

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 12th February 2014 at 7.00 pm.

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

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett.

1. **APOLOGIES.** Councillor Rhydian Murray, Anne Sizmur, June Gunter and Mike Lewis (Guardian)

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

None

3. **TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th JANUARY 2014**

Declaration spelt wrongly at item 2

6.1 - Should read "use a steam cleaner, and if this fails the arch will be painted."

Councillor Annette Price proposed and Councillor Cath Smith seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th January 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

4 DYFED POWYS POLICE

PCSO Arwyn Rees was in attendance, and gave the following crime figures.

CRIME FIGURES FOR JANUARY 2014

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

Thefts = 3 Auto. Crime = 0 Misc. = 0

Total Monthly Crimes Reported = 8

Total Monthly Crimes Detected = 4

Detection Rate = 50%

There followed a general discussion on a number of topics such as the proposed new arrangements for PACT meetings, fouling of streets and pavements by horses and dogs, and a person who knocked on doors asking for lifts to various places.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett gave reports about the following items.

SECTION 106 MONEY

County Councillor Bartlett informed members that he was still actively pursuing this matter, but there was nothing to report to date. Councillor Price stated that according to staff at the regeneration team, we will not be able to access any new grants until we get the Sect 106 money.

CONCRETE POSTS IN TREFORIS

Paul Murray had been informed, and the posts will be replaced as soon as possible.

WATER OUTSIDE CARTREF ANNWYL FAN

This problem has been rectified.

County Councillor Bartlett also informed members about a meeting he attended regarding the next stage of grants from the Wind Farm Fund.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 HOWLTA MEMBERSHIP

The Clerk informed members that the annual membership forms will be sent out to us within the next few weeks.

The above was **NOTED**.

6.2 MAINTENANCE OF FLOWER TROUGHS

The Clerk had spoken to Nigel Sheldon who quoted a figure of £120 per annum to maintain and plant the four troughs.

RESOLVED the Clerk instructs Nigel to carry out the work.

6.3 MAESQUARRE ROAD BRIDGE

The Clerk informed the County about the problems, and they assured him that the situation is being closely monitored. They also said they are still trying to resolve the other issues at the bridge.

The above was **NOTED**.

6.4 ARCH IN MAESQUARRE ROAD

The Clerk had spoken to Councillor Anthony Jones, who confirmed that money was available to purchase a plaque. Dr John Dorian Evans had in the meantime sent a copy of the inscription he had in mind, and the Clerk read it out to members.

Following a long discussion the members felt the wording of the inscription was not appropriate, because it did not refer to the other two mines which used to stand near this site. The Clerk also pointed out that the plaque should be bi-lingual and that permission would be needed to carry out the work. Councillor Loreen Lewis agreed to convey our thoughts to Mr Evans.

RESOLVED that Councillor Loreen Lewis speaks to Mr Evans.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence was acknowledged and the contents **NOTED**.

1. One Voice Wales – The Voice
2. One Voice Wales – Changes to Planning System
3. CCC – Asset Transfers
4. CCC – Public Transport Seminar – Loreen to attend.
5. Welsh Government – Marine and Fisheries Action Plan.
6. Walk for Life

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

NEW APPLICATION

E/29537 – Two new dwellings at Plot 17, Woodlands Park, Betws
Mrs M Llewellyn

There were **NO OBJECTIONS** to this application.

APPLICATION GRANTED

E29260 – Agricultural Building at Plas y Betws, Hopkinstown
A.Jones.

APPEAL REFUSED

E/27815 – Glyn yr Eithin, Argoed Road, Betws
Mr Enzo Sauro

9. ACCOUNTS

1. Stationery - Paper	£	7.50
2. Comcen – Ink	£	90.12
3. Sunshine Playgrounds – 2 nd Invoice	£20,	658.72
4. CCC – Footway Lighting	£	1,001.37
5. Stationery – Cards	£	2.00
6. Susan Bowen – Buffet at opening ceremony	£	120.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid

10. REPORTS.

ONE VOICE WALES

Councillor Carwyn James gave a detailed report of the latest meeting he had attended.

The main event was a presentation given by Mr Alwyn Roberts about the forthcoming visit of The National Eisteddfod to Carmarthenshire. Other items discussed included the Williams Report on Local Government Reorganisation, the 10th Anniversary of One Voice Wales, devolved services from County to Community Councils and forthcoming training programmes

BETWS FAMILY CENTRE.

Councillor Loreen Lewis attended the latest meeting, but there was nothing of importance to report.

HEOL Y FELIN PLAYGROUND

The Clerk informed members the second invoice request had been paid, but he was still waiting for the County to reimburse the amount. As soon as this is done the final invoice will be paid.

Councillor Dewi Branch confirmed the arrangements for the buffet at a cost of £120.

Councillor Annette Price asked if a letter of thanks can be sent to residents near the playground who gave the workmen water and refreshments whilst working on site. It was also suggested that they be invited to the opening ceremony.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes to the persons concerned.

Councillor Richard Howell expressed his concerns at a number of factors at the playground, including the colour of the flooring, the cradle swings, the kerbing and the railings outside the park. There followed a long and detailed discussion about the issues, and it was agreed that with future projects we should pay more attention to detail, or even as suggested by Councillor Dewi Branch appoint a member to oversee or project manage the scheme.

RESOLVED the Clerk raises the above issues with Sunshine Playgrounds

11. RISK ASSESSMENT POLICY 2014-2015

The Clerk read out a list of all the activities of Betws Community Council as listed on the Risk Assessment Schedule for 2014/2015, and following a short discussion, all points were agreed.

RESOLVED the Risk Assessment Schedule for 2014/2015 be adopted.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

