

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 19th October 2015 at 7:30pm in Glangrwyney Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs David Sharman (*Chairman*), John Morris, Caroline Fairclough, Elaine Lusted, Ian Mabberley, Wendy Bowler, Dean Christy and Roger Llewelyn. **In attendance:** Maria James (*Clerk*). **Absent:** Cllr Colin Alford

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None received.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None declared.
3. **Public Speaking Session:** No requests received.
4. **Planning Matters**

4.1 Applications:

15/12766/FUL Proposal to upgrade existing access and construct a new lorry turning facility to harvest and extract the standing infected larch timber - Mynydd Du Forest.

Cllr Mabberley informed Members Natural Resource Wales plan to undertake a clear fell of some 25 hectares of infected larch and some thinning operations. Planning permission is required as the area is close to a road. Cllr Morris proposed the Council submit a response of no objection. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and duly agreed.

4.2 Decisions/Other:

- (i) Application 15/12590/FUL: **The Bungalow, Llangenny NP8 1HE** has been permitted.
- (ii) Application 15/12541/FUL: **Gwern Y Bustach, Fforest Coal Pit** has been refused.
- (iii) Cllr Morris proposed the Council complain to BBNPA concerning the positioning of the Pen-y-Bont planning notice which was only erected following enquiry and then displayed on land adjacent to the proposed site. Councillors discussed the matter however felt the notice was sited appropriately considering the cadence of the road. It was therefore resolved not to submit a complaint in this regard.

5. **County Council Report:** None received. *Cty Cllr Morris was not present.*
6. **Minutes of Meeting** [Page 1101 – 1104]: Cllr Mabberley proposed the minutes of the 21st September meeting be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough. Cllr Lusted proposed the minutes of the 2nd October [Page 1105] meeting be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Christy. The minutes were duly agreed and signed by the Chairman.
7. **Matters Arising from the Above Minutes:**

P1102 Item 6: It is difficult for Allun Jones [Highways PCC] to attend an evening meeting due to family commitments however he is available during the day. Cllr Morris informed Members he has arranged to meet with Ian Mills PCC concerning signs requested for Gwrlodau Lane and by the quarry. He will also liaise with Allun Jones regarding the proposed siting of the bench and report back. Councillors did not consider it necessary to arrange a meeting with Mr Jones at present and will await Cllr Morris's report.

P1102 Item 6: Cllr Mabberley reported a wooden picnic bench can be purchased from the Skirrid Garage for £100 with a £10 delivery charge. To keep costs to a minimum Cllr Mabberley offered to collect.

8. **Benches:** Whilst Alun Jones [PCC] is happy to meet to discuss the proposed site for the new bench [Page 1102 Item 7] from information supplied he does not believe it to be promising.

Cllr Bowler informed Members the Friends of Llangenny Playground will arrange for a concrete base to be provided for the bench to be sited on – Cllr Llewelyn will supply measurements and offered to store the benches until required.

Cllr Llewelyn will collect the noticeboards from the Clerk and arrange installation. The location of the Glangrwyney noticeboard to be agreed by Glangrwyney Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Sharman proposed Cllr Llewelyn be properly remunerated for the work involved in installing the benches/noticeboards. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and unanimously agreed.

- 9. Llanbedr Affordable Housing:** Wales & West Housing Association (WWHA) are still working on documents relating to the allocation of the houses which will be forwarded as soon as finalised. They plan to start advertising the low cost and sale units in the next few weeks and will send the information beforehand. The rentals will be after this. WWHA have also invited Councillors to view the site. Cllr Morris expressed disappointment at the changes WWHA have made to the project since its inauguration and the way they appear to have backed out of the previously discussed community benefit.

Members questioned the necessity of a site visit and whilst willing to attend asked the Clerk to establish the agenda prior to agreeing.

- 10. Cwrt Y Gollen:** Cllr Sharman informed Members he has compiled a report. This will be emailed to Members for consideration.
- 11. Five Council Liaison Meeting:** Llangynidr CC is host to the next Five Councils Meeting on the 3rd November. Members suggested "Local Government Re-organisation" be placed on the agenda for discussion. It was noted the next Five Councils meeting will be hosted by the VoGCC. It was felt this would be an appropriate time to debate the purpose of the cluster.
- 12. Any Other Business:** *for information only*

Cllr Lusted reported problems with rubbish collection in Llangenny – wheelie bins not being collected.

Cllr Bowler suggested notices be displayed in noticeboards to inform residents of the new three weekly rubbish collections to be introduced by PCC in November. Cllr Fairclough suggested information on dates be obtained and put on the web site.

- 13. Finance:** It was proposed by Cllr Fairclough, seconded by Cllr Lusted, and duly agreed to approve the following payments: G M James (Salary /Exp) £225; HM Revenue & Customs £50; Llangenny Village Hall (planning meeting) £7; Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £17; D Sharman: Travelling Exp £72; Skirrid Mountain Garage (Picnic bench) £100.
- 14. Highways:** Cllr Morris is meeting Ian Mills (PCC) to discuss the no parking signs required at the quarry Grwyne Fechan. Whilst PCC has agreed to put a sign at the back of the quarry this is not where it is needed - the problem is where they go round to the bridge. They will also discuss the request for a "No HGVs" sign by the Red Lion Inn, as well as the problem of sat-navs sending lorries down narrow lanes.

Other matters reported as outstanding included:

- Cars parking on Bellfountain Road.
- Plates not tightened on Glangrwyney Bridge.
- Millbrook Bridge – damaged by a falling tree some years ago.

