

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at 7.30pm in Glangrwyney Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs John Morris; David Sharman, Roger Llewelyn, Caroline Fairclough, Prydderch Rees & Ian Mabberley. Also in attendance: County Cllr John Morris & Maria James (Clerk)

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Elaine Lusted (*Acting Chair*).

*As Cllr Lusted was not present it was agreed Cllr John Morris should act as Chair for Items 1 and 2.*

**1. Declarations of interest in items of business listed below:** Nil

**2. Election of Chairman:** Proposals were invited for the office of Chairman. Cllr Llewelyn proposed Cllr Sharman which was seconded by Cllr Rees. Cllr Mabberley was proposed by Cllr Fairclough. Following a vote of 4 for 2 against it was agreed Cllr David Sharman be elected Chairman.

*Cllr Sharman took the chair.*

**3. Planning Matters**

3.1 It was noted the following applications have been permitted:

- (i) 13/09376/FUL change of use of 1<sup>st</sup> floor room over cow house to holiday let, repairs, adaptations and improvements to C17th listed farmhouse **Ffordd Las Fawr, Fforest Coal Pit NP7 7LY**
- (ii) 11/06917/FUL Erection of 4 no 3 bedroom dwelling houses and 2 no 2 bedroom dwelling houses at **Land to the South of St Peters Close, Llanbedr NP8 1SR**
- (iii) 13/09565/FUL – demolition of detached garage, construction of disabled bedroom and shower as annexed holiday accommodation. **3 Springfields, Llangenny NP8 1HA**

3.2 **1 Post Office Row, Glangrwyney.** In accordance with previous discussions [*Page 1008 Item 3.2 (ii)*] it was reported Cllrs Morris and Rees had conducted a site visit. Cllr Llewelyn expressed frustration at this decision referring to parking/shared access issues which he believed should have resulted in the Council opposing this application. A debate ensued wherein several Members refuted these concerns stating they were outside this Council's remit and matters to be addressed legally should the Planning Authority be minded to permit the application. Cllr Mabberley left the meeting at this juncture. Cllr Llewelyn expressed dissatisfaction and disappointment with the Council's decision and also left the meeting.

Members noted the application is due to be determined at the PAROW meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> July and reiterated the Council's support of the application subject to parking/access issues being resolved to the satisfaction of the Highways Authority.

*Cllr Mabberley returned to the table*

**4. Cty Cllr Morris reported:**

- (i) **Glangrwyney Traffic Lights Update:** A submitted scheme of repairs has been refused by the Trunk Road Agency. It was suggested the Council write to PCC (*Richard Hobbs*) to ask how long the scheme is anticipated to take.
- (ii) **Traffic Calming:** No budget has been assigned for the traffic calming measures previously requested in Glangrwyney.
- (iii) **Llanbedr Housing:** as reported at the last meeting it is unlikely the build will start until next Spring.

*Cty Cllr Morris left the meeting*

**5. Minutes of Meeting** [*Page 1008 – 1011*] It was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr Fairclough and agreed the minutes of the June meeting be accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**6. Matters Arising from the Above Minutes for information purposes:** Electoral Services have been notified of the Council vacancies and the requisite forms are currently on display. If a request to hold an election is not received within the allocated time period the Council will be free to co-opt.

**7. Llanbedr Affordable Housing:** The proposed meeting of the Allotment Steering Group with Mr Gary Mitchell has not taken place to date [*Page 1005 Item 8*]. Cllr Mabberley has been in contact with both parties and hopes to have a date to work to shortly.

A plan provided by Mr Alun Lock (Wales & West Housing) detailing the area to be transferred to the Council was circulated amongst Members for information. Mr Lock has reported a number of issues which need addressing: (i) Allotments agreement with Community Council; (ii) Section 38 agreement – adoption of the highway; (iii) Preparation of Specification documentation; (iv) Preparation of Tender documentation; (v) Tender period; (vi) Mobilisation works for Contractor and Design Team; (vii) Discharge of pre-commencement planning conditions.

Wales & West are currently in the process of formulating the draft agreement which due to holidays has been delayed. It is anticipated to be available shortly.

***RESOLVED to arrange a meeting with Mr Alun Lock in order to discuss these matters.***

- 8. Local Development Plan:** Cllr Sharman offered to draft a response to the Schedule of Matters Arising Changes in conjunction with the working group. This response to be circulated for approval prior to submission. It was agreed Cllr Sharman should represent the Council at the Hearing on 5<sup>th</sup> September.

**9. Review of Standing Orders/Financial Regulations and Decision on whether to Implement a Public Speaking Session:**

(i) **Standing Orders:** Cllr Sharman proposed Members take the Standing Orders away from the meeting to study. The decision on whether to adopt them to be taken at the next meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Fairclough and duly agreed.

