

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2012 03 March Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 14th March 2012 at 7.00 pm.

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

1. APOLOGIES Councillor Anne Sizmur, County Councillor Audrey Jones. 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 8th FEBRUARY 2012.

Councillor Cath Smith proposed and Councillor Loreen Lewis seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th February 2012 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

CAMBRIAN RENEWABLE ENERGY

Mr Rob Fellows and Mr Noel Gallagher were in attendance to give members an update on matters relating to the Mynydd y Betws Wind Farm.

Mr Noel Gallagher gave councillors information about the recent movement of lorries along Maesquarre Road, and the estimated amount of deliveries over the next six months to construct the sub-station.

Councillors Loreen Lewis and Annette Price disagreed with Mr Gallagers figures, but he replied by saying that he had seen the contractor's delivery records, and maybe some of the lorries on Maesquarre Road were not theirs.

There followed a general discussion on subjects such as burrow pits, quarrying, washing of lorries, and the signage on the bowzer.

Rob Fellows touched on a number of subjects including the recent site visit by councillors, the archaeological find, and the question raised by Rhodri Glyn Thomas in the Assembly.

He also asked if anyone had knowledge of the underground dam reported in the Guardian.

In conclusion he said that Carmarthenshire County Council and Neath Port Talbot will be drawing up a document to distribute community funds over the next two months.

4. DYFED POWYS POLICE

.PC Kevin Jones was not present

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Audrey Jones had informed the Clerk of the following items:-

Pentwyn Road will be re-surfaced hopefully before the end of the financial year, but if not early next year.

She is still trying to arrange a meeting with Mario Cresci regarding the Archway in Betws Park.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND ON WIND FARM SITE

The Clerk read out the replies he had received from CADW and the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, regarding the above.

Both organisations were happy that the developers had complied with all planning requirements, and that the significance of the find is as yet unknown.

On a separate issue Councillor Anne Sizmur had reported to the Chairman, that the road leading up to the mountain was in poor condition, and the verges were damaged.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs the Highways Department.

6.2 SECTION 106 FUNDS – MAESQUARRE PARK

The Clerk had received a letter from the Playgrounds Officer stating that he was still trying to arrange a meeting with T Richard Jones to resolve the issue.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes once again to T Richard Jones.

6.3 ZEBRA CROSSING – FOUNDRY ROAD

The Clerk informed members that he was still awaiting a reply from Mr John McEvoy, with regards to a feasibility report on the above.

The above was NOTED.

6.4 NEWSLETTER

Councillor Cath Smith informed members the newsletter had been translated, and a copy had been sent to the printers to estimate the cost.

The above was NOTED.

6.5 SECOND PHASE OF BETWS PARK PROJECT

The Clerk read out the response to his letter, enquiring about the funds for the second phase of Betws Park project.

The above was NOTED.

6.6 LIGHTS ON CHURCH TREE

Councillors Cath Smith and Annette Price are still making enquiries regarding the purchase of another set of lights.

The above point was NOTED.

6.7 DOG FOULING

The Clerk had informed the Enforcement Officers of the problem, and they agreed to take the appropriate action.

Councillor Betsan Jones was unhappy about the Welsh translation of the signs issued by the Local Authority.

RESOLVED the Clerk looks in to the matter.

6.8 SIGNS IN BETWS PARK

The Clerk reported that he was still waiting for a reply regarding the signs.

RESOLVED the Clerk keeps pursuing the matter.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents NOTED.

- 1 Countryside Council for Wales – Review of maps.
- 2 One Voice Wales – Honours List
- 3 Hywel Dda Health Board – Pre Consultation Engagement
- 4 Carmarthenshire YFC – Rally Tickets
- 5 CCC – Safe Routes in the Communities Grant – passed to Richard.
- 6 CCC – Tree Preservation Orders

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

APPLICATION GRANTED

- 1 E/25866 – Dwelling at 1, Lon Llys Havard, Betws.

9. ACCOUNTS

- 1 Clerks Salary and Allowances £1114.19
- 2 Clerks Income Tax £ 203.76
- 3 Footway Lighting – 3rd instalment £ 632.97

4 Macmillan Cancer Support £ 150.00
5 Bobby Van Scheme £ 100.00
6 Wales Air Ambulance £ 100.00
7 Cruse Bereavement Care £ 100.00
8 British Heart Foundation £ 100.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid

10. REPORTS.

PACT

Councillor Cath Smith gave a brief report about the items discussed in the recent meeting, which included dog fouling, anti-social behaviour, and the recent successful multicultural event.

PROJECTS SUB COMMITTEE

Councillor Annette Price gave a brief report about the group's recent meeting, which was attended by Gerwyn Thomas and Eamond Davies. Due to the current economical climate there were not as many grants available. The Treforis project was discussed and the sub-committee were told that in order to secure grants, a public consultation would be required. It was also noted that the County Council are keen to pass the responsibility of parks on to the Community Councils.

Members of the sub-committee had also attended the recent funding day at Parc y Scarlets, but most of the grants available did not suit our needs.

GRANTS FOR RURAL WALES

Councillor Anne Sizmur had sent a report to the council regarding the above grant.

At the Funding Day she had questioned whether Betws could be regarded as rural in order to qualify for these grants, even though we are regarded as being part of Ammanford.

She has been advised to write to the Chairperson of the West Wales European Centre, and put forward a case for Betws.

She intends to pursue the matter in the very near future.

ONE VOICE WALES

Councillor Carwyn James attended the recent meeting where topics discussed included the Charter between town and community councils, training for new councillors, and the CAB merger.

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11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 FOOTPATHS

Alderman Arnallt James had concerns about footpath 3/14a and 3/16. Following a short discussion it was agreed to ask Mr Gary Carlsen for a site meeting with the footpaths sub-committee.

RESOLVED the Clerk contacts Mr Carlsen.

11.2 SPEEDING ON BETWS ROAD

Councillor Maldwyn John complained about motorists speeding along Betws Road.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs PC Kevin Jones.

11.3 PENTWYN ROAD PARK GATES

Councillor Annette Price asked if the ornate gates to Betws Park on Pentwyn Road should be protected or listed?

RESOLVED the Clerk makes enquiries.

11.4 CLERKS WORKING HOURS

The Clerk had written to the Council explaining that he was finding his work load had increased considerably, and asked if they would consider increasing his hours.

The Clerk was asked to leave the room so that councillors could discuss the above.

On his return the Clerk was informed the Council were happy to increase his hours by two hours per week, to commence on April 1st 2012.

The Clerk stated that he was more than happy with their offer and thanked members for their agreement.