

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2018

The Chair, Cllr Loreen Lewis, presided over the monthly meeting of Betws Community Council held in the Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws, on Wednesday, 12th September 2018.

PRESENT: Councillors: Annette Price, Loreen Lewis, Petula Matthews, Betsan Jones, Delyth Richards, Maldwyn John, Alex Davies, Lucy Jones, Noleen Morgan, and Shireen Davies.

Mrs Llinos Jenkins – Clerk

Cllr Lucy Jones was welcomed to her first meeting.

1. Public questions/Representations

None received

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Janet Davies and Wendy Haines

2a. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Annette Price declared an interest in the land at Betws Rugby Club – as one of the trustees of the land.

3.To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 11th July 2018

It was proposed by Cllr Noleen Morgan, seconded by Cllr Alex Davies and resolved that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11th July be accepted as a true record.

4. Dyfed Powys Police

PCSO Alex Mullock attended the meeting and advised of the following incidents –

3 - Thefts

1 - Making off without payment

1 - Assault

1 - Criminal Damage to a Vehicle

1 - Other Crime

Total Incidents - 7

5. County Councillor Report

Cllr Betsan Jones gave an overview of the recent Boundary Review of the Electoral Arrangements in the County of Carmarthenshire. Cllr Jones noted that the only changes to Betws Ward was a slight change of name to 'Y Betws'.

Cllr Jones advised that the recent Tour of Britain race through Carmarthenshire had been a great success and it is hoped that this will encourage cyclists to visit Carmarthenshire.

It was noted that Karen Davies, the wife of the late Cllr Alan Davies had been elected to represent the Saron Ward at a recent election.

6. Matters Arising

Betws RFC

Cllr Annette Price left the meeting while the following matter was discussed –

The Clerk had spoken to Betws Rugby Club who advised that they had been instructed to cancel their Standing Order due to an overpayment in the previous financial year. It was noted that the rent due for the year was £1000 and not the reduced £500 as in the previous financial year. The Clerk would contact Betws RFC to advise.

During the above discussion Cllr Betsan Jones asked for clarification with regards to the land under lease to Betws RFC. It was proposed by Cllr Betsan Jones, seconded by Cllr Petula Matthews and agreed by all able to vote that the Clerk should contact Mr Hywel Davies at Llys Cennen Solicitors to arrange a meeting to discuss the issue in hand.

Cllr Annette Price returned to the meeting and was updated on the issues discussed, by the Chair.

Maesquarre Park Asset Transfer

At the Clerk's request Cllr Betsan Jones had contacted Mr Mike Jones with regards to a survey on the land at Maesquarre Park, Cllr Jones advised that Mr Jones was happy to undertake a survey but required further information from the Council. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged between the Friends of Maesquarre Park Group (including Mr Mike Jones) and the Council on Wednesday 19th September at 6pm at Capel Newydd Vestry.

Safer Routes to School

The Clerk advised that a request received from CCC to arrange a meeting to discuss the application submitted. The meeting would be held at 3pm at Capel Newydd Vestry on the 28th September.

7. Correspondence

Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial – A request from Mr Wayne Hillier asking the Council to confirm whether it needed a Bugler for the Remembrance Day Service. It was agreed that the service should be arranged as usual at 11am on Sunday 11th November and that Cllr Annette Price would lead the arrangements.

Cllr Janet Davies – A letter was read out in the absence of Cllr Janet Davies regarding her disappointment in recent events in relation to complaints from members of the public and the treatment of Betws Community Council by some members of the public.

Cllr Annette Price - Cllr Price read out a letter asking for clarification on matters relating to groups that meet with the intention of making accusations and undermining an elected Governing Body. The Clerk agreed to look into this matter further.

Vacancy at Betws Community Council – A request to fill the vacant seat on the Council.

Hywel Dda UHB – Notification of a meeting at County Hall on the 26th of September.

Correspondence was received and noted.

8. Finance

The following payments were authorised –

Parks and Play	£561.60
Clerks Salary and Expenses(September)	£403.65
Printer Cartridges (Reimburse Clerk)	£136.65
HMRC PAYE (September)	£268.40
Zurich Insurance	£647.14

Requests for money were received and awarded as follows –

Glo Man	£50 awarded
Heart of Wales Travellers Association	£12 membership to be paid
Save Amman valley Hospital – Clerk to contact Cwmamman Town Council and award up to £50	

The Clerk advised that the second Precept payment of £9000 had been received.

9. Planning Applications

Abergelli Power Plant – An invitation to a meeting was received from the Planning Inspectorate. It was agreed that the Clerk would keep the Council informed on the issue.

10. Council Property

The Clerk advised that unless a contact name could be provided it would be impossible to chase CCC for the promised bin. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Nigel at Wrenvale for a new bin.

The Clerk would contact Nigel regarding the Sleepers ahead of the Remembrance Day Service on the 11th November.

The Clerk advised that she had received correspondence from Ms Emily Hughes at CCC regarding Maesquarre Park and the proposed Asset Transfer, the correspondence received advised *'that if the Community of Betws wish to take over the asset then they need to push on the matter as it was made clear that the equipment will be removed and the land disposed of.'* The correspondence received was noted with disappointment and it was felt that unless a resolution could be found in the coming weeks, a letter outlining the poor treatment of Betws Community Council in this matter should be sent to Cllr Peter Hughes Griffiths and Cllr Hazel Evans.

4

The issue of whether the Council should undertake the Asset Transfer of Maesquarre Park would be discussed again at the October meeting. It was agreed that the budget meeting which is usually held in October should be re-arranged to a later date as the Asset Transfer could influence the 2019/20 budget.

11. Reports

None received.

12. Any other business

Cllr Annette Price proposed that a meeting should be held to discuss the recent complaints to the Public Services Ombudsman (all of which were rejected) and the treatment of some Councillors by members of the Public. The Clerk advised members with regards to their responsibilities under the Code of Conduct.

After a lengthy discussion it was proposed by Shireen Matthew, seconded by Cllr Lucy Jones and agreed that a meeting should not be held to discuss the matter in hand.

The following matters were also raised for the Clerk to seek further information and quotes-

Placing 'No Cycling' Signs in Betws Park x 3
Placing 'Dogs must be kept on leads' signs in Betws Park x 3
Placing new fencing or repairing existing fencing around the Tennis Courts
Repairing/replacing the all-weather covering on the Tennis Courts
New nets for the Tennis Courts
Section 106 funding via CCC

Cllr Annette Price also asked for clarification with regards to Public Questions and Representations being included on the Agenda. The Clerk advised that all councils should have provision for public participation but would look in to the matter further.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm

Signed

Date