

# BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Title: 2008 12 December Minutes**

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 10th December 2008 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Annette Price (Chairperson), Councillors Loreen Lewis, June Gunter, Maldwyn John, Catherine Smith, D Arnallt James, Richard Howell, Anthony Richards, Betsan Jones and County Councillor Audrey Jones.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Carwyn James and Menna Roberts.

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.  
NOTED that no member declared a Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interest.

### 1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 12th NOVEMBER 2008.

Councillor June Gunter proposed and Councillor Catherine Smith seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 12th November 2008 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

### 2. MATTERS ARISING.

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

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has now received an estimate of the Community Council's costs to date from Llys Cennen Solicitors. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk requests an interim invoice. Councillor Annette Price proposed that the Community Council continues with registering the Land at Heol Y Felin, Betws. The Councillors unanimously agreed that the Community Council continues with registering the land at Heol Y Felin, Betws.

#### 2.2 Community Council Notice Board.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a site meeting has been arranged for Thursday the 11th December 2008 at 10 o'clock with Mr Francis of Carmarthenshire County Council. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 2.3 Dog Fouling Signs at Betws Park.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that Mr Gerwyn Thomas has asked for the 'no dog fouling' signs to be placed at the entrances into Betws Park. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 2.4 Picnic Bench – Betws CP School.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has not yet received confirmation for the Headteacher of Betws CP School regarding her preferred choice of picnic bench. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

#### 2.5 Community Council Benches and Bin.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that Mr Gerwyn Thomas has confirmed that the order has been placed for the benches and a bin. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 2.6 Betws Park – Sensory & Memorial Garden.

The Clerk read email received from Mr Gerwyn Thomas with regards to placing a solar light on the Sensory & Memorial Garden in Betws Park. He stated "that there is no budget to cover the cost of this item at present". Councillor Annette Price proposed and all the

Councillors agreed that the Clerk enquires into the cost of the solar light. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts Mr Gerwyn Thomas.

#### 2.7 Community Councillor Vacancy.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received confirmation from Carmarthenshire County Council stating that "they have not received a request from ten electors for an election to take place; therefore the Community Council must co-opt a replacement Member". The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received a letter from Mrs Anne Sizmur stating that she would like to be considered for co-option. It was unanimously agreed that the Community Council co-opt Mrs Anne Sizmur. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk informs Mrs Anne Sizmur accordingly.

#### 2.8 Welcome Lights.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk makes enquiries regarding the cost of purchasing 'Welcome Lights' for Betws.

#### 2.9 Betws Colliery Site.

Councillor Arnallt James stated that British Coal placed the fence around the oak tree on the Old Betws Colliery site. Councillor Arnallt James proposed and all the Councillors agreed that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council to see whether there is a preservation order on the oak tree. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

#### 2.10 Street Lamp along Maesquarre Road, Betws.

The Clerk read email received from the Public Lighting Department of Carmarthenshire who have confirmed that the cable has not been connected on the lamp; he will chase up this matter. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 2.11 One Voice Wales.

The Clerk confirmed that she has not received a response to date from One Voice Wales regarding providing training to Community and Town Councils on the "code of conduct". The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

#### 2.12 Authorised Signatories.

The Clerk handed the 'Change of Signatories' form to Councillor Loreen Lewis in order for her to take the form into Lloyds TSB. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 2.13 Community Council Christmas Lunch.

The Clerk confirmed that a table has been booked for Thursday the 22nd of January in the Badgers Bar in Blaenau. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

### 3. CORRESPONDENCE.

#### 3.1 Carmarthenshire County Council – New Recycling Scheme – Feedback.

The Clerk read correspondence received from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the new recycling scheme. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council to see whether a glass recycling facility can be placed in the car park of Ty Coch Night Club on Maesquarre Road, Betws.

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

Carmarthenshire County Council – Council Budget 2009/10 – 2011/12.

Adjudication Panel for Wales – Annual Report 2007-2008.

Local Health Board Carmarthenshire – Health Panels for December 2008.

