

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2006 03 March Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 8th March 2006 at 7.00 pm.

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors Keith Rees and June Gunter.

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

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

Councillor Arnallt James proposed and Councillor Delyth Richards seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th February 2006 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Breach of Planning Control.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she's written again to the Planning Department but has not received a response to date. Councillor Annette Price asked Councillor Anne Sizmur whether she has received a response to her letter? Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that a representative from Carmarthenshire County Council has been out to see her and he's informed her to contact him if this was to occur again.

The above point was NOTED.

2.2 Heol Y Felin Children's Play Area.

Councillor Anne Sizmur confirmed that Councillor Graham Vaughan did visit the Play Area immediately following the last meeting and he confirmed that there is a pad lock on the gates of Heol Y Felin Children's Play Area.

The above point was NOTED.

2.3 Standing Orders - Betws Community Council.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that there is a model copy of Standing Order available from One Voice Wales. The price of the hard copy is £6.62 and the price of the electronic copy is £14.99. All Councillors agreed to purchase the electronic copy.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk purchases a copy of the electronic version of the standing orders.

2.4 National Eisteddfod.

Councillor Anne Sizmur reported that she attended the Meeting in February concerning the above. The County Council confirmed that they were 99% in favour of supporting this, but another Community Council said that they would like to have the National Eisteddfod in their Community.

The above point was NOTED.

2.5 Blue Box Recycling Scheme.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council concerning the recycling of plastics. Councillor Delyth Richards proposed that the Clerk writes to

Carmarthenshire County Council to enquire where all plastics excluding bottles can be taken to be recycled. All Councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 The Coal Authority.

The Clerk confirmed that she has received correspondence from the Coal Authority concerning Ammanford No. 1 Colliery. County Councillor John D Evans raised concerns with regards to the drift entrances, he confirmed that he will be asking the Coal Authority to check all drift entrances. Councillor Loreen Lewis proposed that the Clerk writes to the Coal Authority asking if they can inspect all shaft entrances on Betws Mountain and possibly met with Councillors after this has been undertaken.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to the Coal Authority.

Councillor Annette Price proposed that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council to ask whether signs can be placed on the site as there are a number of safety hazards and members of the public could seriously injure themselves.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

3.2 The following Correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

1. Community Bureau News.
2. Carmarthenshire Night stop - handed to Councillor Annette Price.
3. Excal Ltd.
4. Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales - Calor Village of the Year.
5. Welsh Assembly Government - The Standards Committees Regs. 2006.
6. The Coal Authority.
7. T.R.J.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

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

E/12425 - Proposed 3 bed bungalow, plot next to Pencoed Villa, Maesquarre Road, Betws (29).

E/12279 - 2 storey Shop extension, Park Street Filling Station, Park Street, Betws (28).

Councillor Peter Cowell noted that in the past an application relating to planning permission at Park Street Filling Station has been refused, as it's too close to the residential area.

The above point was NOTED.

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

E/10838 - Erection of dwelling house/conservatory, between 108 & 112 Maesquarre Road, Betws (14).

E/11806 - Change of use of barn, Gilfach Gower Farm, Argoed Road, Betws (24).

E/11807 - Ground floor rear extension, 102 Betws Road, Betws (23).

4.3 Approval of variation of planning condition has been granted by the County Council to the following:-

E/11998 - Variation of condition 4 on planning permission E/09324, Betws Colliery, Ammanford (25)

5. ACCOUNTS.

1. Capel Newydd 3x Meetings £30.00

2. Clerk Salary & Allowance £847.93

3. Clerk Income Tax £168.68

4. Chair Allowance 2nd Instalment £100.00

5. Carmarthenshire County Council - Footway Lighting £274.54

6. Morgan & Morgan Stationery £43.79
7. Donation - Kidney Wales £50.00
8. Donation - Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Sir Gar 2007 £200.00
9. Donation - Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod £100.00
10. Donation - Cruse Carmarthenshire £50.00
11. Donation - Carmarthenshire YFC £50.00
12. Donation - Betws Toddlers Group £100.00
13. Donation - Betws Cricket Club £200.00
14. Donation - Home Start Dinefwr £100.00
15. Councillor Peter Cowell £7.99

TOTAL £2322.93

RESOLVED: that the above be paid.

Councillor Carwyn James explained to the Councillors that the Community Council has not received a balance sheet from Betws Cricket Club. The Councillors agreed to donate £200 to Betws Cricket Club in order that they can purchase 2 cricket bats for the Club. Councillor Graham Vaughan suggested that a financial contribution should be given to Betws Cricket Club annually. Councillor Delyth Richards proposed that the Clerk writes to Betws Cricket Club to inform them that Betws Community Council will need a copy of their latest balance sheet before any further financial contributions can be made. All Councillors agreed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Betws Cricket Club.

6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Geoff Harries attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. He reported that there were 4 crimes committed in the Betws area during February, made up of the following:- 3 thefts and 1 burglary other. To date they have not been detected.

235 Youngsters attend the Blue Light Disco that was held in February. The next disco is planned for the 23rd March.

PC Geoff Harries updated the Councillors on the priority points identified for February in the last Community Council Meeting.

County Councillor John D Evans asked PC Harries what are the Police going to do with regards to the possibility of having another Rave on Betws Mountain. PC Harries confirmed that he will make enquires and inform him in the next meeting.

The above points were NOTED.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

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

1. Betws Mine Site - he confirmed that he's tried to arrange a meeting with the Operator, but has not received a response to date.

The above point was NOTED.

2. Council Tax - he reported that there is a large number of people still paying Council Tax, when they are either exempt or entitled to a discount. He asked the Councillors whether they know of any residents that this applied to.

The above point was NOTED.

3. Betws Community Council Standing Orders - he informed the Councillors that he's available if they want to raise any issues concerning Standing Orders with him.

The above point was NOTED.

Councillor Delyth Richards asked County Councillor John D Evans whether he could speak to someone concerning Iscennen Road, Ammanford. There are new transfers along Iscenne Road but the signs should be English/Welsh every other one. All the transfers that are currently there are only in English.

RESOLVED: County Councillor John D Evans confirmed that he would speak to the Local County Councillor concerning this matter.

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Betws Park.

Councillor Annette Price provided a plan to the Councillors of how Betws Park should look like after the project has been completed. She explained to the Councillors in detail each aspect of the plan. She also explained that the cost of the plan was £365 but this had been covered by a grant. Councillor Annette Price also confirmed that the Parks Department would maintain Betws Park on completion of the Project.

Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed to empower the Sub Committee to go back to Carmarthenshire County Council in order that the next stage can be undertaken. All Councillors agreed and were in favour of this.

The above point was NOTED.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

None.