

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2006 09 September Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

APOLOGIES: None.

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

1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 12th JULY 2006.

Councillor Delyth Richards had an amendment to make with regards to the Welsh Minutes - page 1, should read 'Gorffennaf 2006'.

County Councillor John D Evans suggested that page 2, 4.1 should be amended to read 'the Developer makes a contribution towards a Section 106'.

Councillor Annette Price had an amendment to make with regards to page 5, 8.2 should read that 'Amy Hawkins confirmed that this service has been paid for'.

All Councillors agreed to the amendments.

Councillor Carwyn James proposed and Councillor Loreen Lewis seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 12th July 2006 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Planning Application - Residential Development at Woodlands Park, Betws.

The Clerk read response received from the Planning Department of Carmarthenshire County Council. County Councillor John D Evans suggested that the Community Council ask the Planning Department if recreational facilities can be placed in Woodlands Park by the Developer, as the Developer has not complied with the planning application. Councillor Carwyn James proposed and Councillor Anne Sizmur seconded that the Clerk writes to the Planning Department of Carmarthenshire County Council asking if recreational facilities can be placed in Woodlands Park by the Developer.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to the Planning Department of Carmarthenshire County Council.

2.2 Road Markings on Iscenne Road, Ammanford.

The Clerk read response received from Carmarthenshire County Council who stated that they are unable to provide the road text in English and Welsh due to the requirement to provide a minimum text height on the road and also due to the insufficient length of resident parking bays. Councillor Delyth Richards stated that Talbot Road in Ammanford has bilingual road markings. Councillor Delyth Richards suggest that if the road text was shortened this would provide enough space for the Welsh text. All Councillors agreed that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council asking if the road text can be shortened to incorporate the Welsh text.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk replies to the Operations Mangers from Carmarthenshire County

Council.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 Sports Council of Wales.

The Clerk read correspondence received from the Sports Council of Wales who are looking for organisations within the Community. The Councillors agreed that Ammanford AFC and Betws Rugby Club addresses should be forwarded onto the Sports Council of Wales.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk sends details of Ammanford AFC and Betws Rugby Club onto the Sport Council of Wales.

3.2 The following Correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council

- Energy Increases.
- Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan.
- Notice of Confirmation of an order.
- Developing Modern Health & Social Care Services for Older People in Carmarthenshire - handed to Councillor June Gunter.

2. One Voice Wales

- National Training Advisory Strategy - handed to Councillor Anne Sizmur.
- AGM.

3. Amman Valley Women's Aid.

4. H.O.W.L.T.A News Letter - handed to Councillor Carwyn James.

5. Adjudication Panel for Wales - Annual Report 2005/06.

6. Welsh Assembly Government - handed to Councillor June Gunter.

7. Diary of Sara Thomas Girl Guide - handed to Councillor Menna Roberts.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

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

E/13968 - New Shower Block and Covered Stand, Ammanford AFC, Rice Street, Betws, Ammanford (11).

E/13889 - Two Storey Extension to side of House, 2 Waungron Road, Betws (10).

E/14110 - Construct Shared Cycle/Footpath from Pontamman to Glanamman (13).

E/14134 - Proposed Change of use of Land to a Civil Engineering Contractor's Yard, Land adjacent to Aman Engineering Workshops, Pentwyn Road, Betws (14).

E/14133 - Demolish barn and replace with similar sized extension, Gilfach Gower Farm, Argoed Road, Betws (15).

4.2 Betws Community Council objected to the following application:-

E/13986 - Proposed Dwelling and Detached Garage, Plot adjacent to Maesifan, Waunddwfn Road, Betws (12).

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

E/13538 - Residential Development, Plots 7 & 7A Woodlands Park Phase 2, Betws (8).

E/13537 - Residential Development, Plots 10 & 11 Woodlands Park Phase 2, Betws (9).

E/12063 - Builders Merchants Yard, Units 2 & 3 Maesquarre Road, Betws (26/2005/06).

E/13361- Conservatory to rear of property at 7 Parc Nant Y Felin, Betws (6).

4.4 Supplementary Information has been received from Carmarthenshire County Council concerning Planning Application No. E/10446 - Erection of 16 Wind Turbines at Mynydd Y Betws, Ammanford.

