

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2011 04 April Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 13th April 2011 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Anne Sizmur (Chairperson), Cllrs. Loreen Lewis, June Gunter, Carwyn James, Menna Roberts, Annette Price, Richard Howell, Betsan Jones, Maldwyn John, Horace Tout.

1. APOLOGIES Alderman Arnallt James, Councillor Cath Smith, PC Kevin Jones and County Councillor Audrey Jones.

2. DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None

3. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th MARCH 2011

Amendment to Item 6.

Should read "attended as an observer two County Council meetings where Care Homes and Council Tax were discussed"

Amendment to Item 11.4

Should read "Community Council"

Councillor Maldwyn John proposed and Councillor June Gunter seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th March 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

4. DYFED POWYS POLICE

PC Kevin Jones had sent his apologies and had asked Councillor Annette Price to report any pressing issues back to him.

Councillor Price reported an incident which occurred outside her house and involved her car, and where approximately £500 worth of damage was caused.

She also reported another incident where a tractor shed its load, and the council workmen were called to clear the road.

Councillor Price asked if a letter of thanks could be sent to the council workmen involved in particular Carwyn Jones and Simon Pugh.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to the Street Scene Department.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Audrey Jones sent a written report which read as follows:-

A rubbish "Amnesty Day" was arranged for residents of Parc Penrhiw and a second "Amnesty Day" for Treforis. Both events proved to be very successful.

The 127 bus service through the village has been taken over by First Cymru.

A new "Local Letting Policy" is being introduced hopefully in the Summer of 2011, and Treforis estate is on included in the scheme.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 BENCHES/FINGER POST/PUMP HOUSE

Although the Christmas Tree had been planted, the Clerk reported that despite writing to senior Officers in the County, the benches etc. had still not been installed.

Following a long discussion it was decided that we write to County Councillor Audrey Jones, and ask if she could help in this matter.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to Audrey Jones.

6.2 PLAQUES

The "Crydd yr Aman" shop was temporarily closed, and ordering the new plaques was not possible.

RESOLVED we try again when the shop re-opens.

6.3 RAILWAY BARRIERS

The Clerk read out a reply received from Network Rail regarding the barriers in Ammanford. The problems arise when Network Rail officers, are unable to get to Ammanford to re-open the barriers, due to the huge area they cover.

Following a long discussion it was suggested that we ask Network Rail about the possibility of re-opening the barriers at the bottom of Quay Street.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to Network Rail.

6.4 TREE/SHRUB PLANTING AT REAR OF PARC BWTRIMAWR

The Clerk read out a reply from the County's Planning Department, which explained why planting at this location is not possible.

The above was NOTED

6.5 SERVICE 127. GARNSWLLT-BETWS

This matter has been resolved. Veolia no longer run the service, but it has been taken over by First Cymru.

The above was NOTED.

6.6 TELEGRAPH POLES.

The Clerk read out a response from Western Power regarding the condition of telegraph poles in the area. Western Power inspect all poles regularly and at the moment two poles are due to be removed, and the post outside number 46, Betws Road will be straightened. New poles are also due to be installed in Caemawr.

The above was NOTED

6.7 FOUNDRY ROAD ROUNDABOUT/POTHOLES

The Clerk read out a letter from Mr Mario Cresci, which explained why there were problems whilst work was carried out at the roundabout. He also mentioned that potholes on the Mountain Road have been filled temporarily, until resources are available to carry out a permanent repair.

The above was NOTED

6.8 LLANGOLLEN EISTEDDFOD

Two complimentary tickets have been received. A decision on who gets the tickets will be made at next month's meeting.

6.9 GLO MAN

The Clerk stated that no reply had been received from GLO MAN.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to ask for a reply.

6.10 BETWS COLLIERY SITE

The Clerk had been in touch with Mr Keith James, Senior Minerals and Waste Monitoring Officer, who in turn visited the site with regards to our concerns. He came back stating that the excess soil was earmarked for a noise attenuation bund, which received planning permission in February 2010. He therefore found no breach of planning.

The above was NOTED.

6.11 BANK COMPENSATION

The Clerk reported that Lloyds Bank had now credited our account with £100.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents NOTED.

