

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2011 07 July Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

1. APOLOGIES County Councillor Audrey Jones, and Councillor Richard Howell

2. DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None

3. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th JUNE 2011

Item 11.4 - amend to read " we are advised it has now been registered and purchased by a local building firm"

Councillor Annette Price proposed and Councillor Loreen Lewis seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th June 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

4. DYFED POWYS POLICE

PC Kevin Jones reported 3 crimes committed in Betws in June, made up of 2 thefts and 1 taking of vehicle. 2 have been detected which gives a 66.6% detection rate.

There followed a general discussion where items discussed included the traffic lights in Ammanford, Lorries going to Llandeilo Builders, and problems with youths lighting fires, camping and drinking in Betws Park. PC Jones stated that a task force will be patrolling all parks over the next few weekends.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillors were handed a written report from County Councillor Jones. There were no points to discuss and the contents were therefore NOTED.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 ARCHWAY IN BETWS PARK

Councillor Annette Price expressed concern about the condition of the Archway, which is now covered in graffiti. The Clerk stated that the repair to the roof will cost approximately £5000, and the Local Authority were looking for a cheaper solution.

RESOLVED we wait until a report is received from Gerwyn Thomas.

6.2 FINGER POST AND WASTE BINS

The Clerk read out a reply from Mr Cresci regarding the finger post and waste bins.

The points were NOTED.

6.3 PLAQUES

Councillor Anne Sizmur had arranged the purchase and collection of the plaques, and Councillor Cath Smith volunteered her husband to do the fitting. The Chairman thanked Councillor Sizmur for her work.

6.4 MAESQUARRE BRIDGE

Councillor Anne Sizmur wished to point out that the works would last 16 weeks and not 12 as originally reported.

6.5 SIGNS IN BETWS PARK

The Clerk reported that Mr Gareth Howells will order new signage and will install as soon as they are available.

The above point was NOTED.

6.6 SECTION 106 FUNDS

The Clerk read out a reply from Mr Graham Noakes regarding the Section 106 fund from the Betws Mine Development.

The contents were NOTED.

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the members there was a minor dispute between T.Richard Jones and the County Council about unresolved issues at the park.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to both parties asking when the issues are due to be resolved, and the park adopted by the County

6.7 BETWS BRIDGE

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the PACT meeting about the problems with youngsters playing on Betws Bridge. The officers present emphasised that people need to call the police whenever they see this happen again.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents NOTED.

- 1 CCC – Housing Scrutiny Committee – passed to Carwyn
- 2 One Voice Wales - Area Committee
- 3 One Voice – The Voice
- 4 Welsh Assembly – Domestic Abuse – passed to Annette
- 5 CCC – Maesquarre Road Bridge
- 6 CCC – Deposit Local Development Plan

- 7 Ombudsman – Annual Report
- 8 CCC – Deposit LDP-Exhibition
- 9 Mynydd y Betws Windfarm Roadshow
- 10 CCC – Deposit LDP – Maps
- 11 Dyfed Powys Police Authority – Audit of Accounts
- 12 CCC – Ammanford Distributor Road (from Anne)

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

NEW APPLICATIONS

E/24979 Conservatory at Pleasant View, Betws

The Planning sub-committee discussed the above application, and whilst there were minor observations there were NO OBJECTIONS.

E/25047 Residential Development, plus retention of car park, at land opposite Plough and Harrow, Public House.

This application was discussed by the full council, and it was decided to OBJECT on the following grounds.

The plot in question is subject to flooding.
The plot is not included on the Deposit Local Development Plan.
The plot is on a bend and close to a bus stop.

E/25048 Erection of Temporary Wind Measuring Masts, at Mynydd y Betws.

This application was deferred until a more detailed plan is available.

APPLICATIONS GRANTED

E/24673 Allow substitution of house types at plots 164 & 165, Land at Betws Colliery site, Betws.

E/24741 Single storey extension/conservatory at 31, Pentwyn Road, Betws.

9. ACCOUNTS

- 1 Betsan Jones (Flowers) £15.00
- 2 Morgan & Morgan £68.90
- 3 CCC – Footway Lighting £316.49
- 4 Plaques – Chris y Crydd £120.00
- 5 Capel Newydd Meetings £130.00
- 6 Marie Curie Cancer Care – Donation £100.00
- 7 Amber Rebecca Howell – Donation £150.00
- 8 Zurich Insurance £330.60

RESOLVED that the above be paid.

ANNUAL INSURANCE

The Clerk informed the meeting of the renewal costs from the two quotations received, with Zurich being the most favourable. The Clerk also asked if he could enquire if the renewal

date could be changed so that it does not fall in August when there is no meeting.

RESOLVED that the Clerk is authorised to pay the renewal fee to Zurich, and also make enquiries regarding a different renewal date.

10. REPORTS.

ONE VOICE WALES

Councillor Carwyn James gave a brief report about the AGM he attended. Some of the discussion points were a new protocol between the County and Community Councils, and the Local Development Plan.

PACT

Councillors Anne Sizmur and Catherine Smith attended the recent PACT meeting, where the main topic of discussion was antisocial behaviour.

BETWS IN BLOOM

Councillor Loreen Lewis informed the meeting that judging will be taking place on Thursday 14th July 2011.

BETWS FAMILY CENTRE

Councillors Annette Price and Loreen Lewis again had concerns about happenings at the centre. They described the recent AGM as a shambles, with poor leadership and organisation.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to "Plant Dewi"

CAB

Councillor Annette Price gave a brief report about the latest developments regarding securing the building in Iscennen Road.

FORWARD PLANNING MEETING – AMMANFORD REGENERATION

Alderman Arnallt James and Councillor Annette Price gave a report about the proposals for transport, parking, landscaping and pedestrianising areas of Ammanford near to the OAP Hall. Following a long discussion it was agreed to write to the Forward Planning Team, and the Chief Executive regarding certain aspects of the proposals, and the fact that representatives of Betws Community Council are never invited to discussions about projects which are close to our boundary.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to the appropriate bodies.

11. END OF CLERK'S PROBATIONARY PERIOD

The Clerk was asked to leave the meeting whilst his probationary period was discussed. On his return he was informed that the Council were very pleased with his work, and that a contract of employment can now be signed.

12. DEPOSIT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

There followed a long discussion about the future plans for Betws, according to the Local Development Plan. Whilst there were no new developments to discuss, members felt it would be beneficial to write to the Planning Authority, outlining our concerns about issues at the Betws Mine Site. These included the problems with the infra structure, drainage and recycling.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to the Planning Department.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 MYNYDD Y BETWS WIND FARM

Councillor Anne Sizmur raised the question about the preferred route for construction lorries following a letter about the subject published in this week's Guardian.

RESOLVED the Clerk e-mails Mr Fellows and asks about the route, and to emphasise that travelling through Betws would be unacceptable.

On the same subject Councillor Annette Price had concerns about rumours she had heard that a group for distributing funds, had already been set up. Following a long discussion it was agreed the easiest way to get answers to this and many other questions was to attend the "road show" at Betws RFC, and ask the questions directly.

13.2 MAESQUARRE PLAYGROUND

Councillor Anne Sizmur had been approached by residents complaining about the parking problem outside the park, with cars being parked on the pavement and blocking access in to the park.

RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to the Highways Department.

13.3 COLONEL ROAD

Councillor Annette Price stated the road works had been completed nearly a week ago, and still no road markings had been laid.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to the appropriate authority.