

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2012 09 September Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 12th September 2012 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Anne Sizmur (Chairperson), Cllrs. Loreen Lewis, June Gunter, Richard Howell, Carwyn James, Wynallt Richards, and Dewi Branch

1. APOLOGIES County Councillor Ryan Bartlett. Councillors Maldwyn John, Rhydian Murray, Arnallt James, Cath Smith, and Annette Price.

2. DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None

3. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th JULY 2012

Councillor Richard Howell proposed and Councillor Loreen Lewis seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 11th July 2012 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

4. DYFED POWYS POLICE

.Not present

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Bartlett had provided the Clerk a report of his activities since the last meeting.

They included his visit with Alderman Arnallt James to the Glyncywarch Recycling facility, antisocial behaviour in Betws Park, the hole in Betws bridge, his surgery at Betws RFC, and his conversation with ESB International regarding the Mynydd y Betws Wind farm.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 STREET LIGHTS AT FFORDD Y GLOWYR

The Clerk reported the lights were now on.

The above was NOTED.

6.2 RECYCLING FACILITIES

The Clerk had pursued this matter, and it transpires that the Planning Department have no obligation to allocate re-cycling facilities, but it would be worth the Community Council asking for their inclusion when an application is received.

The above was NOTED.

6.3 FFORDD Y GLOWYR

The Clerk informed members of his a telephone conversation with Mr Keith James – Senior Minerals and Waste Monitoring Officer, regarding the queries raised at the above site and it's surrounds.

There were restrictions in place with regards to lorries, and the time limit on tipping, but all have been superseded by subsequent applications. At the moment there are no restrictions in place.

Mr James was satisfied that the tip is well compacted and safe.

He accepted that children could access the lagoon area, even though there was no direct access from the estate. He agreed to ask Mr Dafydd Jones if he would fence off the lagoon.

RESOLVED the Clerk asks Mr James for a written report about the planning history of the site, up to the present day.

6.4 FOOTPATHS

Both Councillor Dewi Branch and Councillor Loreen Lewis complained about the overgrown condition of a few footpaths in the area.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs the Rangers, and that Councillor Anne Sizmur contacts the local Walking Group.

6.5 SHRUBS IN BETWS PARK

Councillors Loreen Lewis and Anne Sizmur had discussed the possibility of having shrubs planted in the park with Mr Gerwyn Thomas and they were awaiting his reply.

The above was NOTED.

6.6 NOTICEBOARD

Mrs James was able to give permission for the securing of the notice board, providing it involved school property only.

RESOLVED Councillor Anne Sizmur will pass the information on to Councillor Catherine Smith's husband.

6.7 MOTORBIKES IN BETWS PARK

Scrambler bikes and even larger bikes are still entering Betws Park. Councillor Dewi Branch gave an account of the police not taking action against a motorcyclist, when he was approached inside the park.

RESOLVED the Clerk asks Gerwyn Thomas and Mario Cresci again for suitable signage, and inform the police of our disappointment with the actions of one of their officer.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents NOTED.

- 1 Study on Scouting – passed to Richard
- 2 CCC – Planning Seminar – Anne and June to attend
- 3 RAF – Annual Battle of Britain Service
- 4 Hywel Dda Health Board – Consulting our Communities – passed to June.
- 5 CCC – Gambling Act 2005
- 6 Neath Port Talbot – LDP
- 7 One Voice Wales – Motions at AGM
- 8 Menter Bro Dinefwr – Community Discussion
- 9 One Voice Wales – The Voice – passed to Dewi and Richard.
- 10 HOWLTA Newsletter – passed to Carwyn
- 11 Dyfed Powys Police

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

NEW APPLICATIONS

E/26857 – Outline Planning for 9 dwellings at land opposite 31a-53, Maesquarre Road, Betws. Mr Alan Roberts.

OBJECTIONS were submitted against this application.

E/26934 – Variation of consent to allow phased development at land on Colonel Road, Betws. Green Meadow Homes Ltd.

There were NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

E/27117 – Extension and alterations to 2, Heol y Felin, Betws. Mr Huw Wells.

There were NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

APPLICATIONS GRANTED

E/26800 – Detached Garage at 9, Parc Bwtrimawr, Betws. Mr Robert Morris.

9. ACCOUNTS

- 1 Clerks Salary and Allowances £ 1162.55
- 2 Clerks Income Tax £ 254.95
- 3 BDO External Audit £ 162.00
- 4 Donation – Capel Newydd Cemetery £ 150.00
- 5 Donation – Eglwys Dewi Sant Cemetery £ 150.00
- 6 Chris y Crydd £ 36.00
- 7 Llys Cennen - Solicitors Fees £6050.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid

EXTERNAL AUDIT

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

10. REPORTS.

CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Councillors Anne Sizmur and Loreen Lewis had attended the first locally held meeting of the County's Executive Board at Ammanford Town Hall. The proposal is to move the meetings to different areas around the County.

There followed a meeting between council board members and representatives of the Amman Valley Group. The meeting was productive with councillors being given plenty of chance to ask questions and debate the issues.

One of the best issues raised was the possibility of the County Council having a Service Level Agreement with Town and Community Councils for maintenance work such as footpath upkeep and playgrounds.

BETWS IN BLOOM

Councillor Loreen Lewis gave a brief report about the recent presentation evening for Betws in Bloom.

It was suggested that in future that all participants are given a certificate for making the effort for entering

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 AMMANFORD BANDSTAND MARATHON

Councillor Loreen Lewis asked if a letter of congratulations be sent to the organisers.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes the appropriate letter.

11.2 SPRING BULBS IN TROUGHS

Councillor Wynallt Richards agreed to look in to purchasing bulbs and help organise the planting.

The above was NOTED.

11.3 BETWS PARK

Councillor Dewi Branch reported that following an e-mail to the parks department and the police, the problems in the park had been resolved.

The above was NOTED.

11.4 TREES ON PENTWYN ROAD

Councillor Dewi Branch reported that following a complaint about over hanging branches from residents in Pentwyn Road, he asked Mario Cresci to look in to the matter, and the issue has now been passed on to the County's Tree Surgeon to make an assessment.

The above was NOTED.

11.5 VILLAGE HALL

Councillor Dewi Branch asked members about their thoughts for a village hall in Betws. There followed a long discussion where many issues were raised. Councillor Anne Sizmur assured Dewi that this idea has been discussed on numerous occasions in the past, and the main stumbling block was the running costs that come with such a building. Councillor Branch suggested the old canteen at the Amman Engineering site as a perfect venue, but he was informed that this site is earmarked for a development of 18 houses. The discussion ended with no definite conclusion, but could be looked at again when the money from the Wind Farms is available.