

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 10th September 2014 at 7.00 pm.

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

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett

1. **APOLOGIES.** Councillors Rhydian Murray and Arnallt James
2. **DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

None

3. **TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th JULY 2014.**

Councillor Annette Price proposed and Councillor Cath Smith seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 9th July 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

4 DYFED POWYS POLICE

PCSO Arwyn Rees was present, and he reported the following crime figures.

CRIME FIGURES FOR JULY/AUGUST 2014

Assault = 0 Criminal Damage = 3 Drugs Offences = 5 Burglary = 0

Thefts = 0 Auto. Crime = 0 Misc. = 4

Total Crimes Reported = 12

The main issue of concern was the motorbikes which are causing a nuisance around the village. PCSO Rees agreed to look in to the matter, but also urged councillors to report problems immediately.

Other items discussed were the parking problems in Rice Street, and the locking of the park gates at night.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett gave a report about the following items.

- 1 The Stop sign on Betws Square has been erected.
- 2 The yellow lines outside Maesquarre Playground should be painted soon.
- 3 Street lights have at last been installed in Parc Nant y Felin.
- 4 He is still pushing all parties to complete the work at Glyncywarch.
- 5 Due to legal reasons the adoption of Maesquarre Playground is still unresolved

Councillor Dewi Branch asked if speeding restrictions could be placed on Pentwyn Road? Councillor Bartlett agreed to contact John McAvoy.

Councillor Cath Smith asked about road resurfacing at the top of Maesquarre Road. Councillor Bartlett explained that only part of the road was being done.

6. MATTERS ARISING

6.1 HANDY/ODD JOB MAN

Councillor Cath Smith had spoken to Robert Gleaves, who agreed to clean and paint the boring drum at Maesquarre Road, at a cost of £140.

RESOLVED the Clerk asks Mr Gleaves to carry out the work.

6.2 BETWS VILLAGE SIGNS

The Clerk reported the signs had been ordered, and were due to be installed shortly.

The above was **NOTED**.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

- 1 Carm.CC – Review of Governance
- 2 Liaison Forum Meeting
- 3 Letter of Support – Kevin Madge
- 4 OVW – Conference and AGM 2014
- 5 Welsh Government White Paper – Reform of Local Government
- 6 Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation
- 7 HOWLTA Newsletter

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

NEW APPLICATIONS

E/30464 – 45, Betws Road, Betws
Two Storey Extension
Mr & Mrs Butcher

There were **NO OBJECTIONS** to the above applications, but comments were made.

E/30604 – 1, Llwyndu Cottages, Pantyffynnon
Two Storey and single storey extensions
Mr & Mrs D Davies

E/30605 – Penllech Farm, Cwm Felin Road, Betws
Two storey Extension
Mr Paul Hoare

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

APPLICATION GRANTED

E/30222 – Plas y Betws, Hopkinstown
Renovations and Extension
Mr & Mrs W Armstrong

E/28662 – Tirelinor Farm, Betws
Mini Hydro Electricity Generating scheme
Mr Robert Boulton

E/29342 – Land adjacent 44/46 & 45/47, Treforis, Betws
4 Dwellings and 2 Flats
A. Davies

E/30380 – 94, Colonel Road, Betws
Garage
Mr Simon Pugh

E/30389 – Penllech Fach, Cwmfelin Road, Betws
Access Track to dwelling.
Mr Paul Hoare

APPLICATION REFUSED

E/30277 – 16, Betws Road, Betws
Dwelling and Garage
Cwmni Griffiths Bwtrimawr

9. ACCOUNTS

1. Clerks Salary and Allowances	£1251.79
2. Clerks Income Tax	£ 257.50
3. Donation – Capel Newydd Cemetery	£ 150.00
4. Donation – Eglwys Dewi Sant Cemetery	£ 150.00
5. HOWLTA – Raffle Tickets	£ 5.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid

9.1 EXTERNAL AUDIT TO 31st MARCH 2014

The Clerk reported he had received a reply from the External Auditors, where a few minor issues were raised.

1. Fixed assets to be increased to include the equipment at Heol y Felin Park.
2. Appointment of Internal Auditor to be discussed and minuted by Council every year.
3. Recommendations of Internal Auditor to be discussed by Council, and minuted.

The recommendations above were discussed and agreed, and the Clerk and Chairperson signed Section 3 of the Annual Report, which needs to be returned to the Auditors by the 12th September 2014.

On receipt of the signed Annual Report, the Auditors will issue a Final Audit Certificate.

9.2 Councillor Carwyn James asked if the Finance Meeting scheduled for December could be brought forward to October. There were no objections.

RESOLVED the next finance meeting be held on the 8th October 2014.

9.3 Councillors asked the Clerk to send a letter of support to Ammanford AFC Juniors, regarding their plan to use the old clubhouse in Rice Road as a meeting place/cafe for the youngsters.

RESOLVED the Clerk writes a letter of support.

10. REPORTS.

BETWS IN BLOOM PRESENTATION EVENING

Councillor Loreen Lewis gave a brief report about another successful evening, which was enjoyed by all. She read out a list of winners, with Cartref Annwyl Fan being the overall winner. Councillor Annette Price thanked Loreen and Anne for their work in organising the event.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 WORLD WAR ONE VETERANS

Councillor Dewi Branch asked if anyone knew of any Betws residents who lost their lives in the Great War. Following a long discussion it was agreed that if possible, this year's Remembrance Service should mention the people who lost their lives.

RESOLVED the matter is discussed in the next meeting.

11.2 SECTION 106 MONEY

The Clerk explained to members that the Section 106 money which has now been found, amounting to £8,750 was being held by Paul Murray's Department until a scheme for its use can be identified. The Clerk emphasised that if this money is used on the parks in Betws, then the County will expect the Community Council to take over their ownership.

Following a long discussion the Clerk was asked to make further enquiries regarding this money, including what else can it be used for, and what happens if a scheme cannot be identified.

RESOLVED the Clerk gets more information and reports back to the next meeting.