

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2006 06 June Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 14th June 2006 at 7.00 pm.

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors Delyth Richards, Carwyn James, Keith Rees, E Audrey Jones and Dyfed Powys Police.

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.
Councillor Menna Roberts informed the Councillors that County Councillor John D Evans does not have to declare an interest as he's not involved in any decision making of Betws Community Council, but if a matter was to arise then he should declare his interest. County Councillor John D Evans replied that he does declare an interest out of courtesy. He did however state that the Standing Order should be amended to state that the County Councillor must declare a pecuniary and non pecuniary interest. Councillor Peter Cowell proposed and Councillor Anne Sizmur seconded that the Standing Orders should be placed on next months agenda.

RESOLVED: that the Standing Order are to be placed on next month's agenda.

1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 10th MAY 2006.

Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and Councillor Arnallt James seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 10th May 2006 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Safe Routes to School.

County Councillor John D Evans reported that he has asked the Head teacher to contact him in order that they can make a submission for the Safe Routes to Schools in August.

The above point was NOTED.

2.2 Footpath 68/11.

The Clerk read correspondence received from Carmarthenshire County Council concerning the above. Councillor Peter Cowell reported that Mr Carlsen from Carmarthenshire County Council has asked if Councillor Arnallt James could identify the area of concern.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Arnallt James contacts Mr Carlsen from Carmarthenshire County Council.

2.3 Carmarthenshire County Council - Bus Shelters.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council which stated that the County Council have noted Betws Community Council's response. The shelter opposite the Plough & Harrow has been added onto the list of replacement shelters. County Councillor John D Evans reported that he has put in a request to replace the bus shelter in Treforis.

The above point was NOTED.

2.4 Carmarthenshire County Council - Parking Charges.

County Councillor John D Evans reported that there is movement on Parking Charges within Carmarthenshire. Charges in Ammanford will be reduced to 20p.

The above point was NOTED.

2.5 Flooding on Maesquarre Road and Colonel Road.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council concerning the above. Councillor Anne Sizmur confirmed that she has only noticed the problem with flooding since the new site has been built. The Councillors strongly disagreed with the comments in the letter received from Carmarthenshire County Council.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Mr Williams and Mr Cresci from Carmarthenshire County Council.

2.6 Parc Nant-Y-Felin, Betws.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council, which stated that unfortunately the Developer has not entered into a S104 Agreement. Carmarthenshire County Council can not adopt the highway until the drainage agreement is in place.

The above point was NOTED.

2.7 Heol Y Felin Children's Play Area.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council, which stated that it's not the Councils Policy to collect grass cuttings in play areas.

The above point was NOTED.

2.8 Betws Park Project.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a meeting has been arranged with Amman Valley Enterprise, the Park Department of Carmarthenshire County Council and the Projects Sub Committee of Betws Community Council which is scheduled for the 19th June 2006.

The above point was NOTED.

2.9 Walkway leading from Pentwyn Road to Ty Coch Night Club.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council, which stated that the County Council will arrange to cut back any overgrowth on the footpath.

The above point was NOTED.

2.10 Coal Authority.

Councillor Peter Cowell reported that the Coal Authority has been to inspect the drift mine entrances. The Coal Authority are satisfied that the drift entrances have been sealed correctly. Councillor Peter Cowell provided photos to the councillors which have been received from the Coal Authority showing the entrances before and after they were sealed. County Councillor John D Evans was not satisfied that the drift entrances have been sealed correctly. The Councillors decided that they should obtain a copy of the Mines Inspectorate report.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to the Mine Inspectorate requesting a copy of their report.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 One Voice Wales AGM.

The Clerk asked the Councillors whether they were interested in attending the One Voice Wales AGM which is being held in October. Councillor Graham Vaughan asked whether the Councillors could have a copy of the agenda and the topics of discussions. All Councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to One Voice Wales requesting a copy of their AGM Agenda.

3.2 The following Correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

1. One Voice Wales - Eisteddfod 2006.

2. One Voice Wales - Carmarthen Area Committee Agenda and Minutes.
3. Carmarthenshire Community Health Council.
4. Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council - Public Enquiry.
5. National Assembly for Wales - Electoral Arrangement in Wales.
6. Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Authority - Draft Risk Reduction Plan 2007/10.
7. Charter 88 - Community Decline.
8. Amman Valley Enterprise - Free Training Courses.
9. Carmarthenshire County Council - Information on Wildlife.
10. Carmarthenshire County Council - Health & Social Care - handed to Councillor June Gunter.
11. Carmarthenshire County Council - Development of the Betws Drift Mine.
12. Aman Group of Local Councils - Agenda and Minutes.
13. HOWLTA - handed to Councillor Arnallt James for Councillor Carwyn James.
14. Aman Community Network Meeting - handed to Councillor Menna Roberts.
15. Thank you letter from S Thomas, Girlguiding Cymru.
16. Community News.
17. Dyfed Powys Police Authority - Public Meeting.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

4.1 The following applications were approved by Betws Community Council:-
E/13134 - Hay & Machinery Storage, Llwyndu Farm, Betws, Ammanford (3).
No Objections were made provided that the building is only used for agricultural purposes.
E/13361 - Conservatory to rear of property, 7 Parc Nant Y Felin, Betws, Ammanford (6).