15. Reports on Meetings Attended:

OVW Conference: Cllr Sharman attended – talk on local government reforms and what may/may not happen. Quite clear what is in the pipeline may change after the elections next year. Talk from people representing parish councils – tendencies for local authorities to be run by private enterprises. Leighton Andrews spoke – he believes everyone should be represented by a community council – his plans involve t/community councils keeping their individuality but forming cluster groups for services, ie grass cutting, etc. Interesting conference. Cllr Sharman then attended a workshop in Cardiff to put ideas forward to Leighton Andrews (12 people from Wales attended) - talk of cluster groups rather than mergers - what services could be provide by the community councils and what by the unitary authorities? We will be able to comment on this when report comes out. OVW warned Councils that if they take over buildings they should first commission a survey - lots of councils are taking on buildings then finding they need money spent on them. Membership is 68% at moment.

Friends of Crickhowell Library: Cllr Fairclough attended. The Friends are working towards an asset transfer. Powys CC has to provide a library service - they hope to transfer buildings to communities but provide staff. A business plan is being produced.

NatWest Bank: representatives from the Five Councils met with Rhian Head of the NatWest Bank. The bank is closing its Crickhowell branch on the 24th November. They wish to retain a cash machine and will be applying for planning consent to keep the machine where it is. It is possible they may run a bank bus.

16. Correspondence: the following correspondence was received and discussed as appropriate:

1. **A Betham:** Information re Rural Enterprise Dwelling 15/12615/OUT application (*circulated*)
2. **OVW:** Preparing for Public Services Boards" Conference 2015 - 26 Nov at Millennium Stadium
3. **Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod** – annual funding appeal
4. **Crickhowell Library Action Group:** Meeting 14th Oct 3.30 Library (*Circulated Cllr Fairclough to attend*)
5. **Zurich:** notification Chancellor increased insurance premium tax to 9.5% from November 2015.
6. **OVW:** BBC Charter Review Consultation
7. **PAVO:** PAVO ebriefing for October 2015
8. **Powys Community Health Authority:** meeting of Radnorshire & Brecknock Local Committee on 14/10/15 at 10.30am at Rhayader Leisure Centre
9. **Dyfed Powys Local Resilience Forum Humanitarian Assistance & Community Resilience Conference** 15th October 2015. – Joining instructions – (*Circulated - Cllr Bowler to attend*)
10. **CRiC:** Oriel Gallery will hold art auction over the Remembrance Day period in November (*Circulated*)
11. **Mid and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service:** Draft Annual Improvement Plan for 2016/17.
12. **Clare Parsons BBNPA:** Community Update and notification BBNPA will no longer organise grouped Town/Community Council meetings – welcome feedback on how best to work together (*Circulated*)
13. **Richard Tyler BBNPA:** Forest Holidays/Natural Resources Wales propose development of 40 timber holiday cabins within Garwnant Forest (*Circulated*).
14. **PCC:** consultation report on closure of the Welsh-medium stream at Brecon High School
15. **PAVO:** nominations invited for election to Board of Trustees
16. **OVW/Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales** Draft Annual Report - February 2016 (*Circulated*).
17. **OVW:** Natural Resource Management Bulletin (*Circulated*)
18. **OVW:** information on conference Powys REconomics!
19. **PAVO:** PCC plans huge cuts in relation to youth services. PAVO is carrying out survey to assess the current capabilities and resilience of organisations.
20. **OVW:** Appointments of Trustee for Wales (*Circulated*)
21. **Crickhowell TC:** draft notes of Five Councils meeting with NatWest (*Circulated*)
22. **William Powell AM:** Petition: Charging for Parking & Relationship to High Streets & Their Success (*Circulated*)
23. **PCC:** notification Powys CC will be withdrawing village hall grants (*Circulated*)
24. **PCC** From November 2nd rubbish collections will be 3 weekly. Food waste/recycling collections to continue on weekly basis. (*Circulated*)
25. **PAVO:** poster promoting flu vaccination (*put on noticeboards*)
26. **Dyfed-Powys Police & Crime Commissioner:** newsletter (*Circulated*)
27. **Powys Citizen Advice:** funding request
28. **OVW:** Brecon & Radnor Area Committee Agenda – 9th October and minutes July 15
29. **Wales Audit Office:** notification auditors will focus on budget setting and monitoring and engagement of internal audit for the 2015/16 audits.

17. Miscellaneous/Late Items of Correspondence

1. **PCC:** Cllr W Barry Thomas: letter to emphasis financial challenges facing PCC (*Circulated*)
2. **OVW:** list of Brecon and Radnor Councils and membership status. (*Circulated*)
3. **OVW:** Groundwork Funding Opportunity through Tesco Carrier Bag Levy (*Circulated*)
4. **OVW:** Grow Wild Community Project Funding (*Circulated*)
5. **OVW:** Register now for free 2016 Grow Wild seed kits (*Circulated*)
6. **PAVO:** meeting - 26 Nov - to help build and develop Dementia Supportive Communities across Powys
7. **Llangnidr CC:** request for agenda items for Five Councils before 26th Oct
8. **OVW:** OVW will attend the Preparing for Public Services Boards" Conference on 26th November
9. **CRiC:** turns 10 in 2016. Offer to showcase groups in the community - respond by November 13th.
10. **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Urdd Gobaith Cymru 2018** – Public Meeting - 10 November.
11. **PAVO:** Powys Budget Challenge – Public Consultation (*on web site and circulated*)

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

- Cllr Sharman reported he had been contacted concerning building work at a property in Llanbedr and alterations to an entrance from a field onto a road in Llangenny and questioned whether planning applications have been received. The Clerk was asked to check whether notification had been received
- To discuss the use of planning policies when responding to BBNPA consultations.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.06 pm