

# BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Title: 2009 07 July Minutes**

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

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor Catherine Smith, County Councillor Audrey Jones, PC Kevin Jones and PCSO Sharee Treharne.

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

The Chair welcomed Councillor Menna Roberts back to the Community Council as she has been unwell.

Councillor June Gunter informed the Councillors that she has sent a birthday card to a gentleman who was celebrating his 100th birthday from Annwyl Fan.

### 1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 10th JUNE 2009.

Councillor Richard Howell wanted to add that the bench which has been taken away on Colonel Road will be replaced by the Community Council.

Councillor Annette Price wanted to add that it was her that asked County Councillor Audrey Jones about the Luncheon Clubs and not Councillor Anne Sizmur.

Councillor Annette Price also added that if 4-6 residents of Maesquarre Road got together and sued the County Council for damages caused by flooding along Maesquarre Road, it would cost more than £200,000.

Councillor Annette Price proposed and Councillor Anne Sizmur seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 10th June 2009 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

### 2. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON THE 24th JUNE 2009.

Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and Councillor Anthony Richards seconded that the minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 24th June 2009 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING (Monthly Meeting).

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

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a meeting has been arranged for Monday the 17th July 2009 at 4pm with the Solicitor. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 3.2 Community Council Notice Board.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that the notice board is now ready to be collected by Carmarthenshire County Council. The County Council are also going to erect the notice board on behalf of the Community Council. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 3.3 Donation - Betws CP School.

Councillor Anthony Richards informed the Councillors that he has submitted an article to the Guardian Newspaper regarding the donation provided by the Community Council to Betws CP School. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 3.4 Benches for Pentwyn Road and Treforis.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has placed an order for additional benches (one for Pentwyn Road and one for Treforis). To date she has not received confirmation from Gerwyn Thomas that the benches have been delivered. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

#### 3.5 Solar Lights for Betws Park – Sensory & Memorial Garden.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she will arrange a meeting with 'Sunset Solar'. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 3.6 Seasonal/Welcome Lights for the Community of Betws.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she will arrange a meeting with 'Sunset Solar'. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

#### 3.7 Highway Safety Meeting.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has not received a report to date from Mr McEvoy regarding his recent visit to Betws. Councillor June Gunter stated that Mr McEvoy did say that he would undertake a second visit to Betws in due course. The Councillor RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Mr McEvoy to see whether he has undertaken his second visit to Betws.

The Clerk read a letter to the Councillors which has been sent to Mr McEvoy by a resident of Colonel Road concerning traffic management within Betws. The Clerk also read the response submitted by Mr McEvoy to the resident of Colonel Road. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk enquires into the cost of purchasing flashing vehicle activating signs.

#### 3.8 Community Council Flower Troughs/Boxes.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received confirmation from Mr Lewis and unfortunately he is not interested in maintaining the flower troughs on behalf of the Community Council. Councillor Betsan Jones proposed placing an advert in the Guardian Newspaper, Councillor Carwyn James seconded this motion. The Community Council flower troughs are located on Heol Y Felin, Maesquarre Road, Park Street/Colonel Road and Treforis. The Councillors RESOLVED that Councillor Anthony Richards places an advert in the Guardian Newspaper. Councillor Annette Price proposed that the Community Youth Service could clean the troughs/boxes in the interim period. The Councillors RESOLVED that Councillor Annette Price make enquiries with the Community Youth Service.

#### 3.9 Footpaths.

Councillor Arnallt James stated that footpath 3/14 is still blocked. Councillor Arnallt James has phoned Carmarthenshire County Council with regards to maintenance of the footpaths and was informed that this matter should be referred to his local County Councillor. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues Mr Eirian James of Carmarthenshire County Council for a meeting with the Community Council's Footpaths Sub Committee.

#### 3.10 Land behind the Plough and Harrow.

Councillor Maldwyn John reported that someone is clearing the area of land behind the Plough and Harrow. He is concerned as the rubble is falling into the stream. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council to ask if they could investigate this matter.

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING (Special Meeting).

The Clerk confirmed that she has submitted a letter to Jayne Davidson. The Chair read the

letter to the Councillors.