4.2 The following application was objected by Betws Community Council:-
E/13371 - Proposed Residential Development, Land opposite Plough & Harrow Public House, Betws Road, Betws (5).

The Councillors strongly objected to this planning application as there are enough developers/outside contractor work within the Betws area at this present time.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council objecting to this planning application.

4.3 Full Planning Permission has been granted by Carmarthenshire County Council to the following:-

- E/12765 - Extension, Nythfa, Coopers Well, Garnswllt, Ammanford (1).
- E/12777 - Conservatory Showroom Display Area, Profab 2000 Ltd, Betws (2).
- E/12114 - Conversion of Barn to House, Llwyndu, Betws, Ammanford (27/2005).
- E/12425 - 3 Bed Bungalow, plot next to Pencoed Villa, Maesquarre Road, Betws (29/2005).

4.4 Correspondence received from the Planning Department of Carmarthenshire County Council re: Planning Application No. E/09324, Betws Mine Development.

The Clerk read the correspondence received from Carmarthenshire County Council. The Councillors were not happy with the comments in the letter and did not agree with them at all.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council thanking them for their recent letter, and also note that the Councillors understand that this is the Operators responsibility and hope that Carmarthenshire County Council will be emphasising this to the Operator concerned before any accidents occur as school holidays are quickly approaching.

5. ACCOUNTS.

1. Clerk Salary and Allowance £816.00
 2. Clerk Income Tax £177.78
- TOTAL £993.78
RESOLVED: that the above be paid.

Councillor Peter Cowell raised an issue that it has previously been agreed that no donations

will be provided directly to individuals. Donations should only be provided to Organisations that the individual represents.

RESOLVED: that all future donations will only be made payable to Organisations.

6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

Not able to attend.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

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

1. Betws Mountain - He confirmed that Carmarthen County Council are putting new road markings on Betws Mountain. He has also asked for cats eyes to be placed on the road.

2. Golwg Y Mynydd - He confirmed that the smell has been reported to the Enforcement Officer and there is no breach of Planning.

3. Bus Shelters - He reported that the shelter opposite the Plough and Harrow is on a rolling programme to be replaced. The shelter on Waungron Road is in quite a good condition but does need to be cleaned out.

4. Parc Nant Y Felin - He has made a request to the Highways Department with regards to the street signs. It's the onus of the developer to place street lights on the site.

Carmarthenshire County Council confirmed that they will be collecting the rubbish from the site.

5. Betws CP School - He reported that he disagrees with the calculation of the surplus school places. More people are needed to attend Betws CP School.

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Aman Group of Local Councils.

Councillor Anne Sizmur reported that Llanedi Council is to Chair and Clerk the Aman Group of Local Councils for this year. There is no further news to report on the Eisteddfod.

The above point was NOTED.

8.2 One Voice Wales.

Councillor Anne Sizmur reported that she recently attended the One Voice Wales Meeting in Llangadog. She reported that the Carmarthen Area Committee is very active.

The above point was NOTED.

8.3 Betws In Bloom.

Councillor Anne Sizmur reported that the Betws In Bloom Competition has fallen through for this year. Betws CP School are Ok as they have put in their entry form.

The above point was NOTED.

8.4 Dyfed Powys Police Authority Meeting.

Councillor Graham Vaughan reported to the Councillors that he attended the Dyfed Powys Police Authority Meeting. He reported that the meeting was about the amalgamation of the Police Forces in Wales. He also reported that the Clerk to the Police Authority will be sending the minutes of the meeting to the Clerk of Betws Community Council.

The above point was NOTED.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

9.1 The Chair's Chain.

Councillor Menna Roberts reported that four Chairpersons needs to be added to the Chain as the last one is dated 2002/2003. Councillor Annette Price stated that in the past the Councillors agreed to purchase six plaques at a time to be placed onto the Chain. All Councillors agreed to purchase six plaques and get four of them engraved.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to purchase another six plaques and send the Chain away to be engraved.

9.2 Rubbish Collection on Maesquarre Road, Betws.

Councillor Loreen Lewis reported that her rubbish isn't being collected weekly on a week basis. This is happening to properties from Wernddu Terrace to the top of Betws Mountain. Councillor Graham Vaughan proposed that a letter is sent to Carmarthenshire County Council stating that this is not acceptable. All Councillors agreed.
RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

9.3 Cricket Ground.

Councillor Peter Cowell reported that Betws Cricket Team have had to take up wickets in Pantyffynnon as the football team have been given preference over the cricket club. Councillor Peter Cowell strongly objected to this as the Cricket Club have enjoyed the grounds over the last few years.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to the Parks Department of Carmarthenshire County Council asking for an explanation as to why the football team have been given preference over Betws Cricket Team?

9.4 Betws Park.

Councillor Arnallt James reported that the steps leading to and from Betws Park via Pentwyn Road are covered yet again by leaves.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to the Parks Department of Carmarthenshire County Council asking if the steps can be cleared.