

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett and Mike Lewis (Guardian)

1. **APOLOGIES.** Councillor Richard Howell
2. **DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

None

3. **TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12th FEBRUARY 2014.**

Councillor Cath Smith proposed and Councillor Carwyn James seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 12th February 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 FEBRUARY 2014

Assault = 4 Criminal Damage = 0 Drugs Offences = 0 Burglary = 0

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

Total Monthly Crimes Reported = 4

Total Monthly Crimes Detected = 3

Detection Rate = 75%

There followed a general discussion on a number of topics including signs in Betws Park, horses being ridden side by side, parking problems in Hopkinstown, and needles being discarded at the top of Waunddwfn Road.

Councillor Annette Price asked if the police could drive past the new park in Heol y Felin on a regular basis.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett gave brief reports about the following items.

MOUNTAIN ROAD

Road widening and general improvements, including a top dressing, are being carried out on the mountain road just above The Scotch Pines.

STORM WATER PIPE

Repairs and improvements are being carried out to a pipe which runs from Rice Street in to Betws Park.

MAESQUARRE ROAD PLAYGROUND

The process of installing yellow lines outside the park has moved to the next stage, and hopefully work will start shortly.

SECTION 106 MONEY.

County Councillor Bartlett informed members that he was still pursuing the matter.

There followed a short discussion about Welsh Medium education in the Ammanford area, and Councillor Rhydian Murray asked if the site meeting at Glyncywarch, which was postponed last year, can now be re-arranged.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 MAINTENANCE OF FLOWER TROUGHS

The Clerk had spoken to Nigel Sheldon, who agreed to maintain the troughs for the forthcoming year.

The above was **NOTED**.

6.2 PLAQUE ON ARCH IN MAESQUARRE ROAD

Councillor Loreen Lewis had tried without success to speak with Mr Evans. She agreed to continue trying and report to the next meeting.

The above was **NOTED**

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

1 Aggressive Dogs in Waunddwfn Road .

2 Carmarthenshire Environment Partnership

3 Repeal of Section 150 (5) of Local Government Act 1972

The Clerk explained to members the repealing of Section 150 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, allows Town and Community Councils to abandon the two signature rule and if felt appropriate to explore other methods of payments including on line banking. Following a short discussion it was agreed to re-visit this item, once further guidance was available from One Voice Wales.

RESOLVED the issue be discussed at a later date.

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

NEW APPLICATION

E/29721 – Glyn yr Eithin, Argoed Road, Betws.
Proposed Two Storey rear extension.
Mr Enzo Sauro

There were **NO OBJECTIONS** to the above application.

APPLICATION GRANTED

E/25170 – Land at rear of 16-20 and 24-30 Betws Road, Betws
Cul de sac of 9 dwellings
Griffiths Brothers

9. ACCOUNTS

1 Sunshine Playgrounds – 3 rd Invoice	£18,175.44
2 Clerks Salary and Allowances	£ 1,253.77
3 Clerks Income Tax	£ 257.50
4 One Voice Wales - Membership Fees	£ 270.00
5 Action Surveyance CCTV	£ 1969.20
6 Glo Man	£ 100.00
7 Cruise	£ 100.00
8 RABI	£ 100.00
9 Victim Support	£ 100.00
10 PRISM	£ 50.00
11 Menter Bro Dinefwr	NIL
12 CATCH UP	NIL
13 NSPCC	£ 150.00
14 Horace Tout – CCTV electricity supply	£ 40.00
15 Cerith Griffiths	£ 100.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid

10. REPORTS.

HEOL Y FELIN PLAYGROUND

The Clerk informed members that all invoices have been paid, and that all monies have been reimbursed. He also asked members to discuss the following items.

CCTV ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The running costs for the new CCTV system would be about £20 per annum, and would be payable to Mr Horace Tout. Following a short discussion it was agreed to pay Mr Tout £40 per annum.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes a thank you letter to Mr Tout together with a cheque for £40, and also ask if we could have a spare key cut.

SIGNAGE

New signs are needed at the park and would cost either £35 or £25 each, depending on size. After discussing the matter it was agreed to purchase the following at £25 each.

2x No Dogs Allowed signs.

1x Disclaimer sign.

RESOLVED the Clerk orders the new signs.

RAISED TARMAC

Councillor Richard Howell had noticed a few areas of raised tarmac in the new playground.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs Sunshine Playgrounds.

BINS AND SHELTER

The Clerk was still waiting for details and prices from Sunshine Playgrounds.

RESOLVED the Clerk chases up Sunshine Playgrounds.

WATER HOLDING NEAR ENTRANCE GATE

Councillor Loreen Lewis asked Paul Murray if he could see to this problem and he agreed to look at the matter.

The above was **NOTED**

BARRIER OUTSIDE PARK GATE

The current barrier needs to be relocated to in front of the park gates.

RESOLVED the Clerk contacts the appropriate department.

11. HEOL Y FELIN MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

The Clerk read out details of 2 quotations received for the maintenance and inspections at Heol y Felin playing field and playground.

1. Countrywide: Playing Field - £ 800.00 + VAT
 Playground - £1200.00 + VAT

TOTAL £2,000 + VAT

2. Sunshine Playgrounds: Playing Field - Nil
 Playground – £1560 + VAT

TOTAL £1560 + VAT

The Clerk explained that he had tried in vain to get a quotation from Carmarthenshire County Council, who currently have the contract.

Following a short discussion it was agreed the Clerk pursues the County for a quote, plus Nigel Sheldon of Wrenvale Nurseries, and Councillor Rhydian Murray would get a price from the Rugby Clubs Groundsman. Because the new contract is due to start before our next meeting it was agreed that when all prices are available the Clerk will inform all members, and take a decision based on the feedback.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 BETWS SIGNS

Councillors asked if we were moving ahead with purchasing new signs at four locations, when entering the village. Following a short discussion it was agreed the Clerk makes further enquiries with regard to cost etc.

RESOLVED the Clerk contacts Allison Roberts.

12.2 ILLUMINATED SPEEDING SIGNS

Councillor Rhydian Murray asked if would be possible to have illuminated/flashing speeding signs near the village school.

RESOLVED the Clerk makes enquiries.