

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2010 09 September Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 8th September 2010 at 7.05 pm.

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

TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Catherine Smith and Menna Roberts and also PC Kevin Jones.

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS. Councillors Arnallt James declared an interest in Planning Application No. E/23344.

1. TO READ AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 14th JULY 2010.

Amendments:-

2.6 – If no response is received within a week this matter needs to be referred to the Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council.

2.10 – the hole is in the land the trough is sitting on and not the trough itself.

It was proposed by Councillor June Gunter and seconded by Councillor Loreen Lewis and RESOLVED that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 14th July 2010 were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chairperson.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

2.1 Councillor Anthony Richards.

The Clerk updated the Councillors on the advice she has received from One Voice Wales regarding Councillor Anthony Richards, who has missed in excess of 6 consecutive Community Council Meetings and have not provided a statutory excuse or reason approved by this Council. She has written to Councillor Anthony Richards on a number of occasions and has tried to contact him via the telephone and unfortunately she has been unsuccessful in obtaining a response. Under the Local Government Act of 1972, Section 85 the Community Council has no alternative but to declare a casual vacancy and Councillor Anthony Richards is now disqualified from holding office. Councillor Carwyn James proposed and Councillor Richard Howell seconded and all the Councillors agreed to the above. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk writes a letter to Councillor Anthony Richards and also informs Carmarthenshire County Council of the above.

2.2 Footpaths.

Councillor Arnallt James asked the Councillors for their view relating to footpath 3/14a. Councillor Arnallt James proposed and Councillor Maldwyn John seconded to keep the footpath open. A vote was undertaken and 7 Councillors agreed with the proposal and 2 abstained. The Councillors RESOLVED that a letter is sent to Gary Carlsen to inform him after his meeting the Community Council have had a formal discussion and they are not happy about closing the footpath, could he further explore the possibility of keeping the footpath open.

2.3 Parks and Playgrounds.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that Amanda Roberts from Gwalia Housing Association will be attending the Projects Sub Committee Meeting which is being held on Wednesday the 15th of September to discuss grants for Treforis Playground. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

The Clerk also informed the Councillors that Eammon Davies is on leave until the 10th of September, she will follow up the matter regarding replacing the rocking horse carcass at Heol y Felin Playground. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

2.4 Community Council Benches.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has not received a response from Gareth Howells, regarding her request to have a site meeting with Councillor Annette Price. Councillor Carwyn James proposed and all the Councillors agreed that if a response is not received within a week then this matter is referred to the Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk pursues this matter.

2.5 Meeting with Chris Burns, Assistant Chief Executive of Carmarthenshire County Council. The Chair, Councillor Anne Sizmur reiterated that she would like to meet with Chris Burns as correspondence is slow coming from Carmarthenshire County Council. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk arranges a meeting with Chris Burns.

2.6 Betws Park.

The Clerk read an email received regarding solar lighting for the memorial stone. Councillor Maldwyn John proposed to put this on hold for this year. No seconder was forthcoming.

The Clerk also read an email to the Councillors regarding the Christmas Tree Feeder Pillar. Councillor Betsan Jones proposed to purchase the tree for this year and also lights for the tree and considers lights for the memorial stone next year. Councillor Annette Price seconded this motion. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk informs Gerwyn Thomas.

2.7 Authorised Signatories.

The Councillors informed the Clerk that they have been into Lloyds TSB and provided their specimen signatures. Councillor Richard Howell handed the completed form to the Clerk. The Clerk RESOLVED that the Clerk takes this into Lloyds TSB and obtains a receipt.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has spoken with Lloyds regarding the lack of interest the Community Council are receiving unfortunately they do not have any other suitable accounts. The Councillors NOTED the above point.

3. CORRESPONDENCE.

3.1 Carmarthenshire County Council – Planning Seminar.

The Councillors RESOLVED that Councillors Anne Sizmur, Annette Price and Loreen Lewis will attend the planning seminar on the 1st of October 2010.