(ii) **Financial Regulations:** It was proposed by Cllr Fairclough that the Financial Regulations be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Mabberley and duly agreed.

(iii) **Public Speaking Policy:** It was proposed by Cllr Mabberley the Council adopt the Public Speaking Policy as previously circulated. This was seconded by Cllr Morris and duly agreed. *Members were referred to correspondence Item 18(2) in which a member of the public wished to speak to Council. It was agreed to provide him with a copy of the Public Speaking Policy and invite him to the next meeting.*

- 11. Noticeboards:** The Friends of Llanbedr School have requested permission to paint the notice board outside the school. Whilst happy to use the same colour they wondered whether the Council would mind it being painted a different shade? Cllr Morris proposed permission be granted to re-varnish the noticeboard keeping to the existing colour. The Council to reimburse the cost of varnish. This was seconded by Cllr Rees and duly agreed.

- 12. Council Vacancies:** Members were informed Ms K Downhill has expressed interest in becoming a Community Councillor. As noted previously the Council is not able to co-opt until it has received notification from the Elections Office.

- 13. Fire Service Response Times:** Cllr Rees reported the Fire Service took approximately three quarters of an hour to attend a tractor fire in Grwyne Fechan. It transpires on arriving at Crickhowell Fire Station the crew discovered they did not have a driver or officer therefore Abergavenny Station had to be called. It was agreed this was an unacceptable length of time. Whilst in this instance it was a tractor on fire Councillors questioned would have happened had it been a house? Cllr Morris suggested a representative from the Fire Brigade be invited to attend a Council meeting. He would pass contact details onto the Clerk.

***It was proposed by Cllr Morris, seconded by Cllr Sharman and RESOLVED to (i) write to the Fire Brigade to issue a formal complaint (ii) invite a representative from the Fire Brigade to attend a future meeting.***

- 14. Any Other Business:** As noted from Correspondence Item 18 (1) if the Council wishes to claim the grant offered from the Welsh Government for the development of a web site PCC should be notified by the 31<sup>st</sup> July. The Council had previously agreed to purchase a domain name however the Clerk reported costs related to the length of time purchased. Costings for one year were in the region of £10.40 plus VAT, whereupon 10 years approx £68 plus VAT. Members were of opinion the domain name should be purchased for 10 years and the grant applied for. The Clerk will investigate costings from web site providers.

**14. Finance**

- 14.1 The following items were reported for payment: Clerk's salary £192/Exp £25; HMRC £48; OVV Conference £65.00. Donations: Llanbedr Village Hall £100, Llangenny School Hall £100, Glangrwyney Village Hall £100; Llanbedr Churchyard Fund £100, Llangenny Churchyard Fund £100,

Patricio Church Churchyard Fund £100, Wales Air Ambulance £100 and Llanbedr School (hockey sticks) £50

***It was proposed by Cllr Mabberley and seconded by Cllr Rees that the above payments be approved.***

14.2 **Annual Return:** BDO have confirmed there are no matters arising which they wish to draw to the Council's attention and it is their intention to issue an unqualified certificate. Members were asked to approve the return and the Chairman asked to certify Section 3 prior to it being sent to the external auditors in order they may issue the Final Audit certification.

***Cllr Mabberley proposed the annual return be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Rees and duly agreed.***

14.3 **Bank Signatories:** due to Cllr S Shaw's resignation the Council needs to appoint a new signatory. It was resolved Cllr Fairclough be appointed. This was proposed by Cllr Sharman, seconded by Cllr Mabberley and duly agreed. A bank application form was presented for completion and signature. Cllr Fairclough was asked to present identification documentation to the NatWest Bank in Crickhowell.

15. **Highways:** Members noted the report received from Mr Brian Price relating to his meeting with Councillors last April. Cllr Morris questioned why extra funding is necessary to rectify the problems highlighted with The Bont Lane. The contractor responsible should be instructed to put it right. It was reported hedges throughout The Vale are in need of cutting.

***RESOLVED to write to Mr Brian Price and Highways as outlined above***

16. To receive **Reports on Meetings Attended**

**LAF Meeting.** Cllr Mabberley attended - a presentation was given on the National Park Visitor Management Plan – Black Mountains (Waun Fach) is over used – aims to stamp out raves and camping which deters legitimate visitors to the area.

**South Wales Programme:** Cllr Fairclough reported there has been a distinct lack of response to this consultation from South Powys and encouraged everyone to complete the questionnaire.

**Five Councils Liaison meeting:** The Clerk attended. A presentation was given on the Heads of the Valleys Duelling. Main items of discussion included: web sites – mixed response as to whether to continue with existing or new; Fairtrade – support requested for fairtrade community; experimental 50mph limit on A479 to Talgarth for 18 months; South Wales Programme – have you responded to consultation; Planning Aid training: are Councils interested in taking part?