5. ACCOUNTS.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that the External Audit has been completed for 2005/2006 and there were no issues raised.

The above point was NOTED.

Invoices paid in August

1. Carmarthenshire County Council - Footway Lighting £285.30
2. Zurich Insurance £374.54

Invoices paid in September

3. Amman Valley Enterprise (Betws Park Project) £11.00
 4. Resq (Repairs to Community Computer) £88.13
 5. BDO Stoy Hayward (External Audit) £141.00
 6. Chair Allowance 1st Instalment £100.00
 7. Donation - Capel Newydd Cemetery £150.00
 8. Donation - Eglwys Dewi Sant Cemetery £150.00
 9. Councillor Anne Sizmur (Betws In Bloom) £35.00
 10. Councillor Peter Cowell (Printer Cartridges for Community Computer) £38.14
 11. Resq (Repairs to Community Computer) £76.38
 12. Mr D Jones (Betws In Bloom) £15.00
 13. Mr D Jones (Betws In Bloom) £10.00
 14. Ms S McLaren (Betws In Bloom) £10.00
 15. Mr B Lewis (Betws In Bloom) £10.00
 16. Mr P Danter (Betws In Bloom) £10.00
 17. Clerk Salary & Allowance £810.87
 18. Clerk Income Tax £177.78
 19. Society of Local Council Clerks (Subscription) £84.00
- TOTAL £1917.30

RESOLVED: that the above be paid.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received a letter from Fattorini (Gold & Silversmiths) in relation to the Chairs Chain of Office. The Clerk reported that to repair the damaged enamel would cost £245.95 and to attach eight new links to complete the chain would cost £645.76. The Councillors were not happy with this quote as they thought it was extremely costly. Councillor Keith Rees asked what other Community Councils do?. The Councillors asked the Clerk to enquire with other local Community Councils to see what they do with regards to their Chain of Office and also suggested that the Clerk look on the Internet to see if there are any other companies who can carry out this service.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk makes enquiries with local Community Councils.

6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. He reported that there were 10 crimes committed in the Betws area during August.

242 Youngsters attended the Blue Light Disco that was held in August. These Discos are now held on a fortnightly basis. Councillor Annette Price thanked the Police for all the work they have done with regards to the Blue Light Discos.

Councillor Arnallt James informed PC Jones that vehicles are still speeding along Maesquarre Road. Councillor June Gunter also informed PC Jones that vehicles are also speeding along Pentwyn Road. PC Jones confirmed that he will mention this again to the Speed Partnership.

The above points were NOTED.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

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

1. Slow Signs - Have been placed on Colonel Road.
2. Street Lighting on Colonel Road - Tree branches are obscuring the lights on the entrance to Waungron, this has been reported.

3. Dog Fouling on the Black Path - He has requested dog fouling bins. The Council have agreed to bins being placed on both ends of the path.

4. Bus Shelter on Treforis Estate - Carmarthenshire County Council have agreed to place a new shelter on the Treforis Estate. He has also complained about the condition of the bus shelter near the Plough Public House, Carmarthenshire County Council will look into this matter.

5. Complaint regarding dog fouling on the footpath near Tesco - This matter will be reported in due course.

6. Flooding at the bottom of Colonel Road - a site visit was conducted, and an Officer from Carmarthenshire County Council indicated that the river would be cleared up.

7. Street Cleaning - he has reported this problem to Carmarthenshire County Council. Councillor Carwyn James proposed that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council to request a copy of their Service Level Agreement with regards to road sweeping within Betws.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Betws In Bloom.

Councillor Anne Sizmur reported that Councillor Menna Roberts and herself presented the Betws In Bloom prizes to Betws CP School. Councillor Anne Sizmur also reminded the Councillors that the Betws in Bloom presentation evening will be held on Tuesday the 19th September 2006 at 7.00pm. Councillor Keith Rees proposed that for next year a leaflet drop is undertaking advertising the Betws in Bloom Competition, Councillor Anne Sizmur seconded this notion and all Councillors agreed.

The above point was NOTED.

Councillor Anne Sizmur also informed the Councillors that the Charity 'Betws in Need' have provided a cup and also engraved the shield for the Betws in Bloom Competition. Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and all Councillors agreed that a thank you letter is sent to the Charity 'Betws in Need'.

