

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 7:30pm in Glangrwyney Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs C Fairclough (Chairman), J Morris, C Alford, H Tohill, W Bowler and P Bowker. Also in attendance: M James (*Clerk*) and one member of the public (*who left following Item 3.1(i)*).

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs D Sharman, D Christy, E Lusted and Cty Cllr J Morris.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None declared.

3. **Planning Matters:**

**3.1 Applications:**

- (i) 17/15349/FUL: Resurfacing of rear car park and installation of sewage treatment works. **The Blue Bell Inn, Glangrwyney NP8 1EH**

*Standing orders were suspended whilst a member of the public made representations.  
The meeting was reconvened at 19:41.*

Concerns relating to surface water run-off and the possibility resurfacing in tarmac may exacerbate this problem were noted.

It was RESOLVED to write to BBNPA stating the Council is unable to support this application in its present condition and to request further information on surface water run-off provision and its impact on surrounding property.

- (ii) 17/15422/FUL: "There is an existing forest entrance at Mynydd Du Forest which is currently constructed with crushed grey stone and the proposal is to resurface 300m<sup>2</sup> of this entrance with black tarmac." **Mynydd Du Forest, Nr Forest Coalpit**

The Clerk reported that whilst notification has been received via email the paper copy has not been received. Further information will be circulated once available.

**3.2 Decisions/Other:** None reported.

4. **County Council Report:** Cty Cllr Morris was unable to attend the meeting but asked the Clerk to refer any matters for his attention.

In response to a query as to why a local couple with one child were not eligible for the shared ownership house in Llanbedr it was explained the house has 3 bedrooms therefore to be considered applicants must conform with WWHA's policy regarding ratio of bedrooms to number/gender of children.

It was reported PCC is due to start gritting shortly however highway workers are concerned cars parked on the corner in Llanbedr will make it difficult if not impossible for gritting lorries to pass. It was agreed this problem should be referred to PCC. The Clerk will contact Cty Cllr Morris with the suggestion PCC write to residents.

5. **Minutes of Meeting** [Page 1186 – 1188] Cllr Tohill proposed the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Wendy Bowler. All agreed.

6. **Matters Arising from the Above Minutes** *for information purposes.*

**P1187 Item 9:** Cllr Fairclough and Cllr Morris had for various reasons failed to meet.

**Page 1185 Item 21:** Tour arranged for the 14<sup>th</sup> November – *details to be circulated.*

**Page 1187 Item 8:** The ROWIP circulated is current but being reviewed because it is 10 years old. A questionnaire has been circulated which asks how rights of way are used and how they could be improved. The main consultation will occur in 2018 when the Community Council will be expected to respond formally to the ROWIP review process.

7. **Llanbedr Allotments:** Cllr Alford was thanked for arranging for the ground to be strimmed. As a small tractor is required to plough this ground (and most contractors' tractors are large) it was suggested a local resident be asked to plough it (*at a cost of no more than £100*). It was agreed the matter needs to progress and a time limit should be imposed. It was suggested and agreed that if the ground is not ploughed within two weeks Cllr Alford will arrange for it to be rotovated.
8. **IRPW Draft Annual Report:** This report was received and noted.
9. **Independent Review Panel - Call to Evidence:** The importance of this consultation on the future of the sector was noted. In order to give Members opportunity to consider a response it was agreed to place the item on the November agenda.
10. **Guidance for principal councils on the Review of Communities:** this item was considered in conjunction with the Call to Evidence review above.
11. **Broadband:** Cllr Bowler reported the service in Llangenny is poor. Kirsty Williams AM has been approached for assistance. Whilst Open Reach state the village will have broadband by December this will be via existing lines which have been subject to numerous repairs therefore if lines are not renewed the quality of service is questionable.

Discussion ensued regarding broadband provision in the general locality with it being reported residents in Grwyne Fawr have been informed they are amongst the 3% in Wales who will not receive fibre optic broadband. Members were asked to write to their MP stating provision of broadband is a universal necessity.

It was resolved to write to: (i) Kirsty Williams AM regarding Llangenny; (ii) Chris Davies MP – provision of broadband is an universal necessity (*clarify which areas will receive broadband within 3 years and those excluded from this*); (iii) bring the problem up with Chris Davies during the Q&A session at the tour of the Houses of Parliament.

