

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2009 04 April Minutes

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 8th April 2009 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Annette Price (Chairperson), Cllrs. Loreen Lewis, Anthony Richards, Carwyn James, Anne Sizmur, Richard Howell, Betsan Jones and Maldwyn John.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. June Gunter, Arnallt James, Menna Roberts and County Councillor Audrey Jones.

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS.
Councillor Richard Howell declared an interest in Betws CP School.

1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 11th MARCH 2009.

Councillor Anthony Richards proposed and Councillor Carwyn James seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 11th March 2009 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Land at Heol Y Felin, Betws.

The Chair, Councillor Richard Howell and Councillor Loreen Lewis updated the Councillors on the meeting they recently attended with the Solicitor on the 25th March 2009. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.2 Community Council Notice Board.

The Clerk confirmed that she has recently contacted Atech Graphis and Signs (Llanelli) who have stated that in the past there has not been a requirement to provide their insurance details to Carmarthenshire County Council. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts Carmarthenshire County Council.

2.3 Picnic Bench – Betws CP School.

Councillor Carwyn proposed that the Community Council publicises the purchase of the picnic bench for Betws CP School in the Guardian, Councillor Anthony Richards seconded this motion and all the Councillors agreed. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts the Headteacher of Betws CP School.

2.4 Community Council Benches and Bin.

The Chair confirmed that she has not received a telephone call to date from Gareth Howells regarding installing the benches and the bin. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

2.5 Solar Lights for Betws Park – Sensory & Memorial Garden.

The Clerk confirmed that she has arranged a meeting for Thursday the 23rd of April 2009 at 10 o'clock with Sun Set Solar, to meet at the entrance into Betws Park. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.6 Seasonal/Welcome Lights for the Community of Betws.

The Clerk confirmed that she has arranged a meeting for Thursday the 23rd of April 2009 at

10 o'clock with Sun Set Solar, to meet at the entrance into Betws Park. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.7 Preservation Order on the Trees within Betws.

The Clerk confirmed that she has spoken to Stephen Edwards from Carmarthenshire County Council, who has received confirmation from TRJ that they are going to place a fence around the American Oak Tree. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.8 Community Website.

The Clerk confirmed that the minutes and agendas of the Community Council have been updated onto the Community Website. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.9 Standards Committee.

The Clerk stated that she has received an email from Mr Grafton of Carmarthenshire County Council who has confirmed that the Councillors can go ahead and meet with Mr McAvoy of Carmarthenshire County Council provided that the Councillors only want an opportunity to explain the highway safety issues to Mr McAvoy. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk arranges a meeting with Mr Mc Avoy.

2.10 Donation - Paul Pugh Rehabilitation Fund.

The Chair confirmed that she has hand delivered the cheque to Mr Pugh. The money donated by the Community Council will go towards private physiotherapy sessions. The Councillors NOTED the above points.

2.11 Annwyl Fan, Betws.

The Clerk confirmed that she has spoken to the Highway Inspector who has requested further information regarding the precise location. The Councillors provided further information to the Clerk. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts the Highway Inspector.

2.12 Banc y Wern, Betws.

The Clerk confirmed that she has spoken to the Highways Department who have confirmed that Mr Hammett of Carmarthenshire County Council has been in contact with the land owner. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.13 Footpath Maintenance.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has spoken to the Rights of Way Section from Carmarthenshire County Council and they have confirmed that from the 1st April 2009, Carmarthenshire County Council will be taking over the footpath maintenance. The Clerk also informed the Councillors that she has written to Mr Burridge to terminate his contract as at the 31st of March 2009, as the County Council will no longer be providing 90% funding for the maintenance of footpath, instead this will be carried out by Carmarthenshire County Council Rangers. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.14 Footpaths.

The Clerk read an email received from Mr Gary Carlsen, of Carmarthenshire County Council to the Councillors concerning the Betws Mine Site Restoration Master Plan. He confirmed that TRJ are going to ensure that footpath 3/14a is free from obstruction, and when required will erect relevant signage to advise the public of any temporary diversions required whilst works are progressing on the restoration of the site. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.15 Glass Recycling.

