

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 19th January 2015 at 7:30pm in Llanbedr School Hall.

Present: Cllrs David Sharman (*Chairman*), Elaine Lusted (*Vice Chairman*), John Morris, Dean Christy, Roger Llewelyn and Colin Alford. Also in attendance: Cty Cllr John Morris, PC Andy Pole and Maria James (*Clerk*).

PC Andy Pole was welcomed to the meeting. He informed Members there was not a great deal of crime to report however people need to wary of heating oil thefts as well as quad thefts. The police have been looking at off-roaders in the Grwyne Fawr Valley and have caught a couple. They now need to get the message out that it is not legal to use the forestry tracks for this purpose. PC Pole explained he had met with Cty Cllr Morris and Jo Lancey of Highways to discuss the problem of vehicles parking dangerous on Bellfountain Road. PCC has now arranged for white lines to be installed which should act as a deterrent. When questioned why these lines aren't continuous PC Pole explained parked cars prevented this, however the gaps are due to be filled in shortly.

Members were informed the police are due to visit every farm in the area soon as part of their Crime Prevention Scheme. He asked Members to also let him know if they are aware of any elderly residents within the community who would appreciate a visit.

As PC Pole and Cty Cllr Morris were due to attend another meeting the Chairman agreed to alter the agenda to enable Cty Cllr Morris to speak next.

County Council Report: Cty Cllr Morris reported a new Cabinet has been formed which should enable the Council to run with a majority and prove more stable. PCC is in the final stage of setting its budget for 2015/16 and whilst full details are not known there will be implications for schools, services, highways. It should be noted by 2020 the Council's annual income will be 70 million less than it was in 2012. (ie £280,000,000 rather than £350,000,000).

Cty Morris reported Leighton Andrews, the Minister in charge of reforming local government, wishes to reduce the number of local authorities from 22 to 6. Powys has been told to join with the Health Board, however the risk to Powys is that the Health Board overspends by millions every year – the Council cannot overspend. Whilst the Council is happy to work with the Health Board this must be an equal partnership. The other option is to split the area. Further details will be coming out in the autumn after the elections.

Cllr Sharman reported he had arranged a meeting with Cty Cllr Morris and several other interested parties to discuss the position concerning BBNPA's conduct during the Cwrt Y Gollen application. Cty Cllr Morris reported he is awaiting a response to the suggested enquiries.

The Chairman thanked both PC Pole and Cty Cllr John Morris.

7.55pm PC Andy Pole and Cty JGM left the meeting

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Fairclough and Mabberley.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Dean Christy [*Item 3.2 - Forge House, Glangrwyney - applicant*]
3. **Planning Matters:**

3.1 Applications

- (i) **15/11764/FUL** – Rear garden room extension - Panteg Farm, Llanbedr NP8 1ST
Cllr Alford proposed the Council approve this application. This was seconded by Cllr John Morris and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Christy declared an interest in the following item and left the room

- (i) **15/11739/LBC** – Conversion of existing barn within the residential curtilage of a Grade 2 Listed Building to provide holiday accommodation. **Forge House, Glangrwyney NP8 1EW**

Cllr Lusted proposed the Council support the application. This was seconded by Cllr Morris and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Christy returned to the table.

3.2 Decisions/Other: The following applications were noted to have been permitted:

- (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
- (ii) 14/11470/FUL - High head micro-hydro scheme – Utilising land relating to Pen Twyn Mawr, Grwyne Fechan.

Discussion ensued regarding the recent hydro scheme applications over common land. It was debated whether landowners have been served notice and given consent for electric cables to cross their land. It was also questioned whether there is any community benefit.

It was agreed the Council write to Chris Morgan (BBNPA) to determine whether notice has been served on all interested parties and to ask whether there is any community benefit.

- 4. County Council Report:** It was noted Cty Morris presented his report earlier in the meeting [Page 1078]
- 5. Minutes of Meeting** [Page 1075 – 1077] It was proposed by Cllr Lusted, seconded by Cllr Christy and agreed the minutes of the 15th December meeting be accepted as a true record. This was duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 6. Matters Arising from the Above Minutes:** None reported.
- 7. Cwrt Y Gollen:** It was noted this item had been dealt with earlier in the meeting [Page 1078]
- 8. Venue for Council Meetings:** Cllr Llewelyn expressed disappointment at the decision not to hold ordinary Council meetings in Glangrwyney Village Hall during 2015. The Clerk explained she had discovered Glangrwyney Hall is booked every Monday (not just January) and whilst it was acknowledged the Booking Clerk had done her very best to accommodate both parties this meant Council meetings would have to start at 7:45pm. Members were subsequently asked whether they were content for meetings to start at 7:45pm or whether an alternative venue should be sought. The response received indicated Members regrettably felt they had to change venues with the situation reviewed in 2016. Cllr Llewelyn felt there had been some confusion and reported the Village Hall Committee will prioritise the Council's use of the hall. Discussion ensued during which it was acknowledged Members would prefer to use Glangrwyney Hall however were not prepared to accept a 7:45pm start time.

