

# BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Title: 2005 04 April Minutes**

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 13th April 2005 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Anne Sizmur (Chairperson), Alderman D Arnallt James, Councillors Loreen Lewis, Peter Cowell, Graham Vaughan, Menna Roberts, Annette Price, Carwyn James, June Gunter and Delyth Richards

APOLOGIES: Councillors E Audrey Jones, Keith Rees and County Councillor John D Evans.

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.  
None.

1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 9th MARCH 2005.

Councillor Anne Sizmur had the following amendments to make:-

2.10 National Eisteddfod.

2.10 Carmarthenshire County Council are favourably disposed.

2.11 by law the Community of Betws will receive what is rightfully due to them by ECO2.

Councillor Peter Cowell had the following amendment to make:-

7. on the availability of the land for Betws use.

RESOLVED: Clerk to amend the minutes.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Dyfed Powys Police Authority - Ammanford Police Station.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that no reply has been received to date from Dyfed-Powys Police Authority.

The above point was NOTED.

2.2 Dog Warden.

Councillor Peter Cowell reported that some residents are using the Park as a toilet facility for their dogs. The Dog Warden has been to visit the Park, but unfortunately he hasn't caught anyone.

The above point was NOTED.

2.3 Community Website.

Councillor Menna Roberts reported that she is collating details, of all the Organisations within Betws e.g. name, telephone numbers etc. The next meeting is scheduled for the 16th May with Emma Jewell and the information is required by then.

Councillor Anne Sizmur thanked Councillor Menna Roberts and Councillor Peter Cowell for the work that they've done on this.

Councillor Peter Cowell asked the Clerk to liaise with Emma Jewell in relation to placing the minutes of Betws Community Council monthly meetings on the website.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to liaise with Emma Jewell.

2.4 Betws Cricket Club.

Councillor Arnallt James asked whether the Cricket bats have been ordered? Councillor

Anne Sizmur replied not as yet.

Councillor Delyth Richards said that the concrete area where the Cricket Club practice on is very uneven and dangerous and she asked whether the Cricket Club have got cricket mats? Councillor Anne Sizmur confirmed that she would speak to Rhidian.

The above point was NOTED.

#### 2.5 Planning Matters.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council. Two suggestions were made Coedtir and Llwybr Y Wig. It was agreed that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council with the proposed suggestions.

RESOLVED: the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

#### 2.6 Preservation Order - Arch.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council. Councillor Peter Cowell said that he would speak to Locksmith and try to obtain the details required.

RESOLVED: once the details are received the Clerk to write to the Parks Department.

Councillor Annette Price suggested that the Clerk gets in touch with the National Trust to see whether they are interested in relation to a preservation order.

RESOLVED: the Clerk writes to the National Trust.

Councillor Menna Roberts asked whether anyone had a photo of the arch as this could be placed on the community website. She also asked the Councillors if they had photos relating to Betws as these could also be placed on the website.

#### 2.7 Footpaths.

Councillor Peter Cowell gave a detailed report in relation to footpaths.

Ø Way markers and styles have been removed from 3/5 and 3/7, ongoing problems, as the farmer is taking them down. Councillor Peter Cowell confirmed that Roger and himself are going to put them back up, the Rights of Way Officer is going to write to the two persons involved.

Ø 3/10 and 3/7 very muddy, there is a feeding pen along the path; the Rights of Way Officer is going to write to the owner to see if the feeding pen can be moved.

Ø Footpath 68/11, the path will be concreted; Councillor Peter Cowell explained that Mr Jones is in dispute with Carmarthenshire County Council.

The above point was NOTED.

Councillor Arnallt James informed the Councillors that there is a great deal of dog fouling on footpath 68/11. It was agreed that the Clerk contacts the Community Warden.

RESOLVED: the Clerk contacts the Community Warden.

#### 2.8 Betws In Bloom.

Councillor Anne Sizmur confirmed that Councillor Graham Vaughan has given her a contact for a possible judge - Mrs Gloria Davies.

The above point was NOTED.

#### 2.9 Breach of Planning Regulations - Unauthorised Tipping.

The Clerk confirmed she has not received a reply in relation to her letter. It was agreed that the Clerk makes enquires.

