

# BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Title: 2007 06 June Minutes**

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 13th June 2007 at 7.00 pm.

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

APOLOGIES: Audrey Jones 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 MAY 2007.

Councillor Arnallt James had an amendment to make to the minutes in that 11.3 should read 'Coedcae Footpath'. Councillor Loreen Lewis also had an amendment to make that 11.2 should read 'that the refuse is sometimes collected during the day'. Councillor Arnallt James proposed and Councillor Anne Sizmur seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th May 2007 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

### 2. MATTERS ARISING.

#### 2.1 Land at Heol Y Felin, Betws.

The Chair informed the Councillors that a meeting with the Solicitor took place on Wednesday the 16th May 2007. The Chair updated the Councillors on the points raised at the meeting. He also stated that the Community Council needs to establish which of the 4 original Trustees in the 1947 Declaration of Trust died last and on what date. The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received a letter from Llys Cennen Solicitors confirming the points that arose from the meeting and also confirming the Solicitors fees. The Councillors RESOLVED that they were happy to go ahead with this matter.

#### 2.2 Fence surrounding Heol Y Felin Playground.

Councillor Keith Rees was apprehensive as the fence surrounding Heol Y Felin Playground has not been repaired or replaced and it is now getting further into disrepair. Children are climbing the fence and Councillor Keith Rees was concerned that if the fence surrounding the Playground is not repaired or replaced shortly a child could seriously injure themselves. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes another letter to the Parks Department of Carmarthenshire County Council.

#### 2.3 Treforis Park.

Councillor Annette Price reported that the floor covering in Treforis Park is in a poor state.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes a letter to the Parks Department of Carmarthenshire County Council to enquire whether the floor covering could be repaired or replaced.

#### 2.4 Footpath 3/14 & 3/16..

Councillor Arnallt James was concerned with regards to footpaths 3/14 & 3/16. Residents have reported that various parts of the footpaths are blocked. Councillor Keith Rees proposed and all the Councillors agreed that the Clerk contacts the Ranger from

Carmarthenshire County Council and ask if they could walk the above footpaths and report back to the Community Council on this matter.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts the Ranger from Carmarthenshire County Council.

#### 2.5 Wilkinsons Store, Ammanford.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received a reply from the Technical Services Department of Carmarthenshire County Council concerning her recent correspondence regarding the above. Carmarthenshire County Council is in the process of organising a pedestrian/vehicle survey of the above and the County Council will update the Community Council in due course.

The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

#### 2.6 Flooding along Maesquarre Road, Betws.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received a reply from the Technical Services Department of Carmarthenshire County Council concerning her recent correspondence relating to the above. Carmarthenshire County Council confirmed that they are going to construct new gullies on the carriageway.

The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

#### 2.7 Clean Up Carmarthenshire Campaign.

The Chair thanked the Councillors for taking part in the clean up Carmarthenshire Campaign. The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

#### 2.8 Footpaths within Betws.

Councillor Keith Rees informed the Councillors that he recently walked the Maes Y Betws footpath, and reported accordingly to the Councillors. The Councillors decided that the next walk of the footpaths will take place on Thursday the 5th July at 6.30pm meeting by Waunddwfn Lane on Maesquarre Road.

The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

### 3. CORRESPONDENCE.

#### 3.1 Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan.

The Councillors RESOLVED that this document would be circulated around the Councillors in turn.

#### 3.2 The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

- 1.Aman Community Network- Election of Vice Chair.
- 2.One Voice Wales – Carmarthen Area Meeting.
- 3.Carmarthenshire County Council – Change of Address of the Public Lighting Department.
- 4.Carmarthenshire County Council – Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum Annual Report 2005-06 (handed to Councillor Keith Rees).
- 5.Wales Rural Forum – Free help for Community Groups.
- 6.Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Authority – Draft Risk Reduction Action Plan 08/09.
- 7.Community & Volunteer News.
- 8.Welsh Assembly Government Concessionary Fares (handed to Councillor Menna Roberts).

### 4. PLANNING MATTERS.

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

E/16168 - Conservatory to the rear of 5 Parc Nant Y Felin, Betws (09/2007-08).

E/16147 - Variation of planning condition for the conversion of the existing garage into a study area at 16 Golwg Y Mynydd, Betws (08/2007-08).

E/16255 - Proposed Porch/Covered way to residential quarters at rear of Ty Coch, Maesquarre Road, Betws, Ammanford (10/2007-08)

E/16453 - Track/Access Road at Blaen Y Cwm, Plantation Fach, Betws (11/2007-08).

