

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2013 02 February Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 13th February 2013 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Anne Sizmur (Chairperson), Alderman Arnallt James, Cllrs. Loreen Lewis, June Gunter, Richard Howell, Catherine Smith, Maldwyn John, Carwyn James, Wynallt Richards.

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett and Mike Lewis (Guardian)

1. APOLOGIES. Councillors Dewi Branch, Rhydian Murray 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 9th JANUARY 2013

Add - rear of 1-14, Caemawr, Betws to County Councillors report.

Planning Application should read Brynheulwen and not Brynheulog.

Councillor Maldwyn John proposed, and Councillor Loreen Lewis seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th January 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

DYFED POWYS POLICE.

PC Kevin Jones and PCSO Julie Mc William were in attendance.

CRIME FIGURES FOR JANUARY 2013

Assault = 1 Criminal Damage = 1 Drugs Offences = 0 Burglary = 2

Thefts = 1 Auto. Crime = 0 Misc. = 0

Total Monthly Crimes Reported = 5

Total Monthly Crimes Detected = 5

Detection Rate = 100%

In a short discussion that followed the only issue raised was the parking in Rice Street.

4. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett gave a long, detailed report of his activities since the last meeting.

WINDFARMS

His main report was regarding the funding proposals for the Mynydd y Betws Wind Farm. An Information Pack is due to be sent out to all Clerks within the next few weeks, but in advance here are some of the details.

A fund of £2.8m is available over the next 25 years, with £665,000 being allocated in the first year, and £86,500 over the next 24 years. Applications will be based on merit and not "first come, first serve"

The fund is to be split between 10 wards in Carmarthenshire, and 3 in Neath Port Talbot.

The eligible organisations include Community Councils.

The criteria for grants will be for Recreation, Education, Health and Environment.

There will be two rounds of applications each year.

There will be an element of match funding.

As soon as the turbines are commissioned in March, applications can be submitted.

A panel made up of representatives of the Wind Farm, Local Councils and Local Voluntary Groups will oversee the grant applications.

Alderman Arnallt James, and Councillor Maldwyn John felt that because the project is in Betws, the lion's share of the funds should be allocated to Betws.

FOOTPATHS

He reported that footpath 3/14a has been opened, and the work has been completed to a good standard. Alderman Arnallt James agreed and was also happy with the standard of work. The other paths will hopefully be completed by the end of the summer.

DOG FOULING

The problem continues in Betws, and County Councillor Bartlett suggested that Jim Jones, Executive Board member for the Environment visits the village in the near future.

Other items discussed were pavements, lighting in Heol Nant y Felin, and Councillor Ioan Richard.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 SHRUBS IN BETWS PARK

The Clerk was asked to remind Gareth Howells about planting shrubs in Betws Park.

RESOLVED the Clerk talks to Gareth.

5.2 CHILDREN'S CONCERT

Councillor Anne Sizmur had spoken to the Headmistress, but due to the impending inspection, a discussion about a possible concert was not possible.

The above was NOTED.

5.3 FOOTWAY LIGHTING

The Clerk had spoken to Nigel Francis regarding future renewal costs, and was informed that the County will foot the bill when any of the lights need replacing.

The above was NOTED.

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents NOTED.

- 1 Welsh Assembly – Section 137 Expenditure
- 2 Mynydd Betws Picnic Site
- 3 Age Cymru Sir Gar – Clerk to send reply
- 4 Walk for Life – Clerk to request balance sheet.
- 5 Councillor Ioan Richards
- 6 Conference. The Census and the Welsh Language – passed to Maldwyn.

7. PLANNING MATTERS.

APPLICATIONS GRANTED

E/27500 – Kitchen extension at Brynheulwen, Argoed Road, Betws.
Mr V Phillips

E/27515 – Extension at Penllech Farm, Cwmfelin Road, Betws.
G Williams

8. ACCOUNTS

- 1 Donation – National Eisteddfod £300.00
 - 2 Comcen – Ink £ 81.61
 - 3 CCC – Planning Seminar Fees £ 40.01
 - 4 Tesco – Envelopes/paper £ 12.80
 - 5 CCC – Footway Lighting £969.18
- RESOLVED that the above be paid

9. REPORTS.

PACT

Councillor Cath Smith gave a brief report, which included the parking problems in Quay Street, Ammanford, and a security light shining on to the road, from a property in Mountain Road, Betws.

ONE VOICE WALES

The meeting attended by Councillor Carwyn James included a presentation by a representative of the Post Office, the Council Charter, Hywel Dda Health Trust, a covenant to help ex-members of the armed forces, “Grantscape” Funding and The Big Lunch.

As the Council’s Training Officer, Carwyn concluded by giving members a list of training courses which are available in Ammanford over the next few months.

AMMAN VALLEY GROUP

Councillor Anne Sizmur gave a detailed report about the recent Amman Valley Group meeting. At the meeting there was a presentation by Superintendent Hugh Meredith supported by Inspector Paul Williams. The topics covered included funding, cut backs,

staffing, Ammanford Police Station, and the Mobile Police Office.
The other items discussed included public toilets, and footpaths.

INDUCTION SERVICE

Councillor Anne Sizmur informed members she had attended the Induction Service for Cannon Michael Lloyd Rees, for the parish of Betws with Ammanford at St. Michaels Church, Ammanford.

10. RISK ASSESSMENT POLICY 2013-2014

The Clerk read out a list of all the activities of Betws Community Council as listed on the Risk Assessment Schedule for 2013/2014 and following a short discussion, all points were agreed.

RESOLVED the Risk Assessment Schedule for 2013/2014 be adopted.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 GRANT APPLICATION

The Clerk informed members an open day was due to be held in Treforis within the next few weeks, and depending on it's outcome, an application for funding could begin. The team at Parc Amanwy indicated they would be applying to a number of funds, including the Wind Farm.

The above was NOTED.