1. Yr Ardd (passed to Menna)
2. One Voice Wales--Courses
3. Carmarthen Journal Community Awards
4. Welsh Fire/Rescue Equality and Diversity Strategy
5. One Voice Wales—Conference and AGM
6. CCC—Barn Owl Survey
7. Carmarthenshire Young Farmers Rally Tickets (passed to Annette)
8. CCC—Invasive Weeds Project (passed to Richard)
9. One Voice Wales—Area Committee Meeting

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

NONE

9. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

1. HOWLTA (2011 Membership) £ 10.00
2. One Voice Wales(2011 Membership) £220.00
3. Carmarthenshire Tourist Association(2011 Membership) £ 61.80
4. Autograffeg (Design) £ 48.00
5. Autograffeg (Print) £ 67.50
6. CCC—Footway Lighting £299.07
7. Morgan & Morgan £ 40.13

£746.50

RESOLVED that the above be paid

10 REPORTS

10.1 PACT

Councillor Anne Sizmur gave a brief report, and one of the main concerns was dog fouling, which seems to be a problem in all areas. PC Kevin Jones asked anyone who sees an owner allowing a dog to foul a public place to call the Police.
Councillor Annette Price stated that Betws Park was a problem area in our community.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs the Dog Warden

10.2 AMMAN VALLEY GROUP

Councillor Anne Sizmur reported that the next meeting and AGM will take place on 27th May 2011 at Ammanford Town Hall. Hopefully a Guest Speaker dealing with Grants will be in attendance.

11 BETWS IN BLOOM

Agreed to stage the event again this year, and Councillor Cath Smith will place advance notices in the Guardian.

12 COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

The newsletter has been delivered to nearly all properties in the village, and the general response has been good. Councillor Betsan Jones pointed out there were a few errors in the

Welsh version, and maybe more checking is needed in the next edition.
It was agreed to produce an annual newsletter at about March/April of each year, which will catalogue the Councils achievements during its term of office.

Councillor Annette Price suggested a letter of thanks be sent to AUTOGRAFFEG, for the excellent newsletter they produced.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes a letter of thanks.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 BLACK BAGS

Councillor Anne Sizmur had been asked by members of Quarter Bach Community Council of our opinion about the County's decision to stop supplying black waste bags.

Following a long discussion it was decided that as a council we object in principle, but do not have any strong feelings about the matter.

13.2 MINUTES TO LIBRARY

The Clerk reported that he was unaware that a copy of the minutes had to be sent to Ammanford Library. He also stated that the library manager had not noticed that the minutes were no longer being sent, and that he did not remember seeing anyone reading them.

RESOLVED that minutes would no longer be sent to Ammanford Library.

13.3 ROYAL WEDDING MUGS

Councillor Annette Price asked if the Community Council should purchase a souvenier mug for the children of Betws Primary School?

All agreed this would be a good idea, and Councillor Anne Sizmur said she would speak to the Head Teacher, and arrange the purchase.

13.4 FOOTPATH 3/14

Councillor Carwyn James asked if the Clerk could find out from Gary Carlsen, when footpath 3/14 was due to be completed.

RESOLVED the Clerk speaks to Gary Carlsen.

13.5 TREFORIS FAMILY CENTRE

Councillors Annette Price and Loreen Lewis expressed their concerns about the lack of interest and enthusiasm being shown by the committee members of the Family Centre.

The Chairperson suggested we take time to think about the situation, and discuss again at next month's meeting.

13.6 TREFORIS ESTATE

Councillor Annette Price pointed out that a resident in Treforis was in breach of his tenancy agreement.

RESOLVED Councillor Anne Sizmur passes the information on to Melanie Torrence
(Housing Officer)

13.7 HORSE AT REAR OF PROPERTY IN PENTWYN ROAD.

Councillor Betsan Jones expressed her concern about a horse that is being kept in a neglected condition at the rear of a property in Pentwyn Road. She has approached the owner of the property, but nothing has been done to improve the situation.

RESOLVED that Councillor Annette Price passes the information on to PC Kevin Jones.