

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2006 12 December Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 13th December 2006 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Menna Roberts (Chairperson), Alderman D Arnallt James, Councillors Anne Sizmur, Loreen Lewis, Annette Price, Peter Cowell, Betsan Jones, Carwyn James, Delyth Richards, June Gunter and County Councillor John D Evans.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Keith Rees and E Audrey Jones.

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

1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 8th NOVEMBER 2006.

Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and Councillor Annette Price seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th November 2006 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Chair's Chain of Office.

The Clerk handed the Chair's Chain of Office to Councillor Menna Roberts.
The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

2.2 Crosses for the Church and Chapel in Betws.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that T R Jones have provided 2 crosses; one for the Church and one for the Chapel in Betws. Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and Councillor Annette Price seconded that a letter is sent to T R Jones to thank him for providing the two crosses. All Councillors agreed. Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that the Vicar has refused to have the cross put onto the Church because of Health and Safety issues.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes a thank you letter to T R Jones.

Councillor Peter Cowell informed the Councillors that the Flood Lights purchased by the Community Council some time ago have broken. He explained that Mr Betton has carried out repairs to the Community Council's Flood Lighting System. He proposed that a thank you letter is sent to Mr Betton, Councillor Carwyn James seconded this motion and all Councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes a thank you letter to Mr Betton.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 Resignation Letter from Councillor Peter Cowell.

The Clerk read correspondence received from Councillor Peter Cowell regarding his resignation as at the 30th April 2007. Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and all Councillors agreed that the Clerk makes enquiries with Carmarthenshire County Council as to when the Community Council can advertise this vacancy.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk makes enquires with Carmarthenshire County Council as to when the Community Council can advertise this vacancy.

3.2 Registered Footpaths 3/1 and 3/9.

The Clerk read correspondence received from Carmarthenshire County Council concerning Registered Footpaths 3/1 and 3/9 near Maes Y Berllan, Betws. Councillor Peter Cowell explained the circumstances to the Councillors and also confirmed that the Ranger from Carmarthenshire County Council has suggested placing a sleeper bridge on Footpath 3/9 in January 2007. Councillor Peter Cowell asked whether the Clerk could forward a copy of this letter onto Miss Foulter.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk forwards a copy of the letter received from Carmarthenshire County Council onto Miss Foulter.

3.3 The following Correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

1. HOWLTA Newsletter - handed to Councillor Carwyn James.
2. Childline Cymru Newsletter - handed to Councillor Annette Price.
3. One Voice Wales - Carmarthenshire Area Committee - handed to Councillor Anne Sizmur.
4. Carmarthenshire County Council
 - Review of Recreational Facilities - handed to Councillor Peter Cowell to forward onto Councillor Keith Rees.
 - Temporary Road Closure C2134 Pantyffynnon Road Ty-Croes, Betws.
 - Improvement Plan 2006/2007 & Corporate Strategy Update 2007/2012 - handed to Councillor Menna Roberts.
5. Carmarthenshire Partnership Community Networks Meeting - handed to Councillor Annette Price.
6. Local Health Board Annual Report 2005/06 - handed to Councillor June Gunter.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

4.1 The following applications were approved by Betws Community Council:-

- E/14770 - Erection of a speculative employment building at Betws Colliery (23).
- E/14774 - Extension to existing Factory at Prostone Limited, Betws Park Workshops, Park Street, Betws (21).
- E/14773 - Two storey extension to side of dwelling at 2 Waungron Road, Betws (22).
- E/14906 - Application to amend road width at plot opposite Maesifan, Waunddwfn Road, Betws (25).

4.2 Betws Community Council objected to the following planning application:-

- E/14858 - Tyre recycling at Bryncelyn, Maesquarre Road, Betws (24).

5. ACCOUNTS.

Councillor Carwyn James explained to the Councillors that 9 requests for donations have been received since the last Finance Sub Committee Meeting held in July. These were discussed by the Councillors. Councillor Peter Cowell proposed that £100 is given to Ammanford AFC and not £50 as suggested by the Finance Sub Committee, Councillor Betsan Jones seconded this motion and all Councillors agreed, that Ammanford AFC received a donation of £100.

1. Thomas Fattorini (Chair's Chain of Office) £1085.41
2. Clerks Salary & Allowance £837.71
3. Clerks Income Tax £177.78
4. Dinefwr Press (handouts) £32.90
5. Mr Betton (Repairs to Flood Lights) £40.00
6. SLCC (Subscription) £75.00
7. Donation – Christian Lewis Trust £50.00
8. Donation – Red Cross £100.00
9. Donation – Marie Curie Cancer £50.00
10. Donation – Shelter Cymru £100.00
11. Donation – Bobath £50.00
12. Donation – Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru £50.00
13. Donation – Macmillan Cancer Care £50.00

- 14. Donation – Ammanford AFC £100.00
 - 15. Donation – Home Start Dinefwr £100.00
 - 16. Councillor Menna Roberts (handouts) £4.10 TOTAL £2902.90
- RESOLVED: that the above be paid.

