

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 20th March 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 Roger Llewelyn
Cllr Phill Bowker
Cllr Dean Christy

Attended Remotely: Cllr Roger Bridgwater
Cllr David Sharman
Cllr Jeff Greenidge

In attendance: Mr Lee Philipot (Monmouthshire District Scouts, two members of the scouting organisation and the Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cty Cllrs Matt and Sarah-Jane Beecham
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None declared.
3. **Lee Philpot (Monmouthshire District Scouts): Plans for Tudor Cule Scout Campsite**

The Coed Ynys-faen and Tudor Cule Scout Campsite has been owned by the Scouts since the 1960s and hosted thousands of young people from all over the world, helping them develop leadership and team based skills. The 27 acre site is currently under the management of Monmouthshire District Scout Council.

Unfortunately in 2020 the site suffered severe storm damage. Flood water destroyed the camp site car park, caused the cess pit to overflow, contaminated the water well, damaged trees and caused a number of stability issues. The site had to close due to safety concerns. It partly re-opened in 2022 however lack of toilets and water is having an impact on earnings. The scouts need funding to purchase portable toilets and repair the water pump so they can generate the income necessary to undertake maintenance works and eventually build a new toilet block.

Councillors questioned whether the scouts have looked into installing a micro hydro system and suggested various funding avenues for them to explore. It was suggested members look at the site and place the request for funding on the next agenda.

4. Planning Matters:

4.1 Applications: to resolve responses to consultations received from BBNPA including any received after publication of this agenda.

None received.

4.2 Decisions/Other: to receive/discuss decisions and other planning matters:

Signed:.....
Chairman

- (i) Permitted: Applications 22/21451/FUL and 22/21452/LBC: “A programme of alterations and extensions comprising a garden room, utility room extension, kitchen porch and car port and including the removal of an existing conservatory” (Full and Listed Building Consent) at Dyffryn Farmhouse, Llanbedr, Crickhowell, NP8 1ST have been permitted.

5. County Council Report to receive and discuss general Powys County Council Matters:

Cllr M Beecham submitted a written report which was circulated prior to the meeting in which he reported the Young Farmers are holding a Rally in Llangenny on the 3rd July. The landowner will be asked to notify neighbouring properties (if not already done).

6. Minutes: to approve minutes of the 20th February 2023 meeting.

[Pages 1453-1458] were approved as a true record [Proposed Cllr Alford; Seconded Cllr Lusted] and duly agreed.

7. Clerk’s Report: information from the minutes/progress up-date

A cheque has been sent to Welsh Water however they need the trench dug before they will connect the water supply. The builders should start work in March/April.

Documents sent to the Audit Office for the year 2021/22 have been returned. The annual return for 2022/23 has not been received.

8. Certified Caravan Sites: to discuss regulations applying to certified caravan sites

Members noted the information provided by BBNPA however were still unclear as to what rules apply. How long can caravans stay on site? Is permission required to store caravans? Can sites only operate during certain months?

Following lengthy discussion it was agreed to write to the Caravan Club to ask them to confirm what rules apply to certified caravan sites.

RESOLVED to: write to the Caravan Club as detailed.

9. Five Councils Meeting: to formulate agenda items

Llangattock CC is hosting the next Five Councils meeting on 29th March. It was agreed to submit the following as agenda items:

- Community Pantries
- Policing in the area (if the Police Commissioner is not attending)
- What are other councils doing to commemorate King Charles III’s Coronation

ACTION: to submit the above agenda items

Signed:.....
Chairman

10. Communications Strategy: to receive up-date/draft for adoption

The communications strategy is being drafted. It was suggested an electronic mailing list is incorporated within the strategy. Details of the community engagement events will be placed on the June agenda.

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

Cllr Morris has the trees for the Jubilee Walk. Following discussion it was agreed the plaque supports should be metal (possibly galvanised). The wording for the plaques was suggested as “The Queen’s Jubilee Walk. This tree is one of seven planted by the Vale of Grwyney Community Council to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee. 70 years of crown, Queen and country”. Wording to be in Welsh and English. The Clerk will circulate to councillors for approval and obtain quotes in different materials (ie acrylic/ aluminium/stainless steel). A seventh site has been suggested near Penprysg. Enquiries will be made to identify the landowner.

ACTION: Clerk will circulate the wording for the plaques for agreement and obtain quotes in different materials.

12. King Charles III Coronation: to discuss/formulate commemoration plans

A meeting was called which was attended by Cllr Morris and the Clerk. Following discussion it was suggested Llanbedr School pupils are given a commemorative bag containing a pen/pencil/badge/bookmark. The Clerk will apply for funding from the National Lottery.

Cllr Greenidge left the meeting

Cllr Alford left the meeting

Lengthy discussion ensued over whether the council should apply for funding to host a commemorative event. Llanbedr School is hosting a Musical Extravaganza to which the community will be invited. Llanbedr Hall is organising some form of event and Llangenny School Hall may televise the coronation. It was agreed to donate £100 to the village halls if they hold an event.

RESOLVED: to apply for grant funding to purchase commemorative gifts for Llanbedr School pupils and donate £100 to Llanbedr/Llangenny/Glangrwyney Village Hall if they hold a coronation event.

Cllr Sharman left the meeting

13. Hybrid Meetings: to consider ways of improving sound quality

The sound quality in previous meetings has been intermittently poor and opportunely the microphone failed just prior to this agenda item. Cllr Bridgwater offered to get the microphone tested on a laptop with a higher specification to determine whether there was a fault with the microphone or if the laptop is causing an issue.

Signed:.....

Chairman

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

These items remain deferred from previous meetings:

- Rivers - Sites of Special Scientific Interest: to discuss responsibility for maintenance.
- Boreholes and the effect on the water table: to discuss whether permission should be required for sinking bore holes.

15. Finance:

15.1 The following items were approved for payment: [Proposed; Cllr Lusted; Seconded Cllr Bowker] and duly agreed.

Staff (Salary)	£
HMRC (Tax)	£
G James (Reimburse Zoom £15.59/Stationery 39.24)	£ 54.83
G James (Expenses: Office £25/Travel £6.30)	£ 31.30
Glangrwyney Village Hall (Hire)	£ 30.00
Llangenny School Hall (Hire)	£ 90.00
One Voice Wales (Subscription)	£154.00

15.2 The finance report for March was noted. It was agreed to transfer £31.44 from the budget for Elections into Office Expenses to cover the current deficit.

15.3 It was agreed to appoint Cllr Colin Alford as a bank signatory.

16. Highways: the clerk was asked to reiterate the repairs reported at the last meeting.

Cllr Llewelyn informed members he had been given an old stone water trough which had been removed during building works from a wall in Glangrwyney and suggested the village hall use it.

17. Reports on Meetings Attended: No meetings attended.

Cllr Morris informed members Llanbedr Hall Association’s recent coffee morning has raised over £400 for Cancer Research.

18. Correspondence as itemised in Appendix A was discussed. It was agreed to:

Item 29 – arrange CPR events in each of the three village halls.

19. Correspondence as itemised in Appendix B was discussed:

Item 9 – Cllrs Bridgwater, Morris and Lusted to attend.

Cllr Bowker informed members Glangrwyney Village Hall is holding its Social/AGM on Sunday 2nd April 2023.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10:00pm

Signed:.....
Chairman