

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 21st November 2022 at 7:30pm in Llangenny School Hall and remotely via the video conferencing platform Zoom.

Present: Cllr John Morris (Chairman)
Cllr Elaine Lusted

Attended Remotely: Cllr Dean Christy
Cllr Phill Bowker

In attendance: The Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Roger Llewelyn; Cllr Roger Bridgwater, Cllr Colin Alford, Cllr David Sharman, Cllr Jeff Greenidge and County Cllrs Matt and Sarah-Jane Beecham.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** to be declared during the meeting. Cllr Bowker declared an interest in matters relating to Glangrwyney Village Hall (Chairman of Hall)

3. **Planning:**

3.1 Applications: to resolve responses to consultations received from BBNPA/PCC including any received after the publication of the agenda.

- (i) **21/20677/FUL:** "Use of existing Annexe as a mixed use providing holiday accommodation in addition to existing use as Annexe, Closure of existing substandard access and creation of new parking area resolving highway dangers and provision of enhanced landscaping and biodiversity provision." **The Annexe, Neuadd Fechan, Llanbedr, Crickhowell Powys NP8 1SR (Reconsultation)**

RESOLVED to: submit response of no objection.

3.2 Decisions/Other: the following decisions were noted:

- (i) **20/18894/FUL:** To erect an extension to an existing agricultural steel frame building." (Full Application) at Ty Cerreg, Llangenny, Crickhowell, Powys NP8 1HA has been **permitted**.
- (ii) **21/20333/FUL:** Proposed site for 6 touring caravans (Full application) Land Adjoining Llwynytrych Farm Fields Glangrwyney has been **refused**.

4. **County Council Report:** Cllrs Beecham were unable to attend, but submitted a written report:

- Llanbedr School: the school catchment review consultation has now closed. John Meredith, Director of Education for the Church in Wales, is committed to ensuring Llanbedr remains open. The High School is exploring the possibility of becoming a CiW High School which may strengthen Llanbedr's case to remain open and allow Llanbedr, Llangattock and the High School to federate.

Signed:.....

Chairman

- Glangrwyney Bridge: issues around pedestrian safety and speeding have been reported. PCC is exploring options and agree traffic from the Powys side crosses quicker than the Monmouthshire end. The rollout of the 20 mph throughout Powys is now taking priory – the bridge will be factored into next year’s priorities.

5. Minutes: the minutes of the 17th October 2022 meeting [Pages 1436-1440] were approved [Proposed Cllr Lusted; Seconded Cllr Christy].

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

- Llangenny Water Fountain: the grant application has been submitted.
- Five Councils: the Police and Crime Commissioner has agreed to attend a meeting. Llangattock CC will be asked if they want to host - if not VoG will.
- SSSi Rivers - this will be put on the December agenda.

7. Community Pantry: to consider proposal to set up a community pantry in The Vale of Grwyney.

Cllr Lusted explained the premise of a community pantry is to sell short dated food at a reduced price to those in need - reducing food wastage. It costs £2,500 to set up. Members questioned the practicalities, ie are there sufficient volunteers/fridge space/storage facilities? It was felt this should be a Five Councils initiative. Initially the demand/need for a community pantry needs to be assessed. Crickhowell Volunteer Bureau will be approached for advice.

8. Certified Caravan Sites: to note regulations applying to certified caravan sites in the National Park and discuss whether different rules should be implemented.

Brecon Beacons National Park has supplied information which will be circulated for consideration. Discussion was deferred to the next meeting.

9. Communications Strategy: to receive/consider adopting communications strategy.

Members discussed the questions presented by Cllr Bridgwater in relation to the communications strategy. Whilst usage of the web site can be reported at monthly meetings and a council Facebook page operated members had a few queries which required clarification. It was felt a more informed debate was necessary before the council makes any decision. Full discussion was deferred to the following meeting.

10. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee: to receive up-date on commemoration plans

Daffodils have been donated to the villages of Llangenny, Glangrwyney and Llanbedr. Llangenny would like a silver birch tree planted on its community land. Cllr Bowker (Chairman of Glangrwyney Hall) was asked to confirm what type of tree the hall would like. Cllr Morris confirmed sites have been identified and permission obtained to plant six of the Jubilee Trees - one more is required. Cllr Morris will organise a meeting of the working group (Cllrs Alford, Christy, Bridgwater and Morris) and report back at the next meeting.

Signed:.....
Chairman

11. Household Energy Saving Initiatives: to receive up-date on proposal to promote energy saving initiatives

It was considered difficult for the council to improve upon the numerous energy saving initiatives currently being promoted in the media, etc, and therefore agreed not to take the proposal further.

RESOLVED to: not proceed with this proposal.

12. Training Plan/Training Policy: to receive/consider adopting training plan and training policy.

It was agreed to adopt the training plan and training policy circulated. The Clerk will produce a proforma for completion by councillors to assess whether training received was effective and represented value for money.

RESOLVED to: adopt the training plan and training policy

13. Boreholes and the effect on the water table: to discuss whether permission should be required for sinking bore holes.

Currently there is no need to acquire an abstraction licence to drill a domestic borehole providing up to 20,000 litres of water a day however, considering climate change, it was questioned whether this should change? Full discussion was deferred to the following meeting.

14. The Section 6 Biodiversity & Ecosystem Resilience Report: to review report

Amendments to the report were noted and agreed. The report as circulated was adopted.

RESOLVED to: adopt the report

15. Annual Report: to receive/consider adopting

It was agreed basic information detailing the day to day workings of the council should be incorporated into the report. Once finalised the report will be published on the council's web site and circulated to the village halls. Amendments will be made for approval at the next meeting.

16. Information from Members to be included in the next Agenda

- Precept

17. Finance:

17.1 The following items were approved for payment: (Proposed; Cllr Lusted; Seconded Cllr Christy) and duly agreed.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Staff (Salary)	£311.20
HMRC (Tax)	£ 72.80
G James (Expenses: Office £25/Travel £6.30)	£ 31.30
G James (Reimburse Wordpress £36.00; Zoom £14.39;	
Five Councils Exp £7.81)	£ 58.20
Glangrwyney Village Hall (Hire – 17.10.22)	£ 37.50

It was agreed to contest PCC's invoice for the elections - noting only one hall was used.

17.2 The finance report for November was noted.

17.3 Donations: agreed to defer to the following meeting

18. Highways:

An issue reported with a ~~bridleway~~ **footpath** in Llanbedr will be referred to BBNPA.

19. Reports on Meetings Attended

Five Councils Meeting: Cllr Morris, Bowker, Lusted and the Clerk attended.

PCC Quarterly Meeting: the Clerk attended

Remembrance Sunday: Cllr Morris laid a wreath at the cenotaph.

20. Correspondence as itemised in Appendix A was received.

It was agreed to:

Item 27: RDP Law: ask the solicitor to draft the deed for approval

Item 49: Public Ombudsman: query response.

21. Miscellaneous/Late Correspondence as itemised in Appendix B was noted.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:50pm

Signed:.....
Chairman