

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2010 01 January Minutes

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 20th January 2010 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Anne Sizmur (Vice Chairperson), Alderman Arnallt James, Cllrs. Loreen Lewis, June Gunter, Carwyn James, Richard Howell, Menna Roberts, Maldwyn John and Catherine Smith.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Betsan Jones and Annette Price.

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 9th DECEMBER 2009.

The Councillors had the following amendments to make:-

2.1 The Clerk to confirm contents of the letter received.

4.1 Planning reference needs to be included.

4.3 Planning Sub Committee now has 5 members – Councillors Anne Sizmur, Loreen Lewis, Catherine Smith, Menna Roberts and Arnallt James.

6 Councillors Annette Price and Loreen Lewis visited the Plaid office in Ammanford.

Councillor Carwyn James proposed and Councillor Catherine Smith seconded that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th December 2009 were confirmed and then signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Footpaths.

The Clerk confirmed that she has not received a response to date from Gary Carlsen. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter. The Councillors would like an up to date plan of the footpaths within the vicinity of Betws.

2.2 Treforis Playground.

The Clerk confirmed that she has not received a response to date from Clair Tinkler. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

2.3 Betws Colliery Project - Section 106 Money.

The Clerk confirmed that she has not received a copy of the Section 106 Agreement from the Legal Department of Carmarthenshire County Council. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

2.4 Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan.

Councillor Richard Howell confirmed that he has seen the above plan. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk make enquiries with Councillor Anthony Richards.

2.5 Betws Community Council - Dinner.

Councillor Anne Sizmur asked the Councillors whether they wanted to have a dinner.

Councillor Catherine Smith suggested having a dinner in March. Councillor Carwyn James proposed the Scotch Pine, Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed the White Heart and Councillor Catherine Smith proposed the Bridge in Llangennech. Clerk to obtain sample menus by next meeting.

2.6 Betws Community Council – Carol Singing.

Councillor Anne Sizmur updated the Councillors on the carol singing event which took place in December. Councillor Catherine Smith was disappointed as it was not advertised in the local paper. Councillor Anne Sizmur officially thanked Mrs John for playing the piano. Councillor Arnallt James confirmed that he wrote a report for Glo Man. Councillor Catherine Smith proposed that the Community Council considers holding a carol singing event again at the end of this year. The Councillors RESOLVED to put this on the agenda of the October meeting.

2.7 Y Betws ar Byd Sign.

The Clerk read a letter received from Carmarthenshire County Council concerning the above, who unfortunately can not comply with the request of the Community Council. Councillor Richard Howell proposed that a sign is placed in Betws Park. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk makes enquiries with Gerwyn Thomas.

2.8 Zebra Crossing for Foundry Road, Ammanford.

The Clerk read a letter received from Carmarthenshire County Council to the Councillors, regarding the above. Who confirmed that this will be investigated in due course. Councillor Loreen Lewis proposed that the Community Council asks for a school crossing patroller to be situated on Foundry Road. All the Councillors agreed. RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts Carmarthenshire County Council.

2.9 Community Council Benches.

Councillor Richard Howell asked for an update with regards to the 2 Community Council benches that were ordered some time ago with Carmarthenshire County Council (one for Colonel Road and one for Pentwyn Road). Councillor Carwyn James proposed that if there is no bench in Treforis could the Community Council purchase one. All the Councillors agreed. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk make enquiries with Carmarthenshire County Council.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

HOWLTA – handed to Councillor Carwyn James.

ABC Church – Clerk to arrange a presentation.

One Voice Wales Meeting 21/01/10 – Agenda handed to Councillor Anne Sizmur.

The Voice – handed to Councillors Catherine Smith and Menna Roberts.

WAG – Welsh Language Strategy – discussion taking place on the 1st of February – the Clerk to check whether Councillor Betsan Jones would like to attend.

One Voice Wales – Buckingham Palace Garden Party – The Clerk to check whether Councillor Betsan Jones would like to put her name forward.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

Councillor Anne Sizmur discussed the following planning applications received, in detail with the Councillors.

4.1 Betws Community Council offered no objections to the following planning applications:-
E/22135 – To retain development undertaken in non compliance at plot 10 Woodlands Park, Betws (20/2009-10).

E/22169 – Renovation of former dwelling at Bodist Uchaf, Wernolau Road, Betws (21/2009-10).

4.2 Carmarthenshire County Council has granted planning permission to the following planning application:-

E/21923 – Construction of 2 bungalows at Parc Bwtrimawr, Betws (18-2009/10).

5. ACCOUNTS.

5.1 Payment of Invoices.

1. Chair Allowance (final instalment) £100.00
2. Capel Newydd (Maintenance of lights) £25.00
3. Councillor Anne Sizmur (Carol singing) £36.00
4. One Voice Wales (Training Course) £25.00

Total £186.00

The Councillors RESOLVED that the above be paid.

5.2 Income Received.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council (3rd Precept Instalment) £4,666.67

Councillor Loreen Lewis asked the Councillors whether they have seen the lights on the tree in Eglwys Dewi Sant. All the Councillors agreed that they had not seen the lights on the tree over the Christmas period on Eglwys Dewi Sant. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk checks previous correspondence. Councillor Maldwyn John proposed that the seasonal lights for Capel Newydd & Eglwys Dewi Sant should be placed on the agenda of the October Meeting. All the Councillors agreed.

5.3 Betws Community Council Precept 2010/11.

A copy of the annual expenditure and the estimates for 2010/11 had been sent to all the Councillors prior to the meeting. All the items listed were discussed in detail and all the figures were agreed. Following a short discussion Councillor Richard Howell proposed and Councillor Catherine Smith seconded that the Community Council requests a precept of £15,500 from Carmarthenshire County Council for 2010/11. All the Councillors agreed. RESOLVED that the Clerk requests the above figure from Carmarthenshire County Council.

Councillor June Gunter proposed and Councillor Menna Roberts seconded that the Community Council looks into purchasing plaques to place on the Community Council benches. RESOLVED that the Clerk make enquiries with Gerwyn Thomas.

6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones attended the meeting on behalf of Dyfed Powys Police. He reported that there were 9 crimes committed within the Betws area during November, these have all been detected. He also reported that there were 8 crimes committed within the Betws area during December, 50% of these crimes have been detected.

Councillor Arnallt James informed PC Kevin Jones that vehicles are continually speeding along Maesquarre Road. PC Kevin Jones noted the above point.

Councillor June Gunter wanted to inform the Councillors that PC Kevin Jones is extremely good at dealing with youngsters and he is very good at his job. All the Councillors agreed.

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. The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has not received a response from the County Councillor to date. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

8. REPORTS.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors that Betws Primary School have confirmed that they hope to increase their pupil numbers by 9 pupils for the next academic year.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

9.1 Parc Penrhiw.

Councillor Catherine Smith was concerned with regards to a tenant that has been arrested and charged for possessing drugs at a property at Parc Penrhiw. The Councillors discussed this matter in detail and RESOLVED that the Clerk looks at previous correspondence received some time ago from Gwalia Housing Association.

9.2 Mynydd y Gwair Wind Turbine Planning Application.

Councillor Loreen Lewis informed the Councillors that Swansea City Council are discussing the Wind Turbine Planning Application on Mynydd y Gwair. The Councillors RESOLVED that they wanted the Clerk to write a letter to Swansea City Council stating that they object to this planning application.

Meeting Ended 8.45pm