

# BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Title: 2011 11 November Minutes**

### BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 9th November 2011 at 7.00 pm.

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

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1. APOLOGIES Councillor June Gunter and PC Kevin Jones.

### 2. DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None

### 3. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th OCTOBER 2011

Item 6 – Page 2. Add “and religious sites” after the word “archaeological.”

Councillor Anne Sizmur proposed and Councillor Loreen Lewis seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 12th October 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

### 4. DYFED POWYS POLICE

.PC Kevin Jones was not present.

### 5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Audrey Jones gave members a leaflet listing matters which are ongoing, including the steps in Betws Park, the archway, resurfacing of Pentwyn Road, and Maesquarre Road bridge.

Councillor Annette Price asked when work on the steps will commence ? County Councillor Jones stated the work will start soon, and will cost approximately £1500.

County Councillor Jones also brought to the councils attention, a complaint received from certain residents of Parc Bwtrimawr, regarding the bright lights and noise coming from the Tesco stores opposite their properties. County Councillor Jones explained that she had already met the manager at Tesco, and she was also due to meet officers from the County's Public Protection Department.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes a letter to the County Councillor, expressing our support for her efforts on this matter.

Alderman Arnallt James informed the meeting that two mature oak trees had been felled in Maesquarre Road. Following a short discussion the Clerk was asked to contact the Tree Officer for his views on this matter together with other trees in the village.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to the Tree Officer

## 6. MATTERS ARISING

### 6.1 RELIGIOUS SITES ON MYNYDD Y BETWS

Councillor Cath Smith explained that her mother in law knew of many sites on the mountain, and that there were many reference books available on the subject.

There followed a short general discussion about the turbines, where a question as to what powers the turbines was asked.

RESOLVED the questions are asked when we next meet Cambrian Renewable Energy.

### 6.2 ARCHWAY IN BETWS PARK

County Councillor Audrey Jones explained in her report that the roof of the Archway will be repaired at the end of the financial year if the resources are available.

The above point was NOTED.

### 6.3 SECTION 106 FUNDS – MAESQUARRE PARK

The County Councillor was now involved with this dispute, and there was nothing to report at this time.

RESOLVED the Clerk pursues the matter with the County Councillor.

### 6.4 QUAY STREET RAILWAY CROSSING

The Clerk reported that he had received no replies from both Network Rail and the County Council. Councillor Anne Sizmur also stated that Trevor Workman had also declined the invitation to meet the Amman Valley Group of Councils.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to Chris Burns, to complain about the County's lack of response, and also to try and find out if there was a complaints line for Network Rail.

### 6.5 PARKING OUTSIDE MAESQUARRE PLAYGROUND

The Clerk stated Mr John McEvoy had suggested that erecting bollards would alleviate the problem of pavement parking at this location. Members did not agree with this suggestion, stating that parents would then park fully on the road, which would then cause more congestion. Following a short discussion it was suggested that "zig-zag lines" on the road might be a solution.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to Mr McEvoy with this proposal.

### 6.6 FOOTPATHS

Alderman Arnallt James asked if a site meeting could be arranged with Mathew Palmer the footpaths officer, to discuss various issues.

RESOLVED the Clerk asks Mathew Palmer to meet Alderman James.

### 6.7 POTHoles NEAR SCOTCH PINE

The Clerk reported that the potholes had been dealt with. However Councillors stated that

there were still a few more needing attention, and also there was a hole outside Garthowen, Maesquarre Road.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs the Highways Department.

#### 6.8 AIRSHAFT AT MAESQUARRE HALL

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed the meeting that inspectors from the Coal Authority had visited many airshafts in the area, and a letter giving their findings will be sent out soon.

The above point was NOTED.

#### 6.9 SPORTS PERSONALITY AWARDS

The Clerk distributed three nomination forms to be completed.

#### 6.10 JAPANESE KNOTWEED

The Clerk informed the members that he had reported the problem to the appropriate body, and that they would spray when necessary.