### 4. PLANNING MATTERS.

4.1 Betws Community Council requested further information from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the following planning applications:-

E/20229 - Discharge conditions 3, 6, 9, 20 & 24 of planning permission E/17037 Glyncywarch Washery, Betws (15-2008/09).

E/20248 Residential development, former Betws Colliery, Betws (16-2008/09).

## 5. ACCOUNTS.

### 5.1 Payment of Invoices.

1.Morgan & Morgan (001067) £29.99

2.Morgan & Morgan (001068) £17.03

3.Mr Burridge (Footpath Maintenance) (001069) £824.00

4.Mr Burridge (Flowers) (001073) £55.98

5.Mr Burridge (Removal of tree) (001071) £85.00

6.SLCC (Membership) (001072) £82.00

7.Capel Newydd (5 x Meetings) (001074) £50.00

8.Clerk Salary & Allowance (001075) £963.79

9.Clerk Income Tax (001076) £188.05

10.Donation – Wales Air Ambulance (001077) £100.00

11.Donation – Macmillan Cancer Support (001078) £50.00

12.Donation – Tenovus Cancer Charity (001079) £50.00

13.Donation – Christian Lewis Trust (001080) £50.00

14.Donation – Ammanford Life After Stroke (001081) £100.00

15.Donation – Bobath (001082) £100.00

16.Donation – Urdd Gobaith Cymru (001083) £100.00

17.Donation – Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru (001084) £50.00 Total £2895.84

The Councillors 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 were 4 crimes committed within the Betws area during the month of November, which consisted of 2 assaults and 2 possessions of cannabis.

PC Kevin Jones reported that the Blue Light Disco was held on the 13th of November, there was a poor turn out with only 15 children in attendance, this was due to other events taking place on the same night. The next disco is due to be held on the 8th of January 2009.

Councillor June Gunter sincerely thanked the Police for their efforts with regards to the Blue Lights Discos.

PC Kevin Jones updated the Councillors on the following issues:-

- Letter drop for Colonel Road, Heol Y Felin and the Square – the letters are currently in Police Headquarters; he is waiting for them to be translated.
- Tractor Driver – The Police have called at the property but the driver has not been there.
- Overhanging hedge on Foundry Road – this has now been cut.

The Councillors reported that members of staff from the Tesco Store in Ammanford have been complaining that Police are slow responding to calls from the Store. PC Jones stated that all calls to the Police are prioritised from what is said by the person making the call. PC Jones also stated that Tesco are not linked via radio to the Police other shops within Ammanford are linked to the Police via radios.

The Councillors NOTED the above points. The Chairperson thanked PC Kevin Jones for his report.

## 7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

County Councillor Audrey Jones reported on the following issues:-

Maesquarre Road – She has had a site meeting with Mario Cresci and Trevor Sage of

Carmarthenshire County Council. She said that it would cost in the region of £400,000 to undertake the improvement scheme for Maesquarre Road and the County Council do not have the money available to undertake the improvement scheme.

Councillor Betsan Jones was concerned with regards to the new recycling facility; there is no provision for collecting glass. County Councillor Audrey Jones confirmed that this matter has been raised with Carmarthenshire County Council who are trying to have more recycling sites available for glass but they have confirmed that they will not collect glass in the future.

The Councillors NOTED the above points. The Chairperson thanked County Councillor Audrey Jones for the above report.

#### 8. REPORTS.

##### 8.1 Heol Y Felin and Treforis Playgrounds.

Councillor Annette Price reported that she has spoken to the Housing Department of Carmarthenshire County Council, who have confirmed that there is a grant available, but only for one playground. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

##### 9.1 Shane Williams.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk sends a letter to congratulate Shane Williams on his recent achievement.

##### 9.2 Ombudsman Letter

Councillor Arnallt James was annoyed to report that he has received a letter of complaint from the Ombudsman. The Clerk informed the Councillors that due to Councillor Arnallt James's behaviour in the previous meeting, the Clerk submitted a complaint to the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman has stated that they will not investigate the matter further as this present time. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

Meeting Ended 9.20pm