3.2 Carmarthenshire County Council – Meryl Gravelle.

The Clerk inform the Councillors that she has received a letter asking whether the Community Council would like to take over the responsibility of running the parks within Betws. The Councillors RESOLVED that the Clerk replies to the letter informing Carmarthenshire County Council that the Community Council does not have the resources to maintain the parks.

3.3 Welsh Assembly Government – Measures.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the Councillors of the advice she has received from One Voice Wales regarding the above. One Voice Wales confirmed that they will respond on

behalf of the Community Councils. The Councillors were concerned regarding finance. Councillor June Gunter thanked Councillor Anne Sizmur for the work she has undertaken regarding this matter.

3.4 The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents noted.

- Carmarthenshire County Council – Licensing Action 2003.
- Carmarthenshire County Council – Physical Activity and Active Recreation – handed to the Councillors.
- Dyfed Powys Police Authority – Audit of Accounts 31/03/10.
- The Voice – handed to Councillor Anne Sizmur.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

4.1 Betws Community Council offered no objections to the following planning applications:-

E/23345 – Single storey kitchen extension at 22 Heol Y Felin, Betws (07/2010-11).

E/23344 – Single storey kitchen and living room extension at 16a Colonel Road, Betws (06/2010-11).

E/23281 – Demolish existing dwelling and construction of new placement dwelling at Groeslwyd, Argoed Road, Betws (05/2010-11).

E/23504 – Proposed Garage/Workshop to rear garden at Pencoed Villa, Maesquarre Road, Betws (08/2010-11) – no objections to garage, what sort of work do they intend to carry out in the work shop?

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

E/23059 – Barn conversion to holiday let unit at Llwynronnen, Betws (04/2010-11).

5. ACCOUNTS.

5.1 Payment of Invoices.

August

1. Zurich Municipal (Community Council Insurance) £414.79

September

2. Donation – Eglwys Dewi Sant Cemetery £150.00

3. Donation – Capel Newydd Cemetery £150.00

4. Betws In Bloom – Betws CP School £50.00

5. Betws In Bloom – Best Garden £15.00

6. Betws In Bloom – Small Garden £10.00

7. Betws In Bloom – Medium Garden £10.00

8. Betws In Bloom – Large Garden £10.00

9. Betws In Bloom – Planters £10.00

10. Clerks Salary and Allowance £980.22

11. Clerks Income Tax £195.34

12. Councillor Loreen Lewis (Expenses) £58.80

The Councillors RESOLVED that the above be paid.

5.2 Income Received.

1. Carmarthenshire County Council (Precept) £5166.67

2. Cheque returned from One Voices Wales as training was fully booked £25.00

6. DYFED POWYS POLICE REPORT.

PC Kevin Jones was not present at the meeting.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

County Councillor Audrey Jones attended the meeting of Betws Community Council. She provided a written report to the Councillors.

Councillor Carwyn James asked County Councillor Audrey Jones regarding the possibility of having a footpath from Parc Penrhiw to Treforis. Carmarthenshire County Council would not consider it as the farmer will not donate the land.

Councillor Loreen Lewis asked County Councillor Audrey Jones regarding the gate to the park from Pentwyn Road. She advised that she had spoken to Carmarthenshire County Council and they have repaired and reopened the gate.

The Chair thanked County Councillor Audrey Jones for attending the meeting.

8. REPORTS.

8.1 Betws In Bloom.

Councillor Loreen Lewis informed the Councillors that the Betws In Bloom presentation evening was held last night. Councillor Annette Price thanked Councillors Loreen Lewis and Anne Sizmur for the work they have undertaken relating to Betws In Bloom.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

9.1 Betws Park

Councillor Annette Price informed the Councillors that the pump house in Betws Park is being wrongly used by Children and Youths. Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed that the Clerk writes to Carmarthenshire County Council to ask what the cost of demolishing the pump house would be. Councillor Annette Price proposed that the Clerk asks Mario Cresci for a site meeting of Betws Park. All the Councillors agreed.