RESOLVED: that a thank you letter is sent to the Charity 'Betws in Need'

8.2 Betws Park Project.

Councillor Annette Price updated the Councillors on the Betws Park Project. Councillor Annette Price explained to the Councillors that the Community Council have applied for a grant to enhance the area. Councillor Annette Price also reported that 95% of the Grant will come from Grant Funding and 5% will come from Carmarthenshire County Council. Councillor Annette Price asked the Councillors whether the Community Council would be prepared to donate some money towards Planting. All Councillors agreed. Councillor Annette Price thanked the Councillors for assisting with the leaflet drop. Councillor Delyth Richards thanked Councillor Annette Price for the effort and commitment she has put into this project. The above point was NOTED.

9. COUNCILLOR VACANCY.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that following the July Community Council Meeting, notices from Carmarthenshire County Council have been placed within Betws, stating that there is a Councillor vacancy with Betws Community Council and that this would be filled on an election basis. The Clerk informed the Councillors that the closing date for this has now ended and Carmarthenshire County Council have informed her that no one has shown any interest, the Community Council will now have to co-opt. The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has spoken to One Voice Wales who suggested that notices are placed within Betws stating that there is a Councillor vacancy but this will be filled by co-option. The Clerk also informed the Councillors that she has received a letter from Mrs Smith who is interested in becoming a Community Councillor. Councillor Arnallt James proposed that the Community Council co-opts Mrs Smith. Councillor Annette Price proposed to place notices within Betws.

A vote was taken and a unanimous decision was made to place notices within Betws.

The Councillors proposed that the Clerk writes to Mrs Smith stating that her letter will be considered in the next Community Council Meeting.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk placed bilingual notices with Betws stating that there is a Councillor vacancy.

10. ARCHIVING OLD FILES.

The Clerk asked the Councillors whether she could archive old files, minutes, financial records, planning documentation etc. The Clerk has spoken to the Achieves Section of Carmarthenshire County Council who offers a free archiving service. The Clerk has also spoken to One Voice Wales who encourage Community Council's to achieve their file etc which are over 7 years old. All Councillors agreed that the Clerk can achieve all files etc that are over 7 years old providing that she keeps a copy of all files achieved.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk can achieve all files etc that are over seven years old.

11. LAND AT HEOL Y FELIN, BETWS.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that the Solicitors from Carmarthenshire County Council are unable to assist with the 'gift of land' as they require the original Deeds for the land at Heol Y Felin, Betws. The Clerk has spoken to the Land Registry who has said that the Community Council can register the land provided that it is done by a Solicitor. Councillor Annette Price suggested asking the Solicitors from One Voice Wales to look at the deeds. Councillor Keith Rees proposed and all Councillors agreed that the Clerk sends copies of all the documentation etc that she has onto the Solicitors of One Voice Wales, to see whether they can assist the Community Council.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk sends copies of the documentation to the Solicitors of One Voice Wales.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Councillor Anne Sizmur reported that she has spoken to Mrs James the Headteacher of Betws CP School, who is prepared to come to the next Community Council Meeting to update the Councillors on the events/activities that are taking place in Betws CP School.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk invites Mrs James to the next Community Council Meeting.

Councillor Anne Sizmur asked whether one of the Councillors would like to arrange to purchase a wreath for the 11th November. Councillor Arnallt James stated that he would deal with this.

RESOLVED: that Councillor Arnallt James arranges to purchase a wreath for the 11th November. The Clerk needs to forward a copy of the logo for Betws Community Council in colour onto Councillor Arnallt James in order that this can be placed in the centre of the wreath.

Councillor Audrey Jones reported that rubbish is being dumped near the garages in Cae Mawr, Betws. It was also reported that rubbish is being dumped on the river bank in Betws Park by residents and also Carmarthenshire County Council employees are placing their grass cutting there as well.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Councillor Keith Rees reported that he has received details from Councillor Annette Price regarding the cross for the Church. He has sent this off for a quotation, but to date he has not received a quote.

The above point was NOTED.

Councillor Audrey Jones excused herself from the Meeting before the Exempt Reports were

discussed.