RESOLVED: the Clerk writes to the Planning Department - Breach of planning regulations.

#### 2.10 Meals on Wheels.

Councillor Arnallt James reported that they still haven't replaced the two volunteers.

The above point was NOTED.

#### 2.11 Village Project.

Councillor Peter Cowell confirmed that he hasn't had a reply from Rhys Davies as yet.  
The above point was NOTED.

#### 2.12 Contact List.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that Carmarthenshire County Council doesn't have a contact list available as yet, but the Clerk did manage to get a list of the services provided by the County and their telephone numbers, which she will keep.

The above point was NOTED.

### 3. CORRESPONDENCE.

#### 3.1 Clean Up Carmarthenshire.

It was agreed to carry out the clean up of footpath no. 3/1 - Coedcae on Thursday May the 12th.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to completed the form and return to Carmarthenshire County Council.

#### 3.2 NACRO Cymru.

It was agreed that the Clerk would request further copies of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Booklet - A Practical guide for Town and Community Councils for each Councillor.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to request further copies.

#### 3.3 Carmarthenshire County Council - Planning

The Clerk read the letter received from Carmarthenshire County Council, Planning Department in relation to correspondence and consultation with Town and County Councils.

It was agreed that the Clerk would copy the Protocol for each Councillor.

The above point was NOTED.

#### 3.4 Carmarthenshire Partnership Annual Forum 2005

Councillor Anne Sizmur explained that the Clerk has reserved two placed on the above forum, as there are limited parking spaces available.

The above point was NOTED.

#### 3.5 Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Clerk read letter received in relation to the site at Maesquarre Road, Betws, in that the name Golwg Y Mynydd has been accepted for the latest stage of this development. The Councillors suggested that the Clerk queries why street names need to be translated.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council asking why Woodlands Lane needs to be translated into Welsh because Golwg Y Mynydd has been accepted as the post address and hasn't been translated into English.

#### 3.6 Following Correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

##### 1. Carmarthenshire County Council

###### 1.1 Street Trading Controls in Carmarthenshire.

###### 1.2 Planning Department - Variation of Condition 3 of Planning Permission C6/120.

##### 2. Welsh Assembly Government

###### 2.1 Draft Commissioner for Older People (Wales) Bill, handed to Councillor June Gunter.

###### 2.2 The Local Government Partnership Scheme Annual Report 2003-2004

###### 3. Dyfed Powys Police Authority, notice of Meeting handed to Councillor Graham Vaughan.

###### 4. Community Safety Partnership - Carmarthenshire's Community Safety Strategy 2005-2008

###### 5. Help the Aged, notice of meeting.

###### 6. Calor Village of the Year.

### 4. PLANNING MATTERS.

The following applications were approved by Betws Community Council:-

E/09753 - Two storey extension

Llethrlan Fawr Farm

D R Griffiths

E/09749 - Amendment to approved planning application no. E/07422  
Land at rear of 55-59 Maesquarre Road, Betws  
Woodstock Homes

E/09647 - New access lane to plot adj 48 Colonel Road, Betws  
Plot adj to 48 Colonel Road  
D M Davies

The following applications have been granted by Carmarthenshire County Council:-  
E/09155 - Proposed Conversion of Outbuilding  
Maesquarre Hall, Ammanford  
Jess Bower

E/08784 - Reposition of Plot 17 from Approved Position  
Plot 17 Parc Nant Y Felin  
Ballyntyne Homes Ltd

The following application is in discussion with Betws Community Council:-  
E/09584 - Redevelopment of the former Betws Colliery for mixed use purposes comprising of  
Employment and Residential.

Councillor Peter Cowell gave a detailed report to the Councillors in relation to this planning application. He explained that Carmarthenshire County Council would possibly get advisers in to assist them, as this is too big and complex for the Planning Department. The original application for homes has risen from 150 to 260. The Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to Carmarthenshire County Council, stating that the Councillors are very concerned in the rise of new developments within Betws. Councillor Annette Price asked what percentage of houses are they going to put by for first time buyers?  
RESOLVED: the Clerk to write to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that a letter was sent to Martin Cook via T.R.J. as this is the only address they have for him, and to date no response has been received. Councillor Peter Cowell said that Councillor Anne Sizmur has spoken to Dave Gilbert and he hasn't received a reply neither from Martin Cook. Dave Gilbert is going to check whether Martin Cook has actually received the letter sent to him. Councillor Anne Sizmur confirmed that if she doesn't hear from Dave Gilbert by the middle of next week, she would phone him.