4.2 Carmarthenshire County Council have given planning permission to the following:-  
E/16027 - Extension for 6 letting bedrooms at the Scotch Pine, Betws (07/2007-08).  
E/15854 - Two Storey Extension at Lluch Is Awel, Betws (02/2007-08).

4.3 Carmarthenshire County Council have refused planning permission to the following:-  
E/15725 - House at Tan Y Berllan, Maes y Berllan Road, Betws (30/2006-07).

4.4 E/10446 - Erection of 16 Wind Turbine Generators on Mynydd y Betws (12/2005-06).  
The Clerk informed the Councillors that the Planning Committee of Carmarthenshire County Council will be undertaking a site visit of the above on the 19th June. Councillor Anne Sizmur stated that that a representative from Betws Community Council should be present at the site meeting and all Councillors agreed.  
The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council stating that a representative from Betws Community Council will be present at the site meeting and also request that the Community Councillor might like to speak at the address following the site meeting.

## 5. ACCOUNTS.

### 5.1 Payments.

The Clerk confirmed that she has received confirmation from the Internal Auditor Lyn Lewellyn that Betws Community Council's Accounts have been audited for the year ending 31st March 2007 and no points of issues were raised. The Chairperson signed the Working Ledger. The Clerk explained that the external audit was set for the 10th August. The Chairperson signed the Annual Return.  
The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

1. Lyn Llewellyn (Intern Audit Fee) £55.00
  2. Carmarthenshire County Council (1st payment of landscape work carried out at Betws Park) £2000.00
  3. Amman Valley Enterprise (Copy paper) £12.17
  4. Clerks Salary & Allowance £835.84
  5. Clerks Income Tax £177.78
  6. Flowers & Compost £38.00
- TOTAL £3118.79

RESOLVED: that the above be paid.

### 5.2 Income Received.

None.

### 5.3 Clerk Salary.

The Clerk confirmed that her salary for this year 2007/2008 would be £3400 plus £470 allowance.

The Councillors RESOLVED that they have already agreed this amount in the Precept Meeting held in January 2007 where the Budget was discussed and agreed.

## 6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. He reported that there were 12 crimes committed in the Betws area during May and to date 2 crimes have been detected.

Councillor Annette Price reported that she was extremely concerned with children riding their 4x4 bikes, which is extremely dangerous considering the speed in which travel at. PC Jones confirmed that he will look into this matter.

Councillor Anne Sizmur was concerned with taxies parking along Pentwyn Road. PC Jones

stated that the taxis are allowed to park along Pentwyn Road, provided that they are not causing an obstruction.

PC Kevin Jones reported that unfortunately the Police are unable to proceed with the purchase of the speed detection device for the Amman Valley, as the device they intended to purchase has received bad press regarding its reliability.

The Clerk also confirmed that she has received an email from Tony Ward on this matter, which was read to the Councillors.

The above points were NOTED by the Councillors.

The Chairperson thanked PC Kevin Jones for the above report.

## 7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

County Councillor John D Evans sent his apologise as he was unable to attend the monthly meeting.

## 8. REPORTS.

### 8.1 Betws Park Project.

Betws Park Open Day was discussed in detail by the Councillors.

## 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### 9.1 Community Council Surgery.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that no members of the Public attended the Surgery prior to the June Community Council Meeting.

The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

### 9.2 Hanging Baskets.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that she has received a news paper clipping from Brian Lewis regarding a Local Community Council who has placed hanging baskets around their village. The Councillors discussed in detail placing hanging baskets within Betws.

The Councillors RESOLVED that they did not have enough money to fund placing hanging baskets within Betws at this time.

### 9.3 Councillor Vacancy.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that Carmarthenshire County Council have notified her; that they have not received a request from ten electors for an election to take place in respect of the casual vacancy, and it is no up to the Community Council to co-opt a replacement member.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk produces the necessary Co-Option Notice which will be placed around Betws and this will then be discussed in next months Community Council Meeting.

### 9.4 Maes Y Betws, Footpath.

Councillor Keith Rees reported that there is a lot of dog mess along the Maes Y Betws Footpath. He was very anxious for the welfare of local residents waking this footpath. He proposed that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council requesting that dog fouling bins are placed along this footpath. All Councillors agreed.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Meeting terminated at 9.10 pm

