

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2010 11 November Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Betws Community Council held on Wednesday 10th November 2010

PRESENT: Cllrs. Anne Sizmur (Chair), Carwyn James, Alderman Arnallt James, Annette Price, Menna Roberts, Loreen Lewis, Catherine Smith, Maldwyn John, Betsan Jones

APOLGIES:

Cllrs. June Gunter, Richard Howell, councillors agreed to accept apologies

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no pecuniary or non pecuniary declaration of interest.

I.AMENDMENTS

Agenda item 1 Paragraph 2 - Cllr. Annette Price asked how many of the reported crimes were linked to one person.

Agenda item 6(d) - should read Parc Nantmelyn

Cllr. Loreen Lewis proposed and Cllr. Annette Price seconded - councillors agreed minutes were a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairperson.

2. DYFED POWYS POLICE

P.e. Kevin Jones gave his apologies.

Cllr. Annette Price advised the meeting that two suspects lit a fire in the pump house in Betws Park which damaged two benches. Cllr Annette Price flagged down a passing police car to advise them that the suspects were still there. However, she was concerned that the police were unable to go after the two suspects, who eventually fled. This concern was raised at a recent PACT meeting.

Councillors were concerned with the dangerous state of the pump house which is attracting vandals. Also they were concerned with the removal of the ornamental art deco lights at the entrance to the Park on Pentwyn Rad.

The pump house will be placed on next month's agenda and Carmarthenshire County Council made aware of the removal of the lights.

3. Councillor Annette Price has contacted Mr. Howells of Carmarthenshire County Council concerning the placing of three benches in the village. Apparently the delay in placing the benches was due to communication problems with our clerk. Two benches were in stock and councillors agreed to place one in Treforis and the other in Heol y Felin. A third will be ordered and placed on Pentwyn Road - councillors agreed.

4. County Councillor Audrey Jones has asked the chair whether the council wishes Mr. Mark James, Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council to attend our council meeting. Councillors queried in which of his roles would he be attending and deferred the decision until the New Year. In the meantime the Chair (acting clerk) would seek more information

5. MATTERS ARISING:

A letter of thanks was sent to Catherine Brettle for her work as clerk to the council.

Agenda 1. Parking in Betws Road, Park Street and Colonel Road still a problem. Cllr. Anne Sizmur to write to Mr. McAvoy of Carmarthenshire County Council advising him of our concerns and requesting the results of the resent survey which has been completed.

Agenda 3(a) Bridge leading to Waunherod has been repaired by T.R.Jones Ltd., Chair to write a letter of thanks to the Company.

Agenda 5 . Letter of support to be sent to Becky Cole at Play Right Scheme.

Agenda 9 Carol Singing will be held at Betws School starting at 6.00 pm. On 20th December. Councillors appreciate the help of Mrs. John.

Agenda 10 Still awaiting delivery of tree- seasonal lights on hold this year, will try and make progress next year.

The vicar is happy for seasonal lights to be lit on tree in Betws churchyard. Councillor Annette Price to ask Mr. Betton if he would be prepared to check the lights.

Agenda 11 Two poppy wreaths have been obtained and a brief service will be held at 11.00 a.m. in Betws Park on the 11th of November 2010. Chair to attend the Sunday service.

Agenda 1S(b) Chair sent a letter to Junior section of Soccer Club who have replied stating that the Senior section were responsible for the clubhouse and have passed the letter on. Councillors were fully supportive of the running of the Junior Soccer. However, they were concerned that unsupervised children are entering the clubhouse which is a potential Health and Safety issue. A reply from Ammanford AFC Senior section is expected.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Carmarthenshire County Council- naming 78 Maesquar~ Road - noted

(b) Society of Council Clerks - training sessions - noted

(c) Air Ambulance annual report - noted

(d) Dyfed Powys Police meeting - noted

(e) Menter Cwm Gwendraeth AGM - noted

(f) Ammanford Evangelical Church event - noted

(g) Carmarthenshire County Council- questionnaire on Social Justice which councillors completed.

(h) Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan available for inspection in Council offices, and libraries

(i) Advice received on seasonal decorations on highways - noted

(j) Letter received from Centregreat Ltd., advising festive lighting maintenance - noted

(k) Fire Service Annual Report - The Chair gave a verbal report. Councillors agreed he should write to the Authority thanking them for their work

7. LLOYDS TSB - BANK MANDATE

The Chair announced to the meeting that the Bank has yet again failed to update their signatory records. Three new signatories have attended the Bank on a number of occasions over the last two years. However due to the incompetence of the Bank they failed to update their records. The Chair to liaise with Councillor Richard Howell, Councillor Betsan Jones and Councillor Loreen Lewis to sign the new mandate and provide means of identification. Letter of complaint to be sent to the Bank

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No applications received.

9. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

(a) Fitzpatrick Woolmer - purchase of sign "Y BYD - BETWS" £410.08 Councillors agreed to pay.

(b) Catherine Brettle - Clerk's salary to date of resignation £161.82, Tax £27.83

(c) Councillors agreed to give a donation of £50.00 to the poppy appeal of the Royal British Legion.

10 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Confirmation received from Carmarthenshire County Council that the Council can now go ahead and co-opt a new councillor. Notices to be placed around the village concerning the vacancy and Council will co-opt in the December meeting.

11. CLERK VACANCY

The Chair has received seven enquiries so far and three CV's. Deadline for receipt of CV 12/11/10. Council will hold a special short listing meeting on Wednesday 17/11/10 at 7.00 p.m. Councillors asked to bring set questions. Arrangement for interviewing will be decided for consideration.

12. AUDIT OF COUNCIL ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED MARCH 2010

Council's external auditor B.D.O. have confirmed the accounts are accurate and will issue a certificate and report. Councillors approved the Annual Return. The form will be forwarded to B.D.O.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Councillor Catherine Smith has written a community newsletter for distribution in the village. Councillors discussed the newsletter and made minor amendments. Councillors Betsan Jones, Loreen Lewis and Menna Roberts agreed to translate into Welsh. Councillor Annette Price kindly agreed to get quotes from the printers.

(b) Footpath 3/14 Councillor Arnallt James stated that the footpath is blocked. Council agreed to await formal planning application from County Council concerning the diversion

(c) The chair thanked Councillor Menna Roberts for typing the minutes and for Councillor Loreen Lewis for dealing with the e-mails. Councillor Arnallt James was thanked for planting daffodils in the troughs.