## 12. **Any Other Business:** *for information purposes only*

Members were informed the Remembrance Parade takes place this year on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. The Chair will lay a wreath in Crickhowell and Cllr Bowler will lay a wreath in Llangenny.

## 13. **Finance:**

- (i) Cllr Bowler proposed the following items are approved for payment. This was seconded by Cllr Tothill and duly agreed:  
G M James (Salary/Exp) £225, HMRC £50, Planning Aid Wales (Training) £140, RBL Poppy Appeal £34, Glangrwyney Village Hall £14 (Planning Meeting).
- (ii) The Finance Report was received and noted.
- (iii) It was agreed the internal auditor should conduct Stage 1 of the audit in March 2018.

## 14. **Highways:** the following matters were reported:

- Potholes have been repaired in Llanbedr.
- Repairs have been started on the bridge in Llangenny
- MWTRA to be asked to provide electronic speeding signs in Glangrwyney.

- Skipper Lane, Llanbedr needs retarmacing where water pipes installed some years back – reported previously.
- Gudder to Henbant Road, Llanbedr – potholes
- Yellow lines in Crickhowell – what is the outcome of Breconshire Meeting.

## 15. Reports on Meetings Attended:

**One Voice Wales Conference:** Cllr Morris attended. Mark Drakeford spoke on the challenges facing us. Wales still has 22 local councils. Boundary Commission is reviewing boundaries for county election wards. Community Councils will be asked to take on more services. Hugh Vaughan Thomas – The Auditor General for Wales spoke. Town/Community Council deal with 45 million pounds – 8% have no financial report. Councillors responsibility to check. Lyn Cadwallader spoke of the success of OVW. All 6 motions were passed. Membership fee to increase by 5%.

Cllr Morris also attended an OVW Area Committee Meeting reporting Dr Del Morgan is retiring at end of the year. The Call to Evidence consultation was discussed.

**Natural Resource Wales Blaen Y Cwm Meeting:** Cllr Fairclough, Morris and Alford, together with the Clerk and two local residents met with Michael Cresswell Natural Resource Wales regarding the picnic area by Blaen-y-Cwm. Local residents wish the fence to remain. The situation will be reviewed next year.

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

1. **C Mills:** permit for tour of Palace of Westminster – 14<sup>th</sup> November.
2. **OVW:** Rural Business Investment Scheme (RBISF) capital investments scheme.
3. **OVW:** Cynnal Cymru Events Newsletter
4. **B Birmingham:** request to conduct 1<sup>st</sup> stage of audit.
5. **BBNPA:** Weekly Planning Registers
6. **OVW:** IRPW – Draft Annual Report: Comments to [IRPMailbox@gov.wales](mailto:IRPMailbox@gov.wales) by 29th November.
7. **OVW:** Welsh Government Consultation – "Taking forward Wales' Sustainable Management of Natural Resources" deadline extended to 30th September.
8. **WG/OVW:** Draft Budget | Welsh Tax Policy Report | Rates and Bands.
9. **OVW/WG:** Consultation: guidance for principal councils on the review of communities.
10. **BBNP:** want Brecon Beacons Local Access Forum (LAF) members.
11. **OVW:** Newyddion Powys Newsline
12. **OVW:** Independent Review Panel - Call to Evidence  
<http://gov.wales/topics/localgovernment/communitytowncouncils/review-of-community-town-council-sector/?lang=en>
13. **BBNPA:** Rights of Way Improvement Plan Questionnaire
14. **BBNPA:** Agenda – NPA – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017
15. **Pension Regulator :** Acknowledgement of declaration of compliance
16. **Citizens Advice Powys:** request for financial assistance – *place on November agenda*

## 17. Miscellaneous/Late Items of correspondence:

1. **BBNPA:** Weekly planning register
2. **OVW:** burial charges for children
3. **Pickvance – Black Mountains Trial Race:** *write to ask runners to respect walkers and suggest donation to BBNPA for maintaining footpaths.*  
Duke of Edinburgh write to organisers to get participants to respect the Countryside Code and close gates.

## 18. Items for inclusion in the next Agenda: None submitted.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:20pm