

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2014 at 7:30pm in Llangenny School Hall.

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

Mr Dai Rees of National Resource Wales was welcomed to the meeting. Mr Rees spoke of problems experienced in the Grwyne Fawr Valley with illegal camping, off-roaders, raves and consequent littering. He explained National Resource Wales has secured funding to help tackle these issues and propose fencing off grassed areas at the top of the valley, erecting signage to inform visitors camping/fires are not permitted and possibly close the car park at Cadwgan. They will also part fund a PCSO to patrol Grwyne Fawr (along with other areas) and plan to set up a Forest Watch scheme in order to gather information to feed back to the police. Cameras may also be utilised to help monitor the area. The situation with barriers being left unlocked will also be tackled in order to prevent motorised vehicles using private roads without authorisation. Cllr Mabberley reported he and other residents in the valley are currently in the process of setting up a Community Interest Company and plan to work with Dai Rees and his team. They are also attempting to get better broadband and mobile phone signal for the area.

The Chairman thanked Mr Rees for speaking to Members. (*Mr Rees then left the meeting at 8:05pm*)

1. Apologies for Absence: Cty Cllr John Morris.

2. Declarations of Interest: Nil.

3. Planning Matters

3.1 Applications

- i. 14/11513/REM – Approval of reserved matters (access, parking, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for one dwelling – Site adj to 1 Springfields, Llangenny NP8 1HA.

Following concerns raised as to highway safety/size of dwelling/ownership of wall adjacent to playground Cllr Mabberley proposed the Council reject this application. This was seconded by Cllr Sharman and unanimously agreed.

3.2 Decisions/Other: The hydro scheme considered last month [Page 1072 Item 3.1] was discussed with specific reference to the suggestion the Council only support schemes where pipes are buried. Cllr Mabberley reported the BBNPA ecologist will not allow pipes to be buried beneath unimproved grassland/trees despite Llangattock Green Valleys wishing them to be buried. Considerable debate ensued as to whether or not consent was obtained from all landowners affected by pipes prior to applications being submitted. It was suggested the Council contact landowners affected by pipes crossing their land when planning notification is received.

It was noted the following applications have been permitted:

- i. 14/11335/FUL - High head micro hydro scheme with turgo runner – Gargwy Fach Watercourse, Nr Pen Twyn Mawr, Crickhowell.
- ii. 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

The following application has been refused:

- i. 14/11232/FUL – Proposed PV solar panel installation at St Peter's Church, Llanbedr.

4. County Council Report: Whilst Cty Cllr Morris was not present the Clerk explained she has obtained a verbal up-date concerning cars parking dangerously at the bottom of Bellfountain Road. Cty Cllr Morris reports PCC may be prepared to put lines down to stop cars parking there however need to advertise this prior to implementation. PCC do not have funds available to meet this cost therefore Crickhowell TC has been approached for funding and it is questioned whether the VoGCC will contribute? Cty Cllr Morris is due to meet with the Police, Highways Department and Crickhowell TC this Thursday to discuss further.

The position with rubbish collection in Llangenny was reported as unresolved with too many collections currently taking place.

5. **Minutes of Meeting** [Page 1072 – 1074] It was proposed by Cllr Llewelyn, seconded by Cllr Fairclough, that the minutes of the 17th November meeting be accepted as a true record. This was duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

6. **Matters Arising from the Above Minutes:** Further to the Council's request for a meeting [Page 1073 Item 8] Wales & West Housing Association report tenders for the Llanbedr Housing Project are due to be received by the 13th January and therefore suggest a meeting is held following this. It was agreed this be arranged for 1:30pm on 22nd January in Llanbedr Village Hall. Cllrs Sharman, Lusted, Morris, Fairclough and Christy to attend.

It was noted grit bins reported as being in need of filling at the last meeting have been filled.

7. **Cwrt Y Gollen:** A letter from Rhodri Davies (BBNPA) in response to the Council's request to be kept informed of the planning process has been circulated to the Working Party. No further correspondence has been received in relation to the stage two complaint.

The question of whether to proceed with a complaint to the Ombudsman was discussed. Cllr Sharman suggested a meeting be held with Cllr Morris and other parties who had expressed discord in order to discuss how best to proceed. *Cllr Sharman to arrange.*

8. **PCC Community Delivery Programme:** At the last Five Councils Meeting it was reported PCC is planning to close the toilets in Crickhowell on the 1st April if Crickhowell TC do not take them over. Crickhowell TC also reported on other services in danger, ie library service, dial-a-ride, day care centre, etc. Whilst volunteers are being recruited in order to keep these services going they will require financial support. Crickhowell TC will therefore be looking to the other Councils for support.