The Clerk explained to the Councillors that following on from the Finance Sub Committee Meeting concerns were raised regarding the condition of the Picnic Area on Betws Mountain. The fencing surrounding the Picnic Area needs to be replaced with new fencing, rubbish bins need to be provided and also new picnic tables are needed. Councillor Annette Price proposed and Councillor Carwyn James seconded that the Clerk writes to inform Carmarthenshire County Council of the above and also enquires into the cost of carrying out the above as the Community Council could possibly contribute to this. All Councillors agreed. RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to the Leisure Department of Carmarthenshire County Council.

6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. He reported that there were 5 crimes committed in the Betws area during November made up of the following:-

2 assaults, 1 burglary dwelling, 1 theft and 1 miscellaneous offence. To date these have not been detected.

PC Kevin Jones reported that County Councillor John D Evans has written to Inspector Tony Ward regarding speeding along Pentwyn Road, Betws. When traffic monitoring equipment becomes available, which will hopefully be within the next 4-6 weeks the Police will be monitoring the traffic in this area.

PC Kevin Jones also reported that the Police are hoping to purchase a laser gun for the Neighbouring Police Officers. There are six Community Council's in the area and PC Jones asked whether each Community Council would be prepared to donate £200 each towards purchasing a laser gun. Councillor Menna Roberts asked whether the Police could put this in writing and this could then be discussed in the next Community Council Meeting scheduled for January 2007.

PC Jones informed the Councillors that that there were two Blue Light Discos held in November and on average 300 youngsters were in attendance at each disco. Councillor June Gunter proposed and all the Councillors were in agreement to send a thank you letter to the Police for the work they have done with regards to the Blue Light Discos. RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes a thank you letter to the Police.

Councillor Loreen Lewis reported that there have been two accidents in the last two weeks on Wern Terrace, Betws. Councillor Loreen Lewis asked whether the road makings could be made clearer. PC Jones confirmed that he will speak to the Highways Department on this matter.

Councillor Peter Cowell stated that in the last Meeting he asked PC Shane Davies whether the Police could do anything regarding the car that's parked on the pavement along Heol Y Felin, Betws. He stated that the Community Council have done all they can. PC Jones stated that he will look into this matter.

The above points were NOTED by the Councillors.

The Chairwoman thanked PC Kevin Jones for the above report.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

County Councillor John D Evans reported on the following issues:-

1. Betws School - He reported that Carmarthenshire County Council are going to reconsider the 20mph speed limit outside Betws CP School.
2. Flooding in Betws - He has had a meeting with an Officer from Technical Services Department of Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the 2 flooding locations within Betws. They will be monitoring the situation.
3. Entrance to Betws Mine - He stated that the access onto the main road from the Betws Mine Site needs to be improved.

The above points were NOTED by the Councillors.

The Chairwoman thanked County Councillor John D Evans for the above report.

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Heritage Walks Programme.

Councillor Peter Cowell stated that the Heritage Walks Programme Notice Board will be erected outside Betws Park. Councillor Annette Price asked whether the Notice Board could be erected after the Betws Park Project has been completed. Councillor Delyth Richards asked whether the Community Council has received a copy of the Welsh Translation for the Heritage Walks Programme. Councillor Peter Cowell stated that this is in the process of being translated. Councillor Delyth Richards proposed that the Clerk requests a copy of the Welsh Translation. All Councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council to request a copy of the Welsh Translation of the Heritage Walks Programme for the Information Notice Board.

Councillor Annette Price proposed and Councillor June Gunter seconded that the notice board is not erected until the Betws Park Project has been completed. All Councillors agreed. The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

8.2 Community Council Surgery

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that no members of the public attended the Surgery prior to the December Community Council Meeting. The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

9.1 Christmas Tree for Betws Park.

Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that she has made enquiries regarding the cost of placing a Christmas tree in Betws Park. It would cost approximately £2,280 this does not include the bill from the electricity board and the Public Liability Insurance that would be required. The Councillors felt that this was extremely costly. The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

9.2 Flood Lights.

Councillor Peter Cowell stated that the Community Council purchased flood lights for the Church and that the Community Council donated money annually to the Church for the installation and maintenance of the lights. Councillor June Gunter stated that this should also be done for the Chapel.

RESOLVED: that the Councillors agreed to put this onto next month's agenda.

9.3 Leaflet Drop.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that in the last Community Council Meeting; Councillor Keith Rees suggested carrying out a leaflet drop to inform residents of the events taking place in Betws e.g. Betws In Bloom.

RESOLVED: that the Councillors agreed to put this onto next month's agenda.

9.4 Community Council Newsletter.

Councillor Peter Cowell suggested producing a Community Council Newsletter.

RESOLVED: that the Councillors agreed to put this onto next month's agenda.