

# **BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

The monthly meeting of Betws Community Council was held at Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 at 6.30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Loreen Lewis (Chairperson), Cllrs. Janet Davies, Wendy Haines, Nolene Morgan, Delyth Richards, Lucy Jones, Betsan Jones, Jose Picouto, Alex Davies and Annette Price.

County Councillor: Betsan Jones

Clerk - Miss Angela Brown

**APOLOGIES.** Councillor Maldwyn John.

**1. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/REPRESENTATIONS** – Members of the Public present with two email requests received by the Clerk for representations to be made by Mr Mike Jones and Mrs Lynwen Philips regarding the Asset Transfer of Maesquarre Playground from Carmarthenshire County Council to Betws Community Council.

The Chair invited the two members of public to speak giving each 10 minutes to speak to those present at the meeting.

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

NONE

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

### **3.1 Maesquarre Park Health and Safety Report**

The content of the report was discussed by both the Community Councillor's and the members of public who were present. It was deemed low risk however there are many low risk issues which need attention and these in turn will incur a cost it was agreed that should the equipment fail then it would be cordoned off and the costs of repair sought as if costly then the piece of equipment would need to remain cordoned off/removed depending on the severity of the issue until funding was found. It was discussed that Grants are not available for maintenance or repair of equipment only for completely new and different types of equipment than what is already available at the playground. There is some S106 money available for the playground.

Both members of the public Mr Mike Jones and Mrs Lynwen Phillips who requested to speak were allowed to speak. They along with other members of the public were vocally unruly at various points throughout the meeting and would not listen to the Chair.

The meeting got very heated from all sides with the code of conduct being breached by the Councillors present where they also would not listen to the Chair.

Not declaring interests were questioned by some Councillors of other Councillors present who denied that they had any interest in Maesquarre Park/playground.

### **3.2 Lease Signing**

It was agreed that the lease would be signed although the funding to renew the equipment was not available. The upkeep would be covered but there would need to be another increase in the precept to cover as even though it had been increased the increase was not enough to cover the extra costs of looking after the playground. The previous clerk had misjudged the end of year budget which was more than the precept increase.

Member of the Public asked the Chair if he may speak – Mr Mike Jones

Who said thank you we can work together with Betws Community Council as we are an enthusiastic lot and will work and help with the park. He also stated that the parks/playgrounds should be run as a whole and not as 3 separate ones.

The above information was **NOTED** by members.

## **4. CORRESPONDENCE.**

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

**4.1** Many emails had been received regarding Maesquarre Park playground during the run up to this meeting and immediately after this meeting. Some of the information had not been made public and was correspondence between the Clerk and the Councillors or Councillor to Councillor. This shows another breach of the code of conduct/standing orders.

These breaches of the code of conduct and the standing orders will be addressed in the future.

Meeting Closed at 7:05pm by chair as very disruptive, disorderly, chaotic and ill-mannered. It was a very nasty and poisonous environment and there were children present. However, the heated discussions continued between members of the public and the Councillors with very little respect being shown, accusations being thrown, some members lying, bullying and harassment was evident between Councillors and calls for the Community Council to be disbanded as unfit for purpose by the members of the public present.

The meeting finally disbanded at 20:15.