

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2009 05 May Minutes

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 13th May 2009 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Betsan Jones (Chairperson), Alderman Arnallt James, Cllrs. Carwyn James, Anthony Richards, Menna Roberts, Annette Price, Loreen Lewis, Catherine Smith, June Gunter, Anne Sizmur and County Councillor Audrey Jones.

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 8th APRIL 2009.

Councillor Carwyn James proposed and Councillor Anthony Richards seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th April 2009 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Land at Heol Y Felin, Betws.

The Clerk read a letter received from Llys Cennen Solicitors to the Councillors regarding Betws Rugby Club. The Rugby Club have now instructed different Solicitors to represent them in this matter. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts Llys Cennen Solicitors for an update on this matter.

2.2 Community Council Notice Board.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that unfortunately Atech Graphis and Signs (Llanelli) cannot erect the notice board as they do not have a works certificate. The Clerk has however contacted Carmarthenshire County Council who have confirmed that they are prepared to collect and erect the notice board outside Betws CP School, the cost will be no more than £200. The Councillor RESOLVED to ask Carmarthenshire County Council to collect and erect the notice board outside Betws CP School. The Councillors also RESOLVED that Carmarthenshire County Council contacts Councillor Annette Price regarding the location of where the notice board is to be placed.

2.3 Betws CP School.

The Clerk has received confirmation from Betws CP School that they are happy for the Community Council to publicise the purchase of the picnic bench for Betws CP School in the Guardian. The Councillors RESOLVED that Councillor Anthony Richard contacts the Guardian.

2.4 Community Council Benches and Bin.

Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that the bin and four benches have now been installed within Betws Park. The Clerk noted that only two benches were to be installed within the Park. The Councillors RESOLVED to purchase two more benches for Pentwyn Road and Treforis.

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

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a meeting had been arranged for Thursday the 23rd of April 2009 but unfortunately none of the Councillors attended the meeting. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk arranges another meeting with 'Sunset Solar'.

2.6 Seasonal Welcome Lights for the Community of Betws.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a meeting had been arranged for Thursday the 23rd of April 2009 but unfortunately none of the Councillors attended the meeting. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk arranges another meeting with 'Sunset Solar'.

2.7 Preservation Order.

Councillor Arnallt James reported that a fence has been erected around the American Oak Tree on the Old Betws Colliery Site. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.8 Highway Safety Meeting.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that a meeting has been arranged with Mr McEvoy of Carmarthenshire County Council for Friday the 12th of June at 3pm. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk makes enquiries to see whether the meeting could commence either at 9.30am or 11.45am as this the busiest time with regards to traffic within Betws.

2.9 Footpath Maintenance.

The Councillors were concerned as to what service they would now receive from Carmarthenshire County Council as they have taken over the maintenance of the footpaths within Betws. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk makes enquiries with the Rights of Way Section. Councillor Loreen Lewis informed the Councillors that no one is now maintaining the four Community Council flower boxes. Councillor June Gunter proposed and Councillor Carwyn James seconded that the Clerk writes to Mr Lewis to see whether he would be interested in maintaining the flower boxes for the Community Council.

2.10 Footpath 3/12 leading from Pantybanwen to Banc y Wern, Betws.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received an email from Gary Carlsen, who has confirmed that Carmarthenshire County Council are in the process of processing an application form for a Betws Resident on this path. If the application is successful and an order confirmed the path will then be opened by Carmarthenshire County Council. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.11 Letter sent to Mr Jones.

The Clerk read a copy of the letter sent to Mr Jones asking whether Betws Community Centre had provided planning permission to Betws Rugby Club to build their new club house some years ago. The Councillors were happy with the context of the letter and NOTED the above point.

2.12 Betws Football Club.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has received an email from Mr Davies of Betws Football Club who would like to meet with the Councillors to discuss the future of the Club. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk arranges a meeting with Mr Davies.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

- Play for Wales - handed to Councillor Betsan Jones.
- Carmarthenshire County Council - Bus Service - handed to Councillor June Gunter.
- One Voice Wales - 2009 AGM and Conference.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

4.1 Betws Community Council offered no objections to the following planning application :- E/20904 - Creation of access to agricultural land and residential dwelling land off Cwmfelin Road, Betws, Ammanford (5-2009/10).