Councillor Anthony Richards stated that Dr J D Evans was invited to the Special Meeting, but the present County Councillors should also have been invited. Councillor Anthony Richards proposed that a letter is sent to County Councillor Audrey Jones to see whether she is for or against the Wind Turbines, her thoughts on the report and also whether she has any amendments to the 6 day inquiry report. Councillor Betsan Jones proposed and Councillor Maldwyn John seconded that the Community Council arranges a meeting with County Councillor Audrey Jones. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk arranges a meeting with County Councillor Audrey Jones.

Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed that the Clerk writes to ECO2 to inform them that the Community Council would like to send a representative to meet with them. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to ECO2.

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE.

5.1 The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

- National Botanic Garden of Wales – ‘Yr Ardd’ Magazine handed copies to Councillors June Gunter and Arnallt James.
- Ombudsman – Annual Report 2008/09.
- Carmarthenshire County Council – Draft Housing Sustainability Strategy – handed to Councillor Richard Howell.
- Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services – Network Meeting.
- One Voice Wales – National Training Programme for Community Councils – The Councillors RESOLVED to place this on the agenda for the September Meeting.
- Foothold – Amman Valley Green Network Partnership.

## 6. PLANNING MATTERS.

6.1 Betws Community Council offered no objection to the following planning application:- E/21329 – Proposed porch extension and provision of first floor games room above existing garage at 68 Colonel Road, Betws (9-2009/10).

6.2 Carmarthenshire County Council has granted planning permission to the following planning application:- E/20248 – Residential Development, former Betws Colliery, Ammanford (16-2008/09).

## 7. ACCOUNTS.

7.1 Payment of Invoices.

- 1.Capel Newydd (5x Meetings) £50.00
- 2.Donation- Carmarthenshire Older People's Partnership £100.00
- 3.Donation – Home Start £100.00
- 4.Donation – Ammanford Town Silver Band £150.00
- 5.Donation – Shelter Cymru £100.00 Total £500.00

The Councillors RESOLVED that the above be paid.

7.2 Treasured Memorabilia.

The Clerk showed the Councillors a catalogue of treasured memorabilia. Councillor June Gunter proposed and Councillor Anne Sizmur seconded that this is to be discussed by the Finance Sub Committee and then agreed in the main September Meeting.

## 8. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

Not in attendance.

## 9. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

The County Councillor was not in attendance.

The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk submits a letter to County Councillor Audrey Jones regarding the following:-

- Councillor Anthony Richards stated that the weight restriction sign for heavy good on the Mountain Road needs to be moved. Could the County Councillor contact Carmarthenshire County Council to see whether the signs can be moved further down the Mountain Road.
- Councillor Annette Price wanted to know whether the County Councillor has received a response from the Ambulance Service regarding a 999 call last year and the slow response received from the Ambulance Services.
- Councillor Anthony Richards also wanted an update from the County Councillor on the dog fouling and whether letters have been issued to dog owners.

## 10. REPORTS.

### 10.1 Carmarthenshire County Council - Planning Wish List.

Councillor Anne Sizmur provided an in-depth report to the Councillors on Carmarthenshire County Council's Planning Wish List. The Councillors thanked Councillor Anne Sizmur for her detailed report.

### 10.2 Conservation Order.

Councillor Annette Price proposed that a conservation order is placed on the Victorian brick building, of the old work shops near Ty Coch on Maesquarre Road, Betws. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

### 10.3 Citizens Advice Bureau.

Councillor Annette Price updated the Councillors on the Citizens Advice Bureau Court Case. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

### 10.4 One Voice Wales Meeting.

Councillor Carwyn James updated the Councillors on the One Voice Wales Meeting he recently attended with Councillor Anne Sizmur. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

## 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

### 11.1 Betws Park.

Councillor Betsan Jones reported that there are no flowers in the flower beds in Betws Park; she was also disappointed at the state of the up keep of the park. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council

### 11.2 Heol Y Felin Playground.

Councillor Richard Howell stated that there is glass on the floor of Heol Y Felin Playground. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

### 11.3 Shopping Trip.

Councillor Anthony Richards asked whether the Community Council could organise a shopping trip for the Community and that the Community Council pays for the bus. The Councillors RESOLVED to place this on the agenda for Septembers Meeting.

### 11.4 Treforis.

Councillor Loreen Lewis stated that she has received a number of complaints from residents at Treforis regarding the condition of the estate. There are a few houses with scrap cars outside the properties. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council.

Meeting Terminated 9.35pm.