The Clerk read a letter to the Councillors received from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the above. Unfortunately glass cannot be accommodated as part of the current recycling collection system. It should also be noted that glass collections were only provided previously to 30% of Carmarthenshire households. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.16 Carmarthenshire County Council – Winter Maintenance Policy.

The Clerk read a letter to the Councillors received from Carmarthenshire County Council regarding the above matter. Councillor Annette Price requested further information regarding gritting pavements. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk responds to the letter accordingly.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

- Trinity College – Trinity Awards.
- Carmarthenshire County Council – Swansea and Carmarthen Bays, Coastal Engineering Group.
- Carmarthenshire County Council – Armed Forces Day 22nd June 2009.
- Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales - A line in the sand.
- Really Welsh - Daffodils.
- HOWLTA – handed to Councillor Carwyn James.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

4.1 Betws Community Council offered no objections to the following planning applications:-
E/20841 – Discharge of condition 19 of planning permission E/17037, Glyncywarch Washery, Betws, Ammanford (2-2009/10).

E/20854 – Amendment to previous approved turning area to end of existing cul-de-sac, land at Parc Bwtrimawr, Betws (3-2009/10).

E/20778 – Amendment to reserved matter, Betws Colliery, Ammanford (24-2008/09).

E/20817 – Erection of two storey extension to side of property, 41 Betws Road, Betws (1-2009/10).

5. ACCOUNTS.

5.1 Payment of Invoices.

- 1.One Voice Wales (Membership) £199.00
- 2.Carmarthenshire County Council (Footway Lighting) £292.58
- 3.HOWLTA (Membership) £10.00
- 4.Carmarthenshire Tourist Association (Membership) £61.80
- 5.Donation – Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod £100.00
- 6.Donation – Cruse Bereavement £100.00
- 7.Donation – YFC Carmarthenshire £100.00
- 8.Donation – Bobby Van Scheme £50.00
- 9.Donation – Glo Man £50.00

Total £963.38

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 2 crimes committed within the Betws area during the month of March, which consisted of 1 burglary and 1 taking a vehicle. To date there is a 50% detection rate.

The Councillors reported on the following issues to PC Kevin Jones:-

- 1.Two ornamental lights on the entrance into Betws Park from Pentwyn Road are no longer there.
- 2.Could 'no dog fouling' signs be placed on the lamp posts within Betws.

The Chair also asked PC Kevin Jones to relay the message that the Community Council are not trying to close the Rugby Club, they are purely just trying to secure the land for the residents of Betws.

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

report.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

County Councillor Audrey Jones was not present at the Community Council Meeting.

Councillor Anne Sizmur updated the Councillors on the recent County Council Meetings she has attended. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Footpaths.

Councillor Carwyn James provided a report in the absence of Councillor Arnallt James, to the Councillors on the footpaths within Betws. Footpath 3/12 leading from Pantybanwen to Banc y Wern has been closed for about 60 years, and by law this footpath has to be reopened. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to the Countryside and Recreation Section to see how much it is going to cost to reopen footpath 3/12.

8.2 Parks.

Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that there are grants available to Council Housing Estate Areas to enhance the parks/play areas. Councillor Annette Price asked whether the Community Council should register an interest. Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and Councillor Maldwyn John seconded that the Sub Committee completes the relevant application form and brings it back to the main Community Council Meeting. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

9.1 Betws in Bloom.

Councillor Loreen Lewis asked whether the Community Council will be holding a Betws in Bloom Competition this year. The Councillors unanimously agreed to hold a Betws in Bloom Competition for this year. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

9.2 Letter.

Councillor Loreen Lewis stated that Mr Jones was not happy with the context of the letter that was sent to him by the Clerk. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk brings a copy of the letter sent to Mr Jones to the next Community Council Meeting.

Meeting Ended 9.55pm