

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 17th April 2023 at 7:30pm in Glangrwyney Village Hall and remotely via the video conferencing platform Zoom.

Present: Cllr John Morris (Chairman)
Cllr Elaine Lusted
Cllr Roger Llewelyn
Cllr Phill Bowker

Attended Remotely: Cllr Roger Bridgwater
Cllr David Sharman

In attendance: The Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Christy, Alford, Greenidge and Cty Cllrs Beecham

2. Declarations of Interest: to be declared as necessary during the meeting.

3. Planning Matters:

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

- (i) **23/21877/FUL:** Installation of a 5m tower extension to the existing installation and relocation of 2 no.antennas and 2 no.dishes to the top of the extension (approved under application 17/15481/FUL). Installation of 4 no. new antennas and 4 no. ground-based equipment cabinets. Installation of remote radio units, mast head amplifiers, GPS nodes and associated ancillary works.
Penwylodd Farm, Forest Coal Pit NP7 7LY

Whilst supportive of the application members questioned how much additional coverage this will provide.

RESOLVED to: support the application/ask what coverage will be provided.

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

- (i) **Application 22/21414/FUL:** Change to principal elevation, rearrangement of fenestration, to include new PPF aluminium glazing, etc. **Dros-Y-Nant, Glangrwyney NP8 1ET** has been **permitted**.
- (ii) Correspondence received in relation to Application 22/21480/FUL was received. Members noted the council has already submitted its response to this application. Discussion ensued following which it was agreed to respond by advising that if the applicants are not following the latest proposals submitted BBNPA should be taking action for non-compliance – copying in The Park.

RESOLVED to: respond as detailed.

Signed:.....
Chairman

4. County Council Report to receive and discuss general Powys County Council

Matters: A written report from Cty Cllrs Beecham stated:

- **Scout Association:** Cllr Beechams are working with the Scout Association to find out if there is any assistance Powys County Council can provide. An officer is due to visit the site.
- **Highways:** Cllr Beecham has met with highways to discuss issues in the ward, the road at risk of collapse in Grwyne Fechan and Glangrwyney iron bridge. He is awaiting an update as to what measures can/will be taken. The county councillor for the Monmouthshire side of the bridge (Cllr Simon Howarth) has been asked to support a request for traffic calming measures/reduction in speed/safer public footway on the bridge.
- **Crickhowell High Street Planters:** much of the focus has been on the developing situation with the High Street and the planters. Cllrs Beecham have proposed a Focus Group is established (PCC/Town Council/Business Association/Hospitality Venues) to enable an open discussion on the future of the High Street, ensuring all parties are heard fairly. At present, there is a 50/50 split on the issue of the planters and what steps are to be taken next following the public consultation PCC carried out last summer.

Members noted the consultation on Crickhowell High Street undertaken on behalf of PCC was poorly organised and failed to reach many residents. County Councillors Beecham and the Five Councils were not consulted. It was suggested the council ask Cllrs Beecham if Cllr Lusted can join the Focus Group.

Repair of the restricted byway (The Horse Road) in Grwyne Fechan was discussed. Whilst previously informed no funds were available for repairs it is a new financial year and the situation may have changed. Are Powys County Council engaging with The Park? Cllr Morris will speak to the warden and Cllrs Beecham will be asked to make enquiries.

5. Minutes: the minutes of the 17th March 2023 meeting [Pages 1459 - 1462] were approved as a true record [Proposed Cllr Lusted; Seconded Cllr Sharman] and duly agreed.

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

- Builders have commenced restoration of the water fountain. They are liaising direct with Welsh Water to arrange the mains water connection.
- The internal auditor is due to undertake the internal audit this week.
- The communications strategy is being drafted. Due to the May meeting being the Annual Meeting this will be placed on the June agenda.
- Instead of asking St John’s Ambulance to hold a CPR training session in one of the halls Cllr Morris offered to speak to a resident who previously provided training to ask if they would be prepared to do it again.

7. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW): to consider adopting determinations/ payment of mandated allowances:

Signed:.....

Chairman

In accordance with regulations the council considered the recommendations detailed in the IRPW’s Annual Report 2023/24. Councils are mandated to pay members £156 per annum towards extra household expenses (including heating, lighting, power and broadband) of working from home and £52 a year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role, or enable members to claim full reimbursement for the cost of their office consumables (Recommendation 44). If members do not wish to claim part or all of this payment they must put this in writing to the proper officer. The Clerk has asked One Voice Wales for guidance in respect of the tax implications. They are making enquiries.

Whilst Determination 43 (payment towards costs of care of dependent children and adults and for personal assistance) and Determination 44 (extra costs payment) are mandated the other determinations are optional.

Following consideration the council agreed to adopt Determination 46 (travel costs), Determination 47 (overnight stay) and Determination 48 (financial loss compensation).

RESOLVED to: adopt Determination 46, 47 and 48

8. Virtual/Hybrid Meetings: to consider proposal to hold alternate meetings virtually and agree locations for forthcoming meetings.