The Clerk was instructed to contact the Village Hall Secretary and if it is possible to ensure a 7:30pm start reinstate the meetings in Glangrwyney.
- 9. Community Councillor Vacancy:** It was noted no applications have been received. It was suggested the vacancy be advertised within the community with no specific closing date.
- 10. Any Other Business:** The Clerk reported the next Five Councils Meetings is understood to be scheduled for 10th February (venue to be notified). Members asked for further information to be forwarded once received. The Clerk questioned whether Members had any items to place on the agenda and whilst it was suggested the formation of a community energy company could be submitted it was agreed to leave this in abeyance until official confirmation has been received.

The Clerk informed Members the meeting with Wales & West Housing has been arranged for Thursday, 29th January at 1:30pm in Llanbedr Village Hall

11. Finance:

11.1 The following items were presented for approval:

G James (Salary /Exp), £200/£25, HMRC (Tax) £100 (*Cheque not drawn for October payment*)

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

11.2 Precept (2015/16): Information relating to the Council's financial situation was distributed to assist the Council in determining the 2015/16 precept. Following discussions regarding the increasing need for Town/Community Councils to support local services and a suggestion the Council be represented at the Crickhowell Resource & Information Centre it was proposed by Cllr Lusted the precept be increased by £500 to £7,000. This was seconded by Cllr Alford and unanimously agreed.

11.3 Village Hall Annual Revenue Grant Scheme. For funding purposes PCC need to determine how much (if any) the Council proposes to donate to each of the community's village halls during 2015. Cllr Morris proposed £100 is donated to each hall. This was seconded by Cllr Lusted and unanimously agreed.

12. Highways: the following matters were reported:

1. Forest Coal Pit: Back road travelling past Craig Y Bwla towards Five Ways (past Llwynon and Cefn Farm) in poor repair - in need of attention.
2. Road from Llanbedr to Fforest Coal Pit was reported to be in need of more regular gritting.
3. Roads around Llanbedr in need of sweeping.
4. Footpath along A40 from Glangrwyney to Crickhowell needs clearing – debris on path and slippery.

It was reported Mr Brian Price (PCC Highways) is changing posts on 15th February. It was suggested his replacement be invited to attend a Council meeting.

13. Reports on Meetings Attended:

The Clerk reported Cllr Fairclough had attended the Crickhowell Health Focus Group. She reported the Day Centre will continue to run but will need support from community councils. There are moves to have more services in South Powys, some led by specialist nurses rather than doctors.

Cllr Llewelyn attended a Glangrwyney Village Hall Committee meeting.

14. The following **Correspondence** was received and discussed as appropriate:

1. **WG**: sum for the purposes of section 137(4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for 2015/16 is £7.36.
2. **PAVO**: e-briefing January 2015 – (circulated)
3. **Powys County Archives Office**: Powys Archives Newsletter Winter 2014 (circulated)
4. **OVW**: Practitioners' Guide Up-date: the amended Chapters 8 and 13 of the 'Governance and accountability for local councils in Wales – A Practitioners' Guide (2011) - Amended December 2014. (circulated).
5. **Edwina Hart AM**: Response to letter requesting traffic calming in Glangrwyney
6. **PAVO**: Conference Report - 2014 - A Third Sector Scheme for Powys
7. **BBNPA**: Local Development Plan (LDP) Consultation on Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Notes 24th December 2014 until 19th February 2015. <http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/?p=29129>
8. **Opcc**: report on CCTV
9. **OVW**: amended Chapters 8 and 13 of the 'Governance and accountability for local councils in Wales – A Practitioners' Guide (2011) - Amended December 2014. (circulated)
10. **OVW**: Welsh Government consultation on the Draft National Transport Plan 2015. <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/transport/draft-national-transport-plan/?lang=en> Send comments on the response form by the end of February 2015 to Dr. Del Morgan at del.morgan@onevoicewales.org.uk
11. **BBNPA**: Applications 14/11513/REM (1 Springfields, Llangenny) and 14/11470/FUL (Hydro scheme – Pen Twyn Mawr, Grwyne Fechan) have been permitted
12. **PCC**: request form for copy of electoral registered (returned).
13. **Clerks & Councils Direct** – January 2015 Issue 97
14. **OVW**: Meeting of Brecon & Radnor Area Committee 30/01 in Llanwrtyd Wells & minutes of 17/10 meeting.
15. **Glasdon**: catalogue

15. Miscellaneous/Late Items of correspondence

1. **OVW**: responses to:
 - i. Consultation on Overriding Easements and Other Rights - WG23294'.
 - ii. Front loading of the Development Management System" consultation.
 - iii. Planning Committees, delegation and joint planning boards" consultation
2. **OVW**: Joint One Voice Wales / SLCC Event – 14 May 2015
3. **P Coutts**: copy of letter sent to Minister of Health regarding lack of facilities for children with special needs in Powys (circulated)
4. **Imperial War Museum**: IWM and the Welsh Government invitation to Centenary Partnership event: Friday 23 January 10 am – 4pm Pierhead Building, Cardiff Bay (circulated)
5. **BBNPA**: (i) 15/11764/FUL – Rear garden room extension - **Panteg Farm, Llanbedr** (ii) 15/11739/LBC – Conversion of existing barn within the residential curtilage of a Grade 2 Listed Building to provide holiday accommodation. **Forge House, Glangrwyney NP8 1EW**
6. **PCC**: Village Hall Annual Revenue Grant Scheme

16. Clerk's Report/ Items for inclusion in the next Agenda: None reported.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:45pm