It was also noted PCC is embarking on a Community Delivery programme and wishes to work with Town/Community Councils in offering support and assistance to communities in taking on services. The Council noted the position and prepared to consider the costs involved when determining its precept next month.

9. **Any Other Business:** As noted from the correspondence the Council now needs to co-opt a new member. Posters will be displayed inviting applicants to apply prior to 18th January.

10. Finance:

10.1 The following items were presented for approval: G M James (Salary /Exp) £225 and £200 for extra hours in relation to the CYG application, HM Revenue & Customs £100

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

10.2 As previously noted the precept will be set at the next meeting. To assist the budgeting process the Clerk will circulate information on the Council's financial position prior to this.

11. **Highways:** Cllr Morris reported he had spoken with Brian Price (PCC) concerning: the Bont Lane/erecting a 'No HGV' sign on Gwrlodau Lane/branches falling from tree by Maes Ffynnon (from correspondence it will be noted tree management is due to be conducted by owner).

Cllr Llewelyn reported the bollard by the crossing in Glangrwyney (in front of the pub) has been knocked down and needs re-erecting.

Cllr Sharman reported Millbrook bridge (which is listed) remains in need of repair following a tree falling and damaging it last winter.

12. Meetings Attended:

Five Councils Liaison Meeting: attended by Cllrs Sharman, Morris, Mabberley, Fairclough and the Clerk.

Police Meeting: attended by Cllrs Mabberley and Morris.

Llanbedr School Governors Meeting: Cllr Lusted attended.

13. The following correspondence was received and discussed as appropriate:

1. **BBNPA:** offer from John Cook/Chris Morgan BBNPA to attend meeting (*attending March meeting*)
2. **PCC Elections Officer:** Confirmation election has not been called - Member to be co-opted.

3. **Alun Lock WWAH:** available to attend meeting on either 20th/22nd January
4. **OVW:** Revised Salary Scales 2014-15
5. **The National Library of Wales** invitation to participate in the UK Web Archive.
6. **BBNPA:** 14/11513/REM – Site adj to 1 Springfields, Llangenny NP8 1HA
7. **BBNPA:** /11335/FUL – Gargwy Fach Watercourse, Nr Pen Twyn Mawr has been permitted.
8. **PCC:** request for details of precept required
9. **PAVO:** December 2014 edition of the PAVO E-Briefing (*circulated*)
10. **Police and Crime Commissioner:** survey Council Tax policing precept (*circulated*)
11. **PC Andy Pole** Dyfed Powys Police Newsletter (*circulated*)
12. **PCSO Stephen Legg:** Xmas Postal Scam (on web site) (*circulated*)
13. **Community Health Council Meeting:** agenda for meeting of Brecknock and Radnor Community Health Council - 3rd December 2014 in The Town Hall, Talgarth (*circulated to Cllr Fairclough*).
14. **Crickhowell TC:** agenda for 5 Councils Meeting (*circulated*)
15. **PCC:** Community Delivery programme to mitigate the effect of losing services. (*circulated*)
16. **Older People's Commissioner for Wales:** Ageing Well in Wales - new initiative committed to making Wales a good place to grow older for everyone. (*circulated*)
17. **OVW:** Letter from British Weights and Measurement Association – organisation campaigning for retention of imperial weights and measures. (*circulated*)

14. Miscellaneous/Late Items of correspondence

1. **Mr Robert Charlton:** Glangrwyney Cricket Club (*circulated*)
2. **BBPNA:** response to request to be kept informed of Cwrt Y Gollen planning application (*circulated*)
3. **BBNPA:** 14/11346/FUL Gwern-y-Bustach, Fforest Coal Pit NP7 7LT - has been PERMITTED
4. **BBNPA:** 14/11232/FUL – St Peter's Church, Llanbedr has been REFUSED.

- 15. Clerk's Report/ Items for inclusion in the next Agenda:** Councillors were informed Glangrwyney Village Hall is booked prior to the Council's January meeting. Whilst the hall will be vacated at 7:30pm due to the time required to set up the meeting is likely to have a delayed start. It was suggested the Clerk look into changing the venue.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:30pm