Following consideration of the pros and cons of holding physical/remote meetings it was proposed the council maintain the status quo, ie hold hybrid meetings in the halls, alternating between Llangenny and Glangrwyney (as Llanbedr does not have internet).

ACTION: the Clerk to book Llangenny and Glangrwyney Halls for meetings scheduled in 2023.

9. Tudor Cule Scout Campsite: to consider request for funding

Following discussion it was agreed the council make a donation of £200 towards the cost of reinstating the water supply.

RESOLVED to: make a donation of £200 to the Scout Association.

10. Certified Caravan Sites: to receive up-date on regulations applying to certified caravan sites

Information received from the Caravan and Motorhome Club indicates certified sites are for a maximum of five caravans or motorhomes limited to staying 28 consecutive days. Generally certified sites are open during the main camping season (March to October) however can choose to operate all year round, depending on the exempted organisation issuing the certificate and the type of certificate applied for. A local caravan site was reported as appearing to be operating as a permanent site.

Following lengthy discussion it was agreed to write to the Caravan Club to notify them of a site which appears to be operating outside their regulations, copying in the BBNPA.

RESOLVED to: write to the Caravan Club/BBNPA as detailed.

Signed:.....
Chairman

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

Cllr Morris reported two of the trees have been planted and he is in the process of organising the rest. He will deliver one to Cllr Lusted for Llangenny to plant. The Clerk is awaiting the Welsh translation for the plaques. It is planned to use QR codes to link to the web site. The Clerk asked anyone with photos of royalty (not subject to copyright) to send them to her to put on the web site as part of the 70 facts about the Queen.

Cllr Bridgwater suggested asking Llanbedr School to plant one of the trees. It was agreed to invite pupils to plant the tree in Glangrwyney Hall on Wednesday, 3rd May 2023 assisted by the Chairman and County Councillors.

ACTION: invite Llanbedr School and County Councillors Beecham to assist Cllr Morris in planting the tree in Glangrwyney.

12. King Charles III Coronation: to receive up-date on commemoration plans

Commemorative gifts have been purchased for pupils enrolled in Llanbedr School. The Chairman will present them to the children at their Coronation Party on Thursday, 4th May 2023.

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

- IT Security: to discuss council/councillor information security settings
- Parking in Glangrwyney: to discuss ways of combating problems with parking.

These items remain deferred from previous meetings (will be added at a future date):

- 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.
- Communications Strategy – June agenda

14. Finance:

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

Staff (Salary)	£
HMRC (Tax)	£
G James (Reimburse Zoom £15.59)	£ 15.59
G James (Expenses: Office £25/Travel £6.30)	£ 31.30
Information Commissioner (Data Protection)	£ 40.00
Glangrwyney Village Hall (Donation)	£500.00

14.2 The Finance Report for April, amended report for March (including payment for Jubilee trees) and Year End Finance Report were received and noted.

14.3 The Clerk reported the amendments to the bank mandate (add Cllr Alford/remove

Signed:.....
Chairman

former Cllr Fairclough/add the clerk in a non-signing capacity) requires an online form to be completed which requires the minutes to show the council resolved that:

- if we add or remove Authorised Signatories in the “Add” or “Remove Authorised Signatories” section on the “About your request” page of this form, the Bank will update our mandate accordingly for the accounts we specify in this form’s “About your business” section
- If we change the Signing Rules in the “Change the Signing Rules on the Mandate” section on the “About your request” page of this form the Bank will update our mandate accordingly for the accounts we specify in this form’s “About your business” section
- and the current mandate will continue as mended.

RESOLVED to: agree alterations to the bank mandate as detailed.

15. Highways: the following items were reported:

Llanbedr - potholes on road into Llanbedr (top of Great Oak Road) east of Ysgubor Newydd Farm access, large pothole on bridge below Moor Park entrance (before Ty Llangenny).

Glangrwyney: deformed tarmac outside The Bluebell Inn.

Llangenny: potholes on Vicarage Pitch; stonework on Llangenny Bridge damaged.

Glangrwyney - street lights are flickering/flashing.

Cllr Bridgwater left the meeting

16. Reports on Meetings Attended:

- Five Councils Meeting; Cllr Lusted and the Clerk attended. Crickhowell TC is employing a planning consultant to produce a Place Plan and invited a representative from the Five Councils to form part of the interview panel (Llangattock suggested). Councils confirmed they support running a community pantry. Cllr Lusted has spoken to the CRiC Volunteer Centre who state they have volunteers available. A venue is required. (Cllr Lusted subsequently spoke to Cllr Bowker about holding it in Glangrwyney Hall – she will speak again to the Volunteer Centre).
- Environment Meeting: Cllrs Morris and Lusted attended. Llangattock Green Valleys are looking for funding for renewal energy projects.
- One Voice Wales Area Meeting: Cllr Morris attended. Rachel Carter spoke on planting community ground. Wind turbines in Radnorshire.

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

Item 32: Zurich Insurance: the clerk will obtain another quote.

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

Item 1: Morgans: certified copy of deed relating to sale of land received.

Signed:.....

Chairman

It was agreed to write to thank a resident for his work in clearing weeds in the village.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:40pm

Signed:.....
Chairman