

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 21st February 2022 at 7:30pm. This meeting was held remotely via video conferencing.

Present: Cllr John Morris (Chairman)
Cllr Caroline Fairclough
Cllr David Sharman
Cllr Colin Alford
Cllr Paul Morris
Cllr Phill Bowker
Cllr Elaine Lusted
Cllr Dean Christy

In attendance: County Cllr John Morris and Maria James (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Jeff Greenidge.

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

3. **Planning:**

3.1 Applications: to resolve responses to consultations received from BBNPA:

- (i) **22/20711/FUL:** Erection of rear extension comprising utility room, wc and stairway and creation of first floor bedroom/workroom above existing kitchen/dining room. **Cae Ffynnon, Llanbedr NP8 1SY**

RESOLVED to: submit response of no objection

- (ii) **22/20723/FUL:** front of property already has a lean-to porch so proposed to fill the 2 sides of the porch in, etc. **14 St Peter's Close, Llanbedr NP8 1SQ**

RESOLVED to: submit response of no objection

- (iii) **22/20776/FUL:** Construction of stone walled and roofed lambing shed, feed store and stables with access track. **Tyrywen, Forest Coal Pit NP7 7LP**

RESOLVED to: submit response of no objection

3.2 Decisions: the following applications were noted to have been permitted:

- (i) 21/20224/LBC & 21/20223/FUL - Tyrywen, Forest Coal Pit
(ii) 20/19189/FUL Gobpwllau, Llangenny NP8 1HL
(iii) 21/20653/TPO: Pendarren House OEC, Llangenny NP8 1HE

4. **County Council Report:** County Councillor Morris reported:

- Llanbedr School – the school and pupils should be proud of how they presented the school to the five members of Powys County Council's Cabinet who visited the

Signed:.....
Chairman

school recently. The decision on whether to proceed with closure will go before the Cabinet at the beginning of March.

- Speeding in Glangrwyney – a resident has asked if a meeting is scheduled to discuss speeding in the village – the clerk confirmed the council has arranged to meet James Evans MS and Sgt Matt Thomas of Dyfed Powys Police on 28th February 2022.
- Glangrwyney Bridge (Halfpenny Bridge) – repairs are unlikely to be completed until mid to late April. Both Monmouthshire and Powys County Councils have experienced delays.
- Flooding – whilst some properties have been affected by recent flooding this has not been as bad as in 2020. The council’s proactive approach to clearing drains has proved effective.

During the recent storms rainwater was noted to accumulate on the A40 near Llwynytrych in Glangrwyney with no visible means of escape and by the border between Powys and Monmouthshire thought to be due to a blocked culvert. Cty Cllr Morris will inform the Trunk Road Agency.

Cty Cllr Morris asked to be informed of any drains in need of clearing, particularly those near housing.

- Budget – Powys County Council meet this Thursday to set its budget – a 3.9% increase in council tax is proposed

Cty Cllr Morris left the meeting at 19:51

5. Minutes: minutes of the 17th January 2022 meeting [Pages 1399 -1402] were approved as a true record (Proposed Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr Fairclough).

6. Clerk’s Report: information from the minutes:

- The overgrown hedges by Green Cottage, Grwynefechan and Llanbedr Allotments have been cut.
- The grant application for Llangenny Water Fountain proved unsuccessful. The clerk will explore other funding avenues and report back.
- Llangattock Green Valleys has been informed the council supports its application to conduct Home Energy Audits.

7. Himalayan Balsam: to consider funding request.

Members considered the information supplied. Uncertainty was expressed as to what precisely the council is being asked to fund and concern raised as to whether landowners will allow access onto their land. Discussion ensued following which it was proposed a donation of £50 is made. (Proposed Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr Fairclough). Following a vote (7 For 1 Against) it was agreed to donate £50 to the organisation - provided the group is able to provide bank details.

Signed:.....
Chairman

RESOLVED to: donate £50 to the Himalayan Balsam Group

- 8. Safety Review Campaign: to consider request to support Crickhowell Town Council in leading a campaign to persuade Welsh Government to urgently review the safety of the A40 between Crickhowell Square and Llanbedr Road in the light of proposed development of the former Conservative Club site.**

It was unanimously agreed to support this campaign (Proposed Cllr Fairclough; Seconded Cllr Lusted).

RESOLVED to: support Crickhowell Town Council leading this campaign

- 9. Speeding in Glangrwyney: to receive up-date**

A meeting has been arranged for 28th February at 2pm in Glangrwyney with James Evans MS and Sgt Matt Thomas of Dyfed Powys Police. Cllrs J Morris, Sharman, Christy and Lusted to attend. Representatives from the Community Speed Watch Scheme will be invited.

- 10. Retrospective Planning: to receive up-date**

The response received from Julie James MS was noted. The clerk will circulate a copy of the research report referred to. (*Research into the cost of delivering a Development Management service in Wales*).

- 11. Consultation on the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: to consider response.**

The requirements of the new legalisation were noted. Following consideration it was suggested members email comments to the Clerk for circulation and submission by the 17th March deadline.

- 12. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee: to receive up-date on plans to commemorate**

The proposal to plant 70 trees (one tree to represent each year) starting in Glangrwyney and finishing in Grwyne Fawr or along the Beacons Way was agreed to be a good idea however dependent upon obtaining landowners’ permission. An alternative could be to plant 7 trees (one per decade) in each of the villages. It was also suggested the council hold a "bring your own picnic and fun day" in Llanbedr in collaboration with the village halls.

Cllr Fairclough, Lusted and the Clerk offered to walk the route to identify suitable locations and report back to the next meeting.

- 13. Information from Members to be included in the next Agenda**

- Speeding in Glangrwyney
- Retrospective planning
- Jubilee Planning

Signed:.....
Chairman

14. Finance:

14.1 The following items were approved for payment: (Proposed; Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr J Morris) and duly agreed.

Staff (Salary £268:07/Expenses £25/Travel £6.30) -	£	299.37
HMRC -	£	23.60
G M James (reimbursement – Zoom) -	£	14.39
M Williams (strimming Llanbedr Nature Garden) -	£	80.00

14.2 The Finance Report was noted.

14.3 The external auditor has issued an unqualified audit. Comments regarding reserves were noted. The notice of completion of audit will be displayed on the web site and noticeboards. The council thanked the Clerk/RFO for her work in this regard.

14.4 In line with governance requirements the Council reviewed the effectiveness of its internal controls. It was unanimously agreed to adopt the risk assessment as circulated (Proposed Cllr Fairclough; Seconded Cllr Lusted).

15. Highways:

- Partrishow: edge of the road running below The Neuadd (on church side) has slipped; potholes.
- Llangenny – trees in river by Millbrook – Natural Resources Wales to be invited to a site meeting.
- Llanbedr: water has damaged road from three corners to Henbant – arrange meeting with Vincent Playdon.

16. Reports on Meetings Attended:

- Five Councils Meeting - Cllr Morris and the Clerk attended.
- Zoom elections meeting – the Clerk attended.
- One Voice Wales - Cllr J Morris attended.
- Cllr Bowler was thanked for circulating minutes of the Glangrwyney Village Hall meetings.

17. **Correspondence** as itemised in Appendix A was received and noted.

18. **Correspondence** as itemised in Appendix B was received and noted.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.30 pm

Signed:.....

Chairman