

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 16th March 2015 at 7:30pm in Llangenny School Hall.

Present: Cllrs David Sharman (*Chairman*), Elaine Lusted (*Vice Chairman*), Ian Maberley, Caroline Fairclough, Roger Llewelyn and Colin Alford. Also in attendance: Mr John Cook, Mr Chris Morgan (BBNPA), Cty Cllr John Morris and Maria James (*Clerk*). Kirsty Williams AM arrived at 7:40pm accompanied by one Member of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr John Morris

Mr John Cook & Mr Christopher Morgan, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority were welcomed to the meeting. They explained this visit was one of a series carried out annually to enable them to meet with Community Councils and endeavour to answer any queries Members may have concerning the National Park.

Members questioned the reasoning behind The Park approving the application to build on Cwrt Y Gollen, as well as the decision not to reject the firing range application, explaining they were disappointed their opposition to this development had not been considered. Mr Cook explained the site had been included in the LDP at the request of the Inspector, not The Park, and whilst Members may be disappointed, it should be noted the approved development is significantly smaller than originally proposed.

Considerable discussions ensued relating to the lack of community benefits during which Cty Cllr Morris agreed to forward emails substantiating his concerns to BBNPA. Members rejected a statement by Mr Morgan's referring to the affordable housing as a community benefit. As he stated the Section 106 agreement has not yet been signed Kirsty Williams AM questioned whether there is now opportunity to address this? Mr Morgan suggested discussions could be held with the developer to see if they will contribute although it should be noted the development has to be profitable to be viable. Members agreed that whilst against the application to build 68 properties on Cwrt Y Gollen they now need to move forward and would like to be involved as the planning process proceeds to ensure the community's views are taken into consideration.

In response to a question relating to enforcement Mr Cook explained The Park in the past had been lacking however is now better and has three enforcement officers who are beginning a round of checks in a measured controlled way.

The Chairman thanked Mr Cook and Mr Morgan for speaking to Councillors, following which they left the meeting.

Members discussed the problems being experienced with Maesyffynon Day Centre following which Ms Kirsty Williams suggested she write to the Portfolio Holder (Darren Mayor) to determine the current situation both with the centre and the meals on wheels service. Ms Williams also agreed to write to WWHA to enquire what is happening with the affordable housing project.

Cllr Sharman thanked Kirsty Williams AM for attending and finding the time to support the Community Council, following which she left the meeting.

1. Declarations of Interest: Nil.

2. Planning Matters

3.1 Applications 15/11865/FUL: Gwern Y Bustach, Forest Coal Pit NP7 7LT: Renovation of dilapidated dwelling including extension into adjacent store, new corner infill extension, new openings, rear staircase extension and provision of bat mitigation within neighbouring ancillary domestic structure.

Cllr Llewelyn proposed the Council support this application. This was seconded by Cllr Maberley and unanimously agreed.

3.2 Decisions: It was noted application 15/11788/FUL: 38 Martell Way, Glangrwyney has been withdrawn.

3. County Council Report: Cty Cllr Morris reported :

- PCC has approved its budget with a 4% rise in council tax.
- As part of its secondary school reorganisation PCC propose closing Gwernfed High School and building a new school in Brecon.

Cllr Alford informed Cty Cllr Morris the road from Fforest Coal Pit to Llanbedr requires regular gritting in adverse conditions. He also provided the Clerk with contact details for Allun Jones of PCC who is now responsible for highways issues within The Vale.

Cty Cllr Morris left at 20.58

4. **Minutes of Meeting** [Page 1081 – 1083] It was proposed by Cllr Mabberley and seconded by Cllr Alford that the minutes of the 16th February meeting be accepted as a true record. This was duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Community Councillor Vacancy:** As reported in the February meeting an application has been received from Mrs Wendy Bowler. Cllr Llewelyn proposed Mrs Bowler be co-opted onto the Council. This was seconded by Cllr Lusted and unanimously agreed.
6. **Reforming Local Government: Power to Local People White Paper:** It was resolved to circulate the survey for further consideration with the recommendation the Council submit a response.
7. **Any Other Business for information purposes:** The Clerk reported Alun Lock has now left Wales & West Housing Association. Mr Jon Harvey is now the point of contact and is due to meet the Council towards the end of March.
9. **Finance:**
 - 9.1 The following items were presented for approval:
G James (Salary £200 /Exp £25), HMRC (Tax) £50, Planning Aid Wales (Training) £30.

