

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: 2013 05 May Minutes

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 8th May 2013 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Loreen Lewis (Chairperson), Alderman Arnallt James, Cllrs. Anne Sizmur, Annette Price, Richard Howell, Catherine Smith, Maldwyn John, Carwyn James, Wynallt Richards, and Dewi Branch

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett and Mike Lewis (Guardian)

1. APOLOGIES. Councillor Rhydian Murray

2. DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

None

3. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10th APRIL 2013

Councillor Carwyn James proposed and Councillor Anne Sizmur seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 10th April 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

4 DYFED POWYS POLICE

CRIME FIGURES FOR APRIL 2013

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

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

Total Monthly Crimes Reported = 3

Total Monthly Crimes Detected = 0

Detection Rate = 0%

Next PACT meeting is on Tuesday 14th May 2013 at 6.30pm at Gwynfryn Hall, Ammanford.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Bartlett started his address by thanking the Councillors for their support, during his first year in office.

He then gave a brief report of his activities over the last month, which included the County's discussions about the forthcoming Universal Credits system, and his work on advising constituents about the Bedroom Tax.

He reported the Archway in the park was being repaired today at a cost of £2500, and he was still pursuing the Section 106 funds.

Councillor Annette Price asked if he could arrange to get the pavement sweeping machine to be used on the streets of Betws. He agreed to do so.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 SITE VISIT TO WINDFARM

The site visit was cancelled due to inclement weather and will be arranged at a later date.

The above was NOTED.

6.2 SHRUBS IN BETWS PARK

The Clerk spoke to Gareth Howells immediately after the last meeting, and he promised to plant the shrubs within the next few days. Councillors reported that the work had still not been completed. Following a lengthy discussion, County Councillor Ryan Bartlett agreed to speak with Gareth, and if this also fails then a letter be sent to the Deputy Chief Executive.

The above was NOTED.

6.3 TREFORIS/HEOL Y FELIN – GRANT APPLICATION

The Clerk gave members an update of the grant application procedure. Following a meeting with Medi Williams and Charles Gabe, it appears that a themed garden is planned for Treforis and a full refurbishment at Heol y Felin. The target date for the project is 16th August 2013, which is when the next round of applications are to be submitted to the Wind Farm Fund.

The priority now was to organise and coordinate the completion of the questionnaires with completion needed by our next meeting. Councillor Cath Smith agreed to take on the task.

Another meeting has been arranged to meet Medi and her team on Monday 20th May 2013 at 2.30 pm

The above was NOTED.

6.4 BENCHES FOR CHURCH AND CHAPEL

Councillor Annette Price reported the Vicar will discuss the offer at their next meeting and report back to Annette or the Clerk.

Alderman Arnallt James also agreed to discuss the offer with members of the Chapel.

The above was NOTED.

6.5 RICE STREET

The Clerk read out an e-mail from PC Julie McWilliams regarding the caravan, in which she felt there was no real obstruction being caused, and in fact other vehicles in the street were causing more obstructions.

The situation with the overgrown hedge had been resolved.

The above point was NOTED.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents NOTED.

- 1 Ammanford AFC – Presentation Evening
- 2 One Voice Wales – The Voice
- 3 Y Plas – S4C – passed to Cath
- 4 Big Lottery Fund

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

APPLICATION REFUSED

E/27815 –proposed extension at Glyn yr Eithin, Argoed Road, Betws.
Mr Enzo Sauro

9. ACCOUNTS

- 1 Chairperson's Allowance £200.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDIT.

The Clerk reported that the internal audit for the year ending 31st March 2013, had been completed by Mr Lyn Llewellyn, and apart from providing members with a "Budget Monitoring Form" three times a year, no issues of concern were raised. The external audit was due to commence on 18th June 2013.

The Clerk and the Chairperson signed all the relevant documents.

The above was NOTED.

PURCHASE OF EXTERNAL HARD DRIVE

The Clerk gave members three quotations for the purchase of an external Hard Drive.

Seagate Portable 1T Western Digital Portable 1T

Argos £69.99 £79.99

Amazon £55.00 £54.99

Comcen £68.40 £78.00

Following a short discussion it was agreed the Clerk contacts Comcen once again to see if they can improve their quotation, and if not to purchase the hard drive on Amazon.

10. REPORTS.

None

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 FLY TIPPING AT TREFORIS

Councillor Annette Price asked the Clerk to report an incident of fly tipping at the estate.

RESOLVED the Clerk contacts the relevant department.

11.2 SPEEDING ON BETWS ROAD AND ARGOED ROAD

Councillor Annette Price raised the problem with speeding cars on Betws Road, and Councillor Loreen Lewis had also had a complaint from a resident in Argoed Road.

RESOLVED the Clerk asks the County Councillor to look in to the matter.

11.3 PROPOSED SUPERMARKET/PETROL STATION AT FOUNDRY ROAD, AMMANFORD

Councillor Annette Price asked Councillors for their thoughts about the above proposal and its impact on Betws.

Although this is not within the boundaries of Betws, it was agreed to write to the Planning Department and register our objections to the scheme on the following grounds.

1 Residents in Pentwyn Road will suffer the same problems as did Parc Bwtrimawr when Tesco was built.

2 The transfer of equipment /machinery from Foundry Road to the land near Ffordd y Glowyr will cause an increase in traffic to a residential area.

It was also suggested the Planning Department should include us in any applications at the site.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes a letter of objection.

11.4 MAESQUARRE BRIDGE

Alderman Arnallt James reported a new build up of stones and boulders at the bridge.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs the appropriate Department.

11.5 CHAIRPERSONS CHAIN OF OFFICE

Now that a new Chairperson was in post the Clerk was instructed to send the Chain away to Thomas Fattorini to be inscribed.

RESOLVED the Clerk contacts Fattorini's.