

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 18th May 2015 at 7:45pm in Glangrwyney Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs David Sharman (*Chairman*), Elaine Lusted (*Vice Chairman*), John Morris, Ian Maberley Caroline Fairclough, Dean Christy and Wendy Bowler. **In attendance:** Cty Cllr John Morris and the Clerk.

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

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

3. **Planning**

3.1 **Applications:**

- (i) 15/12160/FUL – Two storey and single storey extension to existing dwelling to include garage and creation of vehicular access. Insertion of two roof lights and construction of outbuilding – 38 Martell Way, Cwrt Y Gollen, Glangrwyney NP8 1TJ. It was proposed by Cllr Lusted a response of no objection be submitted. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and duly agreed.
- (ii) 15/12150/FUL – Agricultural machine, animal feed storage shed - The Stables, Pendarren Park, Llangenny. It was proposed by Cllr Bowler, seconded by Cllr Lusted and duly agreed to submit a response of no objection.

3.2 **Decisions:**

Application 15/11738/FUL – Conversion of existing barn to provide holiday accommodation - Forge House, Glangrwyney NP8 1EW was noted as being permitted.

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

- Powys CC has appointed a new Chairman - Mr Paul Ashton.
- The contractor appointed to build the affordable housing in Llanbedr is due to start in June/July.
- Melin Homes are to meet with Crickhowell Town Council to discuss building 20 units at Upper House Farm. These will include a number of one bedroom units.
- Library hours have been reduced by 20% - a Friends Association has been formed.
- Budget planning for next year has started.
- Problems with loss of phone/internet service has been experienced in Llanbedr since 9th May - Kirsty Williams AM has been asked to assist. It was agreed the Council should complain about the delay to BT Executive Level Complaints.

The order of the agenda was changed to enable Cty Cllr Morris to participate in Item 8.

8. **Review of Designated Landscapes in Wales:** Members noted Cllr Cty Morris's response to this review (circulated prior to the meeting). Following discussion it was agreed the Council respond stating:

- it was not in favour of a single National Park for Wales - each of the three National Parks are different - not physically attached with different needs.
- Planning should revert to the local authority with each National Park acting as a consultee.
- National Park Members should be elected and reduced in number.
- Members should be local people.

JGM left the meeting at 8.15pm

5. **Minutes of Meeting** [Page 1087 – 1088] It was proposed by Cllr Maberley and seconded by Cllr Fairclough that the minutes of the 20th April be accepted as a true record. This was duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.

6. **Matters Arising from the Above Minutes:** As agreed Cllr Fairclough and the Clerk met to formulate a response to the White Paper. This was subsequently circulated for approval and submitted.

Cllr Llewelyn was noted to have done an excellent job in installing the new bench by Hall Farm Llangenny for which he had made no charge. Members unanimously agreed he must be thanked and instructed the Clerk to write to express the Council's appreciation.

Big Lottery grant funding has been secured for two new notice boards and four benches in The Vale.

7. **Standing Orders & Financial Regulations:** In line with its annual governance procedures the Council was asked to review its standing orders. The Clerk questioned whether Councillors be recorded as "absent" if no apologies have been received noting she has never done this (despite standing orders declaring this should be done). Following discussion Cllr Maberley proposed absences are recorded. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and duly agreed.

9. **Any Other Business:** *for information only:* Cllr Mabberley reported a Community Interest Company has been set up in Grwyne Fawr. The purpose of which is conservation and to improve broadband and mobile communications in the valley. Cllr Fairclough reported recycling bins have now been received [Page 1088 Item 10] although still only on one side of the valley.
10. **Finance:**
- (i) Clerk's Salary £200/Exp £25; HMRC £50; Zurich Insurance £219.32; Chairman's Allowance £75; Councillor's Communication Allowance £20 pa; B Bermingham (Internal Auditor) £98.10
- It was proposed by Cllr Lusted seconded by Cllr Fairclough and agreed to approve the above payments.
- (ii) Internal/External Audit: It was noted the Internal Auditor had completed and signed Section 4 of the Annual Return stating all items listed had been covered and without qualification. In line with current regulations the Council was asked to formally consider whether it wished to continue employing Ms Bermingham as its internal auditor. Cllr Mabberley proposed the Council continue engaging Ms Bermingham. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and duly agreed. The Clerk to submit a formal letter of engagement.
- (iii) Members were presented with a copy of the annual return which they were asked to consider and approve prior to submission to the external auditor. It was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr Bowler and agreed that the annual return be approved.
11. **Highways:** Correspondence was noted to have been received from Edwina Hart AM stating traffic calming measures are scheduled for Glangrwyney in the medium term, ie 3 to 4 years. It was agreed to write to express dissatisfaction at the length of time proposed.
12. **Reports on Meetings Attended:** Cllr Lusted attended a Llanbedr School Governors' Meeting reporting the Headteacher is one of twelve being considered for an outstanding teaching award.
13. The following **Correspondence** was received and discussed as appropriate:
1. **OVW:** Link to Programme 2015 for Cymru'n Cofio Wales Remembers 1914-1918.
 2. **OVW:** Code of Practice on Workforce Matters 2014
 3. **OVW -** Information on Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (Commencement No. 2) Order 2015.
 4. **OVW** – Final response to White Paper (*circulated*)
 5. **PCC:** Recycling/ rubbish collections will now take place on bank holidays - except for Xmas and New Year.
 6. **Edwina Hart AM:** Glangrwyney traffic calming measures will take place in medium term (3/4 yrs).
 7. **Police Commissioner:** Recruiting for two volunteer schemes. (*circulated*)
 8. **OVW:** Positive Planning: Planning (Wales) Bill
 9. **PAVO:** e-briefing May 2015
 10. **OVW** Natural Resource Management e-bulletin
 11. **Friends of Crickhowell Library** Newsletter 2 (*circulated*)
 12. **R Yorke** – parking provision – Partrishow Church.
 13. **Bronwen Bermingham:** Internal Audit Report & Invoice (*circulated*)
 14. **OVW:** workshop to develop an Adaptation Plan for the Communities sector.
 15. **BBNPA:** Application 15/12160/FUL
 16. **Mid Wales Housing:** Consultation on whether tenants should be able to buy share of their property
 17. **BBNPA;** Fforest Fawr Geopark Guide
 18. **BBNPA:** Tourism in Action – Issue 23 Spring 2015
 19. **Clerks & Councils Direct** – Issue 99 May 2015
14. The following **Miscellaneous/Late Items of Correspondence** were received and discussed as appropriate:
1. **PCC:** Information on Community Delivery (*circulated*)
 2. **PAVO:** Powys has just over £5 million under the LEADER 2014 – 2020 programme. The Local Action Group inviting ideas for LEADER project
 3. **PCC:** Emergency Closure - C0122 at Llangenny, nr Crickhowell (*circulated*)
 4. **PAVO:** Powys Volunteer of the Year 2015 – nominations invited
 5. **Llanbedr Hall Association:** receipt of payment for hall hire.
 6. **BBNPA:** permitted – application 15/11738/FUL
 7. **BBNPA:** Application: 15/12150/FUL
15. **Clerk's Report/Items for inclusion in the next agenda:** Cllr Fairclough suggested that given the present devolution of services the Council consider appointing a Devolved Services Representative or maybe formulate a working group with the Five Councils. It was suggested this matter be put forward for discussion at the next Five Councils Liaison Meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:09pm