

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 8th March 2017 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. Carwyn James (Chairman), Alderman Arnallt James, Cllrs. Annette Price, Maldwyn John, Richard Howell, Loreen Lewis, Wynallt Richards, June Gunter, Shireen Davies and Betsan Jones.

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett.

1. **APOLOGIES.** None

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

NONE

3. **TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th FEBRUARY 2017**

Councillor Loreen Lewis proposed and Councillor Betsan Jones seconded, that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 8th February 2017 be confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

4 **DYFED POWYS POLICE**

Officers from Dyfed Powys Police were not present.

5. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

County Councillor Ryan Bartlett reported on a number of matters including the setting of the County's budget, a problem with a Tree Preservation Order in Colonel Road, speed monitoring in Ffordd y Glowyr, speed signage on the mountain road, and planning applications.

Councillor Shireen Davies complained about the dog mess in Mill Road/Caemawr. Councillor Bartlett agreed to inform the Enforcement Officer.

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

6.1 BARRIERS AT TOUT'S GARAGE

Councillor Annette Price informed members that Tout's Garage was due to close, and that there was uncertainty about its future.

RESOLVED to discuss the matter of safety barriers at a later date.

6.2 ASSET TRANSFER.

The Clerk informed members firstly that the grant being given by Carmarthenshire County Council for taking over the Maesquarre Road Playground was only £204 pa. Secondly, he informed members of the poor condition of the playground as reported in the County Councils annual inspection report. Thirdly he had received a report from Eamonn Davies which

highlighted a lot of underlying problems in the park, which could cost approximately £13,500 to rectify. There followed a long discussion on whether to proceed with taking on this asset, and it was decided unanimously that because of the poor condition of the park, the high and unknown cost of repairs, and the annual running costs, that we do not take on the park.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs Emily Thomas that we do not wish to accept the transfer of Maesquarre Road Playground.

6.3 COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE

RESOLVED that this item be discussed at a later date.

6.4 RENT REVIEW OF BETWS RFC LEASE

Officials of Betws RFC still want to meet, but are happy to wait until after the May elections

RESOLVED we contact Betws RFC after the election.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

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

1 Letter of resignation – Dewi Branch

2 Tickets for Young Farmers Rally

3 Local Government Elections – Thursday 4th May 2107

4 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales – nomination packs were distributed to councillors.

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

NEW APPLICATION

E/35108 – Land at Bodist Uchaf, Betws
New Farm Complex and Slurry Lagoon
Mr R Thomas

OBJECT – due to possibility of pollution, seepage and associated smells that will affect the neighbouring properties.

E/35125 – 10, Ffordd y Glowyr, Betws
Rear single storey extension
Mr M Jones

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

E/35126 – Betws Common, Betws Mountain
Cattle Grid
Betws Common Holdings Ltd

NO OBJECTIONS as long as access was available for small animals to escape if trapped.

E/35187 – 25, Woodlands Park, Betws
Three two bedroomed bungalows
Mr John Humphreys

OBJECT – due to very small size of plot, and also the new bungalows will be out of character with surrounding properties.

APPLICATIONS GRANTED

E/34893 – Plas y Betws, Wernoleu Road.
Barn Conversion to Holiday Let
Mr & Mrs Armstrong

9. ACCOUNTS

1 Clerk's Salary and Allowances	£1,322.40
2 Clerk's Income Tax	£ 265.80
3 CCC – Footway Lighting	£1,042.41
4 Xmas Lighting Installations	£2,422.10
5 HOWLTA Membership	£ 12.00
6 Donation – Tenovus Cancer Care	£ 150.00
7 Donation – Royal Welsh Agricultural Society	£ 100.00
8 Donation – Teenage Cancer Trust	£ 150.00
9 Donation - Bobath	£ 150.00
10 Donation – Ammanford AFC – Junior Section	£ 400.00
11 Donation – Cruse Bereavement Care	£ 100.00

RESOLVED that the above be paid.

APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Clerk informed members the annual internal audit was due, and an independent auditor needs to be appointed. Following a short discussion, it was agreed once again to ask Mr Lynne Llewelyn to conduct the audit.

RESOLVED the Clerk asks Mr Lynne Llewelyn to carry out the audit for 2016/2017.

10. REPORTS.

None

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 LITTER BINS

Councillor Annette Price complained about the overflowing litter bins in the village.

RESOLVED the Clerk informs the relevant department.

11.2 BIN IN BETWS PARK

Councillor Annette Price asked if we could try once again to get a new bin in Betws Park.

RESOLVED the Clerk contacts Paul Murray.