions/Other:

It was noted the following applications have been permitted:

- a. 14/10780/FUL – Forge House, Glangrwyney NP8 1EW
- b. 14 /10880/FUL- Rose Cottage, Glangrwyney NP8 1EE

It was noted the following application has been refused:

- a. 14/10965/FUL – Two Tipi Sites at Ty Croes Farm, Llanbedr

4. County Council Report: Cty Cllr Morris was not present therefore no report was presented.

5. Minutes of Meeting [Page 1065 – 1067] It was proposed by Cllr Llewelyn the minutes of the 15th September meeting be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and duly agreed.

6. Matters Arising from the Above Minutes: None reported.

7. **Cwrt Y Gollen:** Cllr Sharman presented Councillors with an up-date. He confirmed, in response to BBNPA agreeing to accept up-dated comments, a further report (as circulated) was submitted. The Working Party met on the 13th October and held a meeting with residents on 17th October in order to discuss ways of getting the planning application for Cwrt Y Gollen rejected. BBNPA Members have been contacted direct to request they reject this application. Residents have also emailed the BBNPA Members emphasising their opposition. It is proposed to hold a demonstration outside the entrance to Cwrt Y Gollen at 9.30/10.00am on the 21st October when BBNPA Members arrive for the site visit prior to determining the application at the PAROW Meeting that afternoon. Kirsty Williams AM is unable to attend the PAROW meeting however she has written a speech which Cllr Christy will present on her behalf.

Discussions ensued as to the content of the Officer's Report (which recommends the application be approved). Councillors were disappointed to note the Council's response, as well as those from other parties, has been summarised. This was felt to devalue the points made.

It was reported the response received from BBNPA to the Council's official complaint was considered unsatisfactory and therefore the Council has requested stage two of the BBNPA's complaint procedure be implemented.

8. **Grwyne Fawr Valley:** Cllr Mabberley reported The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA), Natural Resource Wales (NRW) and Welsh Water (WW) are asking the Council to support their bid for funding (£140,000) to run a 3 year programme which aims to ensure the valley is used for the quiet enjoyment of residents and visitors alike and break the cycle of illegal camping and anti-social behaviour. The funding will help provide part-time wardens, improve access to the reservoir and generally make the area a better place for legitimate users. Whilst the majority of funding has been semi-agreed there is a shortfall of some £5,500 pa. The Council is therefore being asked to support this project and is being asked to put a bid in to the Brecon Beacons Trust. Cllr Mabberley explained he is very keen to support this scheme.

Cllr Fairclough proposed the Council support this bid. This was seconded by Cllr Mabberley. It was agreed by majority vote to support this proposal.

9. **Five Council Liaison Meeting:** It was noted the next Five Councils Liaison Meeting is due to be hosted by Crickhowell Town Council in November. Members were asked to submit agenda items. It was agreed to submit:

1. White Paper – the response.
2. Rural Broadband

10. **Any Other Business:** It was noted the Remembrance Day Service will be held on Sunday, 9th November. Councillors were invited to assemble in St Edmunds Church at 10:30 am following the service Cllr Sharman will lay the wreath at the War Memorial.

11. Finance

- 11.1 The following items were presented for approval:

G M James (Salary £200/Exp £25), HM Revenue & Customs £50; BDO (Audit) £210; Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £17

It was proposed by Cllr Lusted, seconded by Cllr Mabberley and agreed to approve the above payments.

- 11.2 BDO Ltd has now concluded the audit. Conclusion of Audit Notices have been placed on the notice boards. The Council was asked to confirm the Annual Return has been approved and accepted.

It was proposed by Cllr Sharman, seconded by Cllr Morris and agreed to approve and accept the Annual Return.

12. **Highways:** Cllr Morris reported he had spoke with Brian Price (PCC) concerning the danger of branches falling from the tree opposite Maes Ffynnon in Llanbedr. The tree is the responsibility of the Swansea & Brecon Diocesan Trust. The Clerk will inform Mr Price and offer the Council's support if needed to alleviate this problem.

Councillors noted a number of serious traffic accidents have recently occurred on the A40. Traffic calming measures need to be prioritised in and around Glangrwyney. It was agreed to write to Edwina Hart AM reporting the number of serious accidents which have occurred requesting her help.

Councillors also reported the following matters:

Glangrwyney: Culvert under the road by The Bell has silted up and needs clearing.

Llanbedr: the bridge on the Cwm Pitch (travelling from Llanbedr towards Fforest Coal Pit) is reported as dangerous (particularly in winter) due to the gap between the bridge and road – a barrier should be installed to prevent vehicles entering river in adverse weather conditions. “No HGV” sign required by the Red Lion Inn in Llanbedr to prevent lorries travelling up Gwrlodau Lane.

13. Reports on Meetings Attended:

- i. **Powys CC Budget Consultation Event:** Cllrs Fairclough and Sharman attended. They reported on the cuts to services and how alternative ways of doing things need to be found which don't cost so much. Money just isn't there.
- ii **OVW AGM:** Cllr Morris attended. He reported Nick Bennett - Public Services Ombudsman – spoke on clustering of community councils, complaints over the year; Dr S Lowth-Thomas – spoke on Renewable Energy – tackling poverty; Robin Andrews – spoke on Devolution of services – encouraging communities to work together – greater say to local people; Dave Adamson – University of South Wales – spoke on regeneration/consultation/energy conservation. There were 8 motions - all passed – 3% increase in membership fee.