Councillor Peter Cowell confirmed that Eifion Bowen has informed him that no decision will be made until he has checked with Betws Community Council first.

Councillor Peter Cowell said that the minimum they are hoping to get out of this is a village hall. Councillor Anne Sizmur stated that the developers originally stated that 44 acres would be for Community use. Councillor Delyth Richards asked whether there is any written confirmation from the Developers that they made this promise. Councillor Anne Sizmur replied no.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a letter has been received from County Councillor John D Evans, stating that he has been advised that a certain percentage a land should be set aside/retained for Community use.

Councillor Anne Sizmur asked the Councillors whether it's necessary to call a special meeting. They all agreed. It was also suggested that a site visit would be useful, as some of the Councillors are not fully aware of the site. It was agreed by all the Councillors that this would be beneficial. Councillor Anne Sizmur suggested that a meeting prior to the site visit maybe beneficial. The Councillors also agreed to this.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to arrange a site visit as soon as possible.

#### 5. ACCOUNTS.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council - Footway Lighting £231.75
2. One Voice Wales - Membership £156.00
3. HOWLTA - Membership £8.00
4. Carmarthenshire County Council - Election Costs £877.64
5. Morgan and Morgan - Clerk Stationery £25.79
6. Chairperson Allowance (3rd Instalment) £100.00

RESOLVED: That the above be paid.

#### 6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. He reported that there were six crimes committed in the Betws area during March, made up of the following:- Criminal damage to motor vehicle, theft UMV, possession of cannabis, common assault, assault on a Police Officer and theft from telephone Kiosk. Out of the six, three have been detected.

PC Jones reported that 253 youngsters had attended the Blue Light Disco that was held in March.

PC Jones also reported that the male concerned in the Pentwyn Road dwelling burglary that took place in January, has had three years in custody.

Councillor Anne Sizmur asked whether PC Jones had visited the area behind the Rugby Club? PC Jones confirmed that he has been to visit the area, but nothing seems to be going on. Councillor Graham Vaughan stated that the Fire Brigade was called out there a week last Friday, as the shed was set alight. It was suggested that PC Jones pays a visit to the Club.

PC Jones said that the speed camera van has been situated along Maesquarre Road, but unfortunately they haven't caught anyone.

All the above points were NOTED.

#### 7. REPORTS.

Councillor Peter Cowell gave a detailed report in relation to Betws No. 2 Colliery. He explained that there is an unsealed drift on the land, and this is a danger to the public, as the drift is full of gas. All the Councillors agreed that they would call in the Health and Safety should the need arise.

#### 8. FUNDING FOR THE VILLAGE FROM DEVELOPERS.

Councillors discussed the above in detail. The following were agreed:-

- Ø Multi purpose Community Centre/Village Hall.
- Ø Affordable houses for first time buyers.
- Ø Upgrading of the Children's Park/all purpose flooring in the Park.

Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that the Bridge in the Park is rusting away.  
RESOLVED: the Clerk to write to Carmarthenshire County Council.

#### 9. END OF CLERKS PROBATIONARY PERIOD.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that the Clerks probationary period ends at the end of April. All Councillors agreed that they were happy with the Clerk work and they are happy to offer her the post on a permanent basis. The Clerk thanked the Councillors for their support, and she confirmed that she would draw up a Contract of Employment, by the next meeting.

The above point was NOTED.

10. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Councillor Anne Sizmur confirmed that the AGM of Betws Community Council would be held on the 11th May 2005. Councillor Peter Cowell apologised in advance that he would not be able to attend the meeting as he is away on holiday.

Councillor Anne Sizmur also confirmed that she's resigned as trustee to the Family Centre.  
The above point was NOTED.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Councillor Delyth Richards apologised that she is unable to participate in the spring walk, on the 14th April. The walk is to commence at 6.30 from Betws Park.  
The above point was NOTED.