5. ACCOUNTS.

5.1 Payment of Invoices.

1. Chair Allowance (1st Instalment) £200.00

2. Carmarthenshire County Council (2008 Election Charges) £119.52
 3. Morgan & Morgan (Laptop Warranty) £171.35
- Total £490.87

The Councillors RESOLVED that the above be paid.

5.2. Income.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council (1st Precept Instalment) £4666.66

6. DYFED POWYS•POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones and PCSO Sherrie Treharn attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. PC Kevin Jones reported that there were 6 crimes committed within the Betws area during the month of April.

PC Kevin Jones reported on the following issues:-

- 1.The Neighbourhood Monthly Meeting have change to PACT (Police and Community Team Meetings), they are held on the second Tuesday of every month.
- 2.The Police wanted to phase out Police Officers attending Community Council Meetings, he confirmed that he is going to continue attending Betws Community Council Meetings, as there is a good communication network.
- 3.If the Councillors have any non emergency queries they can dial 101.

The Councillors reported on the following issues:-

- 1.Vehicles are speeding along Maesquarre Road. There was a person riding on a scrambler quad bike racing up and down Maesquarre Road. PC Kevin Jones reported that he has spoken to the gentleman concerned.
- 2.The problem in Maesyberllan and Treforis has started up again. PC Kevin Jones confirmed that he will look into this matter, he advised the Councillors to inform the resident to phone 101 if they have any non emergency issues.

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

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

County Councillor Audrey Jones stated that she had nothing to report to the Councillors. Councillor Catherine Smith asked for an update regarding the problem on the Mountain Road that she reported some months ago to County Councillor Audrey Jones. County Councillor Audrey Jones stated that she has reported this issue to Carmarthenshire County Council. Councillor Anthony Richards was surprised that County Councillor Audrey Jones had no reports as a Community Councillor reported last month on issues from Carmarthenshire County Council Meetings. He asked if she could inform the Councillors of any meeting that she has attended, function etc. County Councillor Audrey Jones stated that she would provide a full report in the next Community Council Meeting.

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Citizens Advice Bureau.

Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that unfortunately she cannot discuss the details of the court case with the Councillors, but if the Councillors do have any queries they should either contact the Citizens Advice Bureau or the Police. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

8.2 Play Areas (Treforis and Heol Y Felin).

Councillor Annette Price provided detailed plan for Treforis play area, the cost of erecting the play area would be in the region of £115,000. The cost of updating Heol y Felin play area would be in the region of £40,000. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

8.3 Picnic in Betws Park.

Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that she has made enquiries regarding holding a picnic in the park and the cost of hiring the bouncy castle is £450, the cost of hiring

the climbing wall is £450, the cost of hiring the band is £200. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

8.4 Heol Y Llwch, Betws.

Councillor Loreen Lewis reported that work will commence shortly on repairing the bridge at Heol y Llwch. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

9.1 Ammanford Rugby Club.

Councillor Betsan Jones informed the Councillors that Ammanford Rugby Club won the SWALEC Cup and she wanted the Community Council to write to congratulate them on their success. Councillor Annette Price stated that it would be nice to give them a keep sake from the Community Council and also to Shane Williams. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk contact the Clerk to Llandybie Community Council who can provide a name of a company that would be able to supply these.

9.2 Footpath 3/14 Leading from Waunddwfn to Wern Olau Road.

Councillor Arnallt James reported that the upper part of footpath 3/14 leading from Waunddwfn to Wern Olau Road is blocked. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Gary Carlsen of Carmarthenshire County Council.

9.3 Betws Community Council - Walking Programme.

Councillor Carwyn James proposed to start walking the footpaths within Betws. He proposed a walk on Wednesday the 20th of May 2009, starting at 6pm meeting outside Councillor Anne Sizmur's house. All the Councillors agreed.

9.4 Betws CP School.

Councillor Anthony Richards proposed that the Community Council sends a letter to congratulate Betws CP School on winning a Silver Eco Award. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk sends a letter to Betws CP School.