The above point was NOTED.

### 7. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents NOTED.

#### 1 One Voice Wales - Big Lottery Fund

Councillor Annette Price asked if the Community Council was going to move ahead with the Treforis Park project ? Following a short discussion it was decided that the project sub-committee, meet Melanie Torrence to move the project forward.

RESOLVED the Clerk asks Melanie Torrence to liaise with Councillor Price, and the project sub-committee.

#### 2 One Voice Wales - Septic Tanks

#### 3 CCC - Maesquarre Bridge

#### 4 CCC – Joint Working

#### 5 HOWLTA - Newsletter

#### 6 Carmarthenshire Joint Community Consultative meeting 2011.

#### 7 Age Concern - AGM

### 8. PLANNING MATTERS.

#### 1. E/25557 – Development of 6 dwellings, Colonel Road, Betws. Mr W V Davies.

The Planning sub-committee recommended that members REFUSE permission for this application, on the following grounds.

Land is not on proposed UDP, but is on the current one which is due to be replaced.

Problems with sewerage, drainage and surface water.

Two public footpaths will be affected

Increase in traffic on a bend and a brow of a hill.

Permission already granted to development opposite which will double highway concerns.

Poor visual appearance.  
Underground mine corridors are present.

Following discussion it was agreed to REFUSE the application.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs the Planning Department.

## 9. ACCOUNTS

The Clerk informed members that the External Audit opinion and approval has been given, and that a "Notice of Conclusion of Audit" will be displayed on the notice board for the next 14 days.

1 BDO – External Audit £162.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid

## 10. REPORTS.

### CARMARTHENSHIRE AREA COMMITTEE

Councillor Carwyn James gave a detailed report of the recent meeting he had attended, where points discussed included an Integrated Community Strategy, Recruitment, One Voice Conference and Training.

### AMMANFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Councillor Betsan Jones reported that she had attended the AGM of the Twinning Association, in which it was reported that visitors from France will be arriving in May 2012.

### PACT

Councillors Cath Smith and Anne Sizmur had attended the monthly meeting, where the subjects discussed included police activities during Halloween and Bonfire night, the problem with the lights from Tesco, and the forthcoming Taste of Culture Event, which will be held on Sunday 20th November 2011.

## 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### 11.1 DAFFODILS

Alderman Arnallt James informed members that the surplus daffodils have been planted in Betws School.

### 11.2 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Councillor Anne Sizmur reminded members of the service to be held in Betws Park on 11th November 2011 at 10.50 am. and at Ammanford on 13th November 2011 at 2.00 pm

### 11.3 LAMP POSTS

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed members that a number of lamp posts in the village were being renewed.

### 11.4 FOOTPATH SIGNS

Councillor Anne Sizmur had been informed that footpath signs had been removed near Waunherod.

RESOLVED the Clerk write to the occupier of Waunherod, asking if they could let us know if they see anyone removing the signs.

#### 11.5 CAROL SERVICE

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed members that this year's carol service would take place in Cartref Annwyl Fan, with the residents and children from Betws School attending. The date was on Tuesday the 20th December 2011 at 6.00 pm

#### 11.6 TROUGH OUTSIDE OLD POST OFFICE

Councillor Annette Price asked if a letter of thanks could be sent to the occupiers of the Old Post Office for maintaining the trough throughout the summer.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes a letter of thanks.

#### 11.7 BETWS FOOTBALL CLUB

Councillor Annette Price complained about antisocial behaviour by youths, at and around the Football Club premises off Colonel Road. The Police were called, but the problem still persists.

RESOLVED that the Chairman informs officials from the club when he meets them on the 19th November 2011.

#### 11.8 FOOTBALL GOALPOSTS

The Chairman informed members that he was due to meet officials and players of the football club on the 19th November 2011 for a photo shoot around the new goalposts, in recognition of our recent donation.