14. Correspondence: The following items of correspondence were received and noted:

1. **Powys Health and Well Being Action Group** - Bronllys Park: a Vision for the next 100 years a Health and Well Being Park with a Community Hospital at the heart of it – *Circulated*
2. **One Voice Wales:**
 1. Links to: The Law of Consultation Guidance <http://www.wlga.gov.uk/publications-and-consultation-responses-imp/the-law-of-consultation> ; Other Engagement guidance and toolkits - National Principles for Public Engagement in Wales: http://www.participationcymru.org.uk/media/288784/national_principles_for_public_engagement_aug1_.pdf Practitioners' Manual for Public Engagement: <http://www.participationcymru.org.uk/national-principles/practitioners-manual-for-public-engagement> The Evaluation toolkit: <http://www.participationcymru.org.uk/national-principles/evaluation-toolkit> Places available on Accredited Public Engagement Programme 2014/15
 2. Welsh Language Commissioner public consultation on draft Enforcement Policy. <http://www.comisiynyddygydraeg.org/English/Publications%20List/LL%20S%20Llythyr%20Ymg%20Poli%20Gorfodi%20drafft.pdf> The consultation period will extend until 10 November 2014.
 3. The Consumer for Water Wales Committee is recruiting Local Consumer Advocates to join its Wales Committee: <http://www.ccwater.org.uk/blog/careers/local-consumer-advocates/>
 4. Welsh Government White Paper: Devolution, Democracy and Delivery – Reforming Local Government response to the questions being asked in relation to this consultation exercise – *circulated*
 5. The Welsh Government has commissioned an Independent Panel to conduct a review of designated landscapes in Wales (National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty).
3. **PAVO:** Introduction to Volunteering Course - 2nd October 2014 Llandrindod Wells, LD1 6DF
4. **Powys Branch of SLCC** letter for the Chairman outlining the benefits of SLCC membership for Clerks
5. **PC Andy Pole** - Twitter account - DPP_NPTBrecon – *circulated*
6. **CRIC** – public meeting 16th Oct at 7.00pm in Clarence Hall - findings of Crickhowell Rural Alliance Signage Rationalisation and Interpretation Study.
7. **Brecknock & Radnor Community Health Council** – agenda for next meeting on 7th October 2014
8. **BBNPA** - currently advertising for persons to apply for membership of the Local Access Forum - *circulated*
9. **PCC:** Powys Regeneration Partnership and Powys County Council invite you to celebrate achievements of the Rural Development Plan (RDP) 2011-2013 – 18th November.
10. **WG:** The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has published their draft Annual Report: *circulated*
11. **PAVO:** October 2014 edition of the PAVO E-Briefing.
12. **Gwent Police:** invitation to attend combined meeting re Fforest Coal Pit raves - *circulated*
13. **PAVO:** Annual Conference & AGM “A Third Sector Scheme for Powys” 10/11/14 Royal Welsh Showground
14. **BBNPA:**
 - (a) 14/11232/FUL: St Peter's Church, Llanbedr
 - (b) 14/11336/FUL: Gargwy Fach Watercourse, Nr Pen Twyn Mawr, Crickhowell
 - (c) 14/10780/FUL – Forge House, Glangrwyney NP8 1EW – has been permitted
 - (d) 14 /10880/FUL- Rose Cottage, Glangrwyney NP8 1EE – has been permitted
 - (e) 14/10965/FUL – Tipi Sites at Ty Croes Farm, Llanbedr - has been refused
 - (f) Response to Complaint re Cwrt Y Gollen
 - (g) Letter to acknowledge comments on CYG
15. **SSLC:** details of courses being run for Clerks
16. **BDO:** Completion of Audit for the year ended 31/03/14 and invoice £210
17. **NatWest:** request for information held for signatories

18. Roger Williams MP: to notify Council of Vodafone Rural Open Sure Signal programme

19. OVW: Agenda for the Brecon & Radnor Area Committee Meeting – Friday 17th October

15. Miscellaneous/Late Items: the following correspondence were received and noted:

1. **BBNPA:** undertaking scrutiny study into the BBNPA Authority Improvement Objective '*Through effective partnership, facilitation, practical action and the planning function, the use of sustainable transport by visitors will be encouraged and enhanced*'.
2. **Inspector Sarah Taylor** – meeting of Chairs in Abergavenny Police Station - 7pm on 18th November
3. **OVW:** Funding update for green community projects -
4. **Communities 2.0 in Powys Up-date** - project to help community and voluntary organisations with digital technology/computers/internet.
5. **WG:** invitation to Cross Border Health Care event 24 November in Newton and Hereford.
6. **Carl Sargeant AC/AM:** Response to letter of complaint to Ministers
7. **Roger Williams MP office** – response to thank you for comments on Vodafone scheme.
8. **BBNPA:** 14/11346/FUL – Gwern-y-Bustach, Fforest Coal Pit NP7 7LT
9. **WG:** The Neath to Abergavenny Trunk Road A465 Orders which have been made under Section 10 and 12,14,1325 and 269 of the Highways Act and Public Notice.

16. Clerk's Report/Items for inclusion in the next Agenda:

- Llanbedr Housing Project.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.37 pm