It was proposed by Cllr Fairclough, seconded by Cllr Lusted and duly agreed to approve the above payments.
 - 9.2 **Risk Assessment:** In line with audit requirements the Council was requested to review the effectiveness of internal controls. Cllr Llewelyn proposed the Council approve the Risk Assessment Schedule as circulated previously. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and unanimously agreed. The schedule was then duly signed by the Chairman.
 - 9.3 **Other:** It was noted a cheque has been received in settlement of the insurance claim for a bench to replace the one destroyed below Hall Farm, Llangenny.
10. **Highways:** Cllr Alford reported he met Allun Jones (PCC Highways) and travelled to various locations within The Vale to demonstrate highway matters in need of repair/attention. Mr Jones has agreed to look into these matters.

Cllr Llewelyn questioned why can't electronic speed signs be erected in Glangrwyney to encourage the reduction of speeding through the village. Cllr Sharman reported he will ask Kirsty Williams AM for assistance. The bolts on the bridge in Glangrwyney were again reported as loose.

In Cllr Morris' absence the Clerk reported the following matters were in need of attention: landslip at Sunnybank Llanbedr, road by The Bont and The Gudder needs sweeping; sign needed stating no HGVs on Gwrlodau Lane.
11. **Reports on Meetings Attended:** Cllrs Sharman and Llewelyn and the Clerk attended the Five Councils meeting. Following which Cllr Sharman attended a meeting concerning Maesyffynon Day Centre which resulted in another meeting of the Five Councils which Cllr Sharman and Clerk attended - notes have been circulated. Cllr Lusted attended a Llanbedr School Governors Meeting.
12. The following **Correspondence** was received and discussed as appropriate:
 1. **OVW:** *Resource Efficient Wales* - www.wales.gov.uk/resourceefficient .
 2. **OVW:** newsletter from Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales, (Circulated).
 3. **Crickhowell TC:** meeting with R Williams MP & K Williams AM re BBNPA planning applications (circulated)
 4. **OVW:** Consultation on the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Bill (Circulated)
 5. **OVW:** Natural Resource Management Bulletin - Issue 19
 6. **Wales in Bloom:** launch events
 7. **OVW:** Consultancy Services
 8. **R Charlton:** Glangrwyney Cricket Club (circulated)
 9. **PAVO:** March 2015 edition of PAVO E-Briefing
 10. **Llangattock CC:** minutes relating to proposals for Maesyffynon Community Hub
 11. **BBNPA:** draft National Park Management Plan (2015-2020) <http://www.beacons-mpa.gov.uk/the-authority/who-we-are/nmp/management-plan-review/>. (Circulated)
 12. **OVW:** Welsh Government Consultation Document - Tax Devolution in Wales - Landfill Disposals Tax - <http://gov.wales/consultations/?lang=en&status=open>

13. **BBNPA:** Hydro Schemes within VoG CC area
14. **Local Resources Solution Panels PCC:** Team Around the Family Launch Event - 30th March 2015
15. **Oaklands Care Home Llangynidr:** request to vote for Ellie May - (Circulated)
16. **OVW:** Women in Public Life - Invitation to lecture
17. **OVW:** Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report:
<http://wales.gov.uk/irpwsb/home/publication/2015-16/annual-report-2015-16/?lang=en>
18. **OVW:** details required of representative quarterly Area Committee Meetings.
19. **PAVO:** Third sector capability - questionnaire
20. **OVW:** Launch of new One Voice Wales Website
21. **WG:** Minister for Public Services statement regarding the White Paper *Reforming Local Government: Power to Local People*. <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/localgovernment/power-to-local-people/?skip=1&lang=en>
(Circulated)
22. **OVW:** Draft The Wales training Strategy 2015-2019
23. **BBNPA:** 15/11865/FUL: Gwern Y Bustach, Forest Coal Pit NP7 7LT
24. **BBNPA:** 15/11788/FUL 38 Martell Way, Cwrt Y Gollen has been withdrawn
25. **PCC:** Inspection of children's play areas
26. **Clerks & Councils Direct** – Issue 98 March 2015

13. **Miscellaneous/Late Items** *of correspondence*

1. **Play for Wales** - Issue 44 – Spring 15
2. **PCC:** revised opening hours – libraries in Powys
3. **Crickhowell Library Friends Newsletter** (circulated)

14. **Clerk's Report/ Items for inclusion in the next Agenda**

- White Paper - response.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm