

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2007 03 March Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 14th March 2007 at 7.00 pm.

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors Delyth Richards and Peter Cowell.

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

1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 14th FEBRUARY 2007.

PC Kevin Jones had an amendment to make to the minutes in that Sergeant Malcolm Heath attended the last Community Council Meeting and not Inspector Tony Ward. The Clerk apologised for the error and Councillor Carwyn James proposed and Councillor Arnallt James seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 14th February 2007 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Picnic Area on Betws Mountain.

The Clerk read reply recently received from Carmarthenshire County Council, who confirmed that they would look into placing 'take your litter home' signs around the picnic area. The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

2.2 Land at Heol Y Felin, Betws.

Councillor Menna Roberts informed the Councillors that she has spoken to the Planning Officer from Carmarthenshire County Council, who informed her that a Solicitor must be appointed in order to register the land. Councillor Keith Rees proposed that if the Clerk does not receive a response from Mr Jones to her letter within 7 days then she should contact him to see whether he is prepared to have a meeting with the Chair regarding the land. All Councillors agreed. Councillor Carwyn James also proposed that the Clerk contacts One Voice Wales to see whether they could provide the names of any local Solicitors that they have dealt with in the past. All Councillors agreed.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts Mr Jones and also One Voice Wales.

2.3 Fence surrounding Heol Y Felin Playground.

Councillor Keith Rees asked whether the Clerk has received a response from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the above. The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has not received a response to date.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 Wales Audit Office.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received a letter from the Wales Audit Office asking if the Community Council are happy for BDO Stoy Hayward to continue to carry out the External Audit of the Community Council's Accounts. The Clerk had no objections to this. The Councillors RESOLVED that they are happy with BDO Stoy Hayward to continue to

undertake the External Audit of Betws Community Council's Accounts.

3.2 One Voice Wales - Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she had received a letter from One Voice Wales asking if the Community Council wanted to recommend a Councillor to attend the above. One Voice Wales will be deciding the final names by drawing each region's nominations from a hat. Councillor Menna Roberts informed the Councillors that she has put her name forward. The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

3.3 Cymuned - Affordable Housing.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received a letter from Cymuned regarding affordable housing. Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and Councillor Betsan Jones seconded that the Community Council acknowledges receipt of this letter and informs Cymuned that the Community Council fully supports affordable housing in the Carmarthenshire Area. All Councillors agreed.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Cymuned.

3.4 Clwb Hwyl a Sbri Betws.

The Clerk read correspondence received from Clwb Hwyl a Sbri Betws who are requesting funding toward the development of the garden/barked playing area in Betws CP School. Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed that the Clerk writes to the Headteacher of Betws CP School to ensure that the Headteacher is aware of this project, as it will be located on Betws School premises. All Councillors agreed. Also Councillor Carwyn James proposed that the Clerk writes to Clwb Hwyl a Sbri Betws to request a copy of their latest balance sheet. All Councillors agreed.

The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

3.5 The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

1. Public Meeting on the 3rd April in Lampeter University.
2. Inspector Tony Ward, Dyfed Powys Police.
3. Carmarthenshire County Council - New dwelling address.
4. Welsh Assembly Government - The Strategy for Older People in Wales - handed to Councillor June Gunter.
5. Western Power Distribution - Quality of Supply Report 2006 - handed to Councillors Anne Sizmur and Menna Roberts.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

4.1 Carmarthenshire County Council has given planning permission to the following:-
E/14679 - Two Storey Side Extension at Ty Canol, Heol Dwr, Hopkinstown, Ammanford (20).

5. ACCOUNTS.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council (Planning Seminar) £40.00
 2. Carmarthenshire County Council (Footway Lighting Charges) £285.31
 3. Clerk Salary & Allowance £843.43
 4. Clerk Income Tax £177.78
 5. Capel Newydd (x 4 Meetings) £40.00
 6. Donation – Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod £100.00
 7. Donation – 'Megan and Trevor Griffiths' Trust £50.00
 8. Donation – Cruse Carmarthenshire £50.00
 9. Donation – World Sheet Dog Trials NIL
- TOTAL £1586.52

RESOLVED: that the above be paid.

6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. He reported that there was only one offence committed in the Betws area during February which was a theft of

a chain from a gate.

PC Kevin Jones informed the Councillors that 342 youngsters attended the recent Blue Light Disco, the next Disco will be held on the 22nd of March.

Councillor Anne Sizmur handed a news paper article to PC Kevin Jones which stated that "handheld speed guns do not provide accurate speed information". Councillors Anne Sizmur wanted to ensure that is not the same make speed gun as the one that the Community Council has agreed to fund.

Councillor Keith Rees informed PC Jones that he is concerned with parking on Betws Road near the junction into Cae Mawr. PC Jones confirmed that he will have a look at this.

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 CP School - He reported that Betws CP School will be having a School Inspection in April.
2. Flooding in Betws - He stated that the flooding along Maesquarre Road is considered as Capital Works. He has sent an email regarding this but he has not received a response as yet.
3. Wind Turbines - The Planning Application will be considered at the end of March. He will be objecting to this planning application, but should the application be granted he will be writing to pursue a Section 106 Agreement.
4. Land behind Plough & Harrow - He has recently had a site visit of the land behind the Plough & Harrow to see whether it could be used for community. Carmarthenshire County Council has stated that they will sell the land at market value. He has asked the Street Scene Department if a recycling centre could be situated there, unfortunately Carmarthenshire County Council have stated that there is already a recycling facility behind the Coopers Pub.

The above points were NOTED by the Councillors.

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

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Leaflet Drop/Newsletter.

Councillor Menna Roberts handed the draft copy of the leaflets to the Councillors. Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that the leaflets are only to inform residents of the information to date and that she would hope these could be distributed by the end of March beginning of April. The Councillors resolved that the Clerk makes enquires regarding the cost of producing the leaflets. Councillor Anne Sizmur asked the Councillors for permission in order that the Finance Sub Committee can authorise the Clerk to go ahead with the printing of the leaflets provided that the cost is acceptable.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk liaises with the Chair of the Finance Sub Committee Councillor Carwyn James regarding the cost of printing the leaflets.

8.2 One Voice Wales Meeting.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that she recently attended a One Voice Wales Meeting. She reported that one Community Council has experienced problems with Farmers and asked whether One Voice Wales could approach the two Farmers Unions in order to have a joint Meeting with the Welsh Assembly Government to see whether they could investigate the truth of the matter. They are mainly concerned that Farmers of the Community are dying out. Councillor Anne Sizmur asked whether the Councillors had any

comments to make. All Councillors were in support of this.
The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

9. PROJECTS.

9.1 Betws In Bloom.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that she would like to introduce a new category to the Betws in Bloom Competition for this year – Painting/crayon painting for the under 7 year olds, title 'My Garden or Betws Park'. All Councillors Agreed.
The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

9.2 Betws Park.

Councillor Menna Roberts reported that following on from the Special Meeting of the Community Council held on the 8th March 2007. The open day of the Park will be held on the 23rd June 2007 starting between 2.00/2.30 and finishing between 3.30/4.00. Councillor Carwyn James will be the announcer on the day. Councillor Keith Rees proposed and Councillor Annette Price seconded that the Community Council invites all agencies who help the Community to the open day. All Councillors agreed.

The above point was NOTED by the Councillors.

Councillor Anne Sizmur asked the Councillors for their consent in order that the Sub Committee can continue with the arrangement for the open day. All Councillors agreed.

Councillors Annette Price asked if the Clerk could write to the Ammanford Silver Band to invite them to play in the open day.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to the Ammanford Silver Band.

10.ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

Meeting terminated at 9:00 pm