

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 16th January 2023 at 7:30pm in Llangenny School Hall and remotely via the video conferencing platform Zoom.

Present: Cllr John Morris (Chairman)
Cllr Elaine Lusted
Cllr Colin Alford
Cllr Phill Bowker

Attended Remotely: Cllr Roger Bridgwater
Cllr David Sharman

In attendance: The Clerk

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Dean Christy, Cllr Jeff Greenidge and Cty Cllrs Beecham
Absent: Cllr Roger Llewelyn

1. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Morris declared he had no personal interest in Item 3.1 but lives opposite.
2. **Planning:**

2.1 **Applications: to resolve responses to consultations received from BBNPA including any received after the publication of the agenda.**

Cllr Morris left the room whilst this item was discussed. Cllr Lusted took the chair.

22/21145/FUL: “Proposed are a total of 6 handmade timber shepherd’s huts for guests along with parking/turning areas, a storage unit to house a reception, bike storage, a wood store and refuse/recycling facilities, and also general maintenance supplied for the site and the applicant. One parking bay per hut is proposed with an entrance track/road. Also intended are associated footpaths and landscaping”.

Land north of Sunnybank, Llanbedr NP8 1SY

Concerns were reported in relation to access/visual impact on landscape/size of development/light and noise pollution. For these reasons it was proposed the council object to the application [Proposed Cllr Bowker; Seconded Cllr Alford]. Unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED to: write letter of objection to the BBNPA

Cllr Morris returned to the meeting and took the chair.

2.2 **Decisions/Other:** no decisions were received.

3. **County Council Report:** Cllr Matt Beecham sent apologies. Both he and Cllr Sarah-Jane Beecham were unable to attend as they were preparing for the Cabinet meeting tomorrow when the future of Llanbedr School is to be decided. He asked to be notified of any highway issues.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Cllr Lusted up-dated members with regard to the position regarding Llanbedr School. Members expressed concern at the social impact closure of this school would have on the community.

- 4. **Minutes:** the minutes of the 19th December 2022 meeting [Pages 1445-1448] were approved as a true record (item of correspondence relating to energy to be placed on web site) [Proposed Cllr Lusted; Seconded Cllr Alford].
- 5. **Clerk’s Report/information from the minutes:** no items to report.
- 6. **Llangenny Water Fountain: up-date on restoration project.**

The grant application to the Welsh Water Community Fund has been unsuccessful.

Welsh Water has agreed it will not charge for a revised quotation and will honour its quote of £2,364.20 (which is over a year old). The supply pipe has to be laid and approved by Welsh Water prior to connection. The Clerk is waiting to hear when the builders can commence restoration work on the fountain.

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

Cllr Morris reported one more site needs to be secured for the jubilee trees. The trees need to be planted (staked and fenced to make them stock-proof) before March. It is intended to print QR codes on either brass/slate/vinyl plaques mounted on angle irons/stone supports (materials to be confirmed). The working party will meet on Friday, 20th January 2023 at 2pm in Llanbedr Hall to discuss.

Members were advised the grant needs to be spent by the end of the financial year.

- 8. **Five Councils Meeting: to receive notes and discuss meeting with Police & Crime Commissioner**

Due to the low confirmed attendance it was suggested and agreed the meeting is postponed to later in the year. The Clerk will notify all parties.

- 9. **Communications Strategy: to receive up-date**

The Clerk read out the questions circulated by Cllr Bridgwater to assist in his preparation of a draft communications strategy. Discussion ensued as to how best to represent/contact the electorate, ie leaflet drops? Meet the Councillor Evening? How effective is the web site? It was suggested and agreed the Clerk circulate data on the number of hits the web site receives with the monthly council papers. Another suggestion was for the council to operate a Facebook page. It was agreed to table this for discussion at the next meeting when more members may be in attendance.

- 10. **Community Pantry: to receive up-date on proposal to set up a community pantry**

The Clerk has asked Crickhowell Volunteer Bureau for advice. It was suggested and agreed discussion be deferred until this is received.

Signed:.....
Chairman

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

The following items (deferred previously due to time restraints) will be included in the February agenda:

- Rivers - Sites of Special Scientific Interest: to discuss responsibility for maintenance.
- Certified Caravan Sites: to note regulations applying to certified caravan sites in the National Park and discuss whether different rules should be implemented.
- Boreholes and the effect on the water table: to discuss whether permission should be required for sinking bore holes.

12. Finance:

12.1 To set the present for 2023/24:

Following consideration of the current year's receipts/expenditure and projected figures for the forthcoming year it was agreed to keep the precept at £10,000 [Proposed Cllr Sharman; seconded by Cllr Alford] and unanimously agreed.

12.2 To consider/agree donations:

It was agreed to donate £100 to each of the village halls (Llanbedr, Llangenny and Glangrwyney) and £100 to Wales Air Ambulance. [Proposed Cllr Lusted; Seconded Cllr Alford].

Cllr Bowker declared an interest (Chairman of Glangrwyney Village Hall) and abstained from voting; Cllr Morris declared an interest in Llanbedr Hall (spouse is on committee).

12.3 The following items were approved for payment: [Proposed; Cllr Sharman; Seconded Cllr Alford] and duly agreed.

Staff (Salary)	£
HMRC (Tax)	£
Welsh Water (Llanbedr Water Trough)	£ 15.64
G James (Reimburse Zoom £14.39/Stationery £6.99)	£ 21.38
G James (Expenses: Office £25/Travel £6.30)	£ 31.30
Glangrwyney Village Hall (Hire – 19.12.22)	£ 37.50
J Morris (reimbursement for daffodil bulbs)	£ 31.00

12.4 The finance report for January was noted - the Clerk will circulate an amended report to include the invoice received from Cllr J Morris (reimbursement of daffodil bulbs).

12.5 It was unanimously agreed to appoint Ms B Bermingham as internal auditor for 2022/23. Ms Bermingham has given notice this will be her final year as the council's auditor. A new auditor will be appointed for 2023/24 onwards.

Signed:.....
Chairman

13. Highways:

PCC, in response to the request for “slow down” signs in Llanbedr, state roads limited to 30mph will be restricted to 20mph in September. PCC is waiting to see what changes need to be implemented before considering any additional warning messages.

The following items were reported as requiring repair:

- Glangrwyney: potholes on A40 just past The Bell.
- Llanbedr: water on Bellfountain Road – Cllr Morris will speak to landowner.
- Llanbedr: Green Cottage – water on road - culvert blocked.
- Llanbedr: water across road by The Neuadd – old culvert may be blocked – Cllr Bridgewater will make enquires.
- Henbant Road – culvert blocked - washing road away (past The Guddar)
- Llangenny – potholes on Vicarage Pitch – drains blocked

14. To receive Reports on Meetings Attended:

Cllr Morris experienced sound issues when attempting to join the One Voice Wales Area Meeting which was held virtually.

15. Correspondence as itemised in Appendix A: was received and noted.

Item 5: **One Voice Wales (OVW):** Training – Cllr Bridgewater to attend training on 26th January (Community – Part 2)

16. Miscellaneous/Late Correspondence as itemised in Appendix B: was received and noted.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:38 pm

Signed:.....
Chairman