

BETWS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting of Betws Community Council was held in Capel Newydd Vestry, Betws on Wednesday the 8th May 2019 at 6.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr. Annette Price, Loreen Lewis, Betsan Jones, Janet Davies, Nolene Morgan, Alex Davies, Delyth Richards, Wendy Haines, Lucy Jones, Maldwyn John and Jose Picouto.

1. APOLOGIES: None

2. CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 9th MAY 2018

Councillor Morgan proposed and Councillor Price seconded that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 9th May 2018 be confirmed, and then signed by the Chairperson.

3. CHAIRPERSONS ADDRESS.

The Chair gave an overview of her year in office where as part of her duties she attended the inauguration of the new vicar in All Saints Church and the Choir Carol Service. She called on the community and the Council to remain positive and move on.

CLERK'S REPORT

1. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2018/2019

The Clerk gave a brief report of the Council's achievements/work during the year 2018/2019 which included that there had been another change of Clerk with the previous Clerk commencing her appointment 1st March 2018 and ending on 31st December 2018. The Community Council did not have a Clerk until my appointment on 1st February 2019.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that she has made arrangements with Mr Lyn Llewellyn to carry out the internal audit of the Community Council's Accounts.

The Clerk gave a brief summary of the Council's financial affairs and invited the Councillors to examine the bank statements and the ledger.

Income - Precept received from Carmarthenshire County Council for 2018/2019 was **£18,000** - VAT refund to reclaim is **£3,321.82** the previous Clerk had not reclaimed the VAT for the year 2017/2018 and the new Clerk will need to claim for that year and **£4,148.78** for 2018/2019 once the books are returned from the internal auditor - Bank interest was **£26.79** - Rent Payments from Betws RFC was **£0,000.00** the previous Clerk had been asked to involve solicitors with regards to this issue of non-payment but it seems this hadn't been actioned although a letter had been sent to the RFC regarding rent payments. The new Clerk will chase this issue.

Total Expenditure for 2018/2019 was **£50745.48** with a difference of **£60.40** as the bank accounts only had **£50,685.08** in it at end of year.

Actual Spend being **£33,372.62**.

2. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

10 Applications were received in **2018/2019** The Clerk is unsure whether any are still outstanding also the previous clerk was to keep the Council informed regarding Abergelli Power Station. The Clerk stated that she could not locate last year's Clerk Report for the AGM so is unable to calculate if there is an increase or decrease in the number of applications received compared to the previous year.

3. DONATIONS

9 Organisations including Capel Newydd and Eglwys Dewi Sant, benefited to a total of **£1500.00**, a decrease of **£375.00** on the previous year. In the previous year 2017/2018 15 Organisations benefited (excluding Capel Newydd and Eglwys Dewi Sant donations and their Christmas Light donations)

4. OUTLOOK OVER THE PAST YEAR

- Successful Betws in Bloom Competition.
- Bugler attended the Remembrance Service.
- General improvements to Betws Park and the Sensory Garden.
- Change of Clerk who resigned in December 2018 leaving BCC without a Clerk until February 2019.

5. FUTURE EVENTS

The main items, which will probably take up a lot of Council's time over the next year are as follows:

1. Various projects in the village as identified by the Projects sub-committee.
2. Betws in Bloom
3. Boundary dispute with estate of the late Bryn Llewelyn and RFC non payment of rent.
- 4 Ongoing maintenance of Betws Park including solving the issues regarding the lifebelt/vehicles and getting the park a Green Flag award with the help of the maintenance company.
5. Ongoing maintenance of Heol y Felin Playground.
6. Possible Asset Transfer of Maesquarre Park from Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Clerk concluded by thanking the Chair and the Councillors for their patience and support during the last 3 months and is looking forward to the challenges that this new role brings along with the continual learning and professional training that she has signed up to but is yet to begin due to issues found when she begun the role and found whilst completing the administration for the internal audit.

The Clerk was thanked by Cllr Price.

6. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

This was not done correctly as the Vice Chair did not wish to become Chair due to personal circumstances. The Chair Loreen Lewis stated that they were “stuck with me” and that she would remain in post for the forthcoming year.

This was not voted on until the meeting on Wednesday 12th June 2019 where a vote took place (see minutes **Election of Chair** – Councillor Loreen Lewis asked for a show of hands with regard to her remaining as Chair as this was not done during the AGM - 8 votes with 1 abstention.)

There was no need for Councillor Loreen Lewis to sign a new “Declaration of Acceptance of Office” as she had done so the previous year.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Lewis would remain in post as Chair for 2019/2020.

7. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Councillor L Jones was proposed by Cllr B Jones however no one came forward to second the proposal. It was then proposed by Councillor J Davies and seconded by Councillor Price that Councillor Nolene Morgan be appointed Vice Chairperson for 2019/2020.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Morgan be Vice Chair for 2019/2020.

8. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

A. PLANNING

It was agreed that all members should be on the Planning Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** accordingly.

B. FINANCE

It was agreed that all members should be on the Finance Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** accordingly.

C. BETWS IN BLOOM

It was agreed that Councillors Loreen Lewis and Janet Davies be elected onto the Betws In Bloom Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** accordingly.

D. PROJECTS

It was agreed that all members should be on the Projects Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** accordingly.

E. RIGHTS OF WAY

It was agreed that Councillors Haines and J Davies be elected onto the Rights of Way Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** accordingly.

F. HEOL Y FELIN PLAYGROUND AND PLAYING FIELD

It was agreed that all Councillors should be members of the Heol y Felin and Playing Field Committee.

It was **RESOLVED** accordingly.

6. REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

It was **RESOLVED** as follows:-

1. Betws Family Centre
Cllr Betsan Jones
2. Amman Valley Group of Local Councils
Chair and Vice Chair.
3. Amman and District Citizen Advice Bureau
Councillor Price
4. One Voice Wales
Councillor L Jones
5. Local Health Board
Councillor Nolene Morgan.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.