Cllrs Sharman, Morris, Fairclough and Rees expressed interest in taking part in the Planning Aid training. It was noted cost per delegate should be £20 and felt training given by OVW may have a different perspective than that to be given by BBNPA.

The next Liaison meeting will be hosted by Cwmdu CC on the 21<sup>st</sup> November in Tretower Village Hall

17. The following items of correspondence were received and noted:

1. **Wales & West Housing:** notification Alun Lock is taking over the Llanbedr Housing project
2. **Welsh Government:** Change in law to making renting a home easier for everyone. [www.wales.gov.uk/renting](http://www.wales.gov.uk/renting) homes - consultation ends 16 August 2013.
3. **K Downhill:** expression of thanks for dealing with her complaint and query re council vacancy.
4. **OVW:** The Welsh Affairs Committee will hold a one-off session on Police and Crime Commissioners on 11/07/13. Further information found via telephoning - 020 7219 6189 or [welshcom@parliament.uk](mailto:welshcom@parliament.uk)
5. **OVW:** Sustainable Development Bill White Paper - For further information [www.wales.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment](http://www.wales.gov.uk/sustainabledevelopment) or email the team at [SDBill@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SDBill@wales.gsi.gov.uk)
6. **BBNPA:** Agenda for Park Local Access Forum on 10/09/13, unconfirmed minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, together with LAF Work Plans for 2013/14. Resources for Change: ROWIP and ROWIP Funding Programme Evaluation: survey [www.surveymonkey.com/s/LAFsROWIPEvaluation](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LAFsROWIPEvaluation)
7. **Alun Lock, Wales & West Housing:** reply to request asking when project will commence
8. **PCC:** Funding Opportunities – Issue 31 July 2013 – bulletin on selection of funding opportunities.
9. **BBNPA:** planning training anticipated 22 will attend Crickhowell session.
10. **Alun Lock:** plan of allotment site.

11. **OVW:** Invitation to be a member of the Welsh Language Communities Alliance.
12. **Natural Environment & Agriculture Team/Health & Safety Executive:** The Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012. Further information can be found via [www.pesticides.gov.uk](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk)
13. **OVW:** Natural Resources Wales Funding Newsletter July/August 2103
14. **OVW:** Public Appointment opportunity - Chair and Non-Executive Members - Wales Audit Office [www.assemblywales.org/appointments](http://www.assemblywales.org/appointments)
15. **BDO LLP:** Report of no issues arising from external audit
16. **Public Services Ombudsman for Wales:** Annual Report 2012/13
17. **BBNPA:** Notice of Decision: Permitted 13/09376/FUL – Ffordd Las Fawr, Fforest Coal Pit
18. **BBNPA:** Notice of Decision: Permitted 11/06917/FUL – Land to South of St Peters Close, Llanbedr
19. **OVW:** Brecon & Radnor Area Committee Agenda 26/907/13, Minutes of 19/04/13 and 22/06/13
20. **The Commission on Devolution in Wales:** events to gain views on review of the current devolution settlement.
21. **Brian Price (PCC):** Highways report
22. **BBNPA:** Notice of Consultation on the Schedule of Matters Arising Changes Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Local Development Plan
23. **Police & Crime Commissioner for Powys:** details of public surgery in Brecon on 5<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm <http://www.dyfed-powys.pcc.police.uk/en/News/News-Archive/2013/Commissioner-announces-new-surgery-programme.aspx>
24. **Police & Crime Commissioner for Powys:** Annual Report <http://www.dyfed-powys.pcc.police.uk/Document-Library/Priorities-and-Policies/Annual-Report/Annual-Report-2012-13-Designed-English.pdf>
25. **BBNPA:** Notification of NPA meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2013 and link to minutes of EGM.
26. **OVW:** Larger Councils Conference - 10 July 2013 Hafod a Hendre, Royal Welsh Showground *Passed to Cllr Morris as OVW rep*
27. **Police Commissioner's Office:** public surgery in the Guildhall, Brecon on 5<sup>th</sup> July between 3pm and 5pm. <http://www.dyfed-powys.pcc.police.uk/en/News/News-Archive/2013/Commissioner-announces-new-surgery-programme.aspx>
28. **Llangattock CC:** Agenda for 10<sup>th</sup> July Five Councils Meeting & Draft Minutes for approval
29. **OVW:** training programme September to December 2013
30. **Brecknock and Radnor Community Health Council** notice and agenda for meeting to be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at 2.30 pm (passed to Cllr Fairclough as representative)
31. **Clerks & Councils Direct:** Issue 88 July 2013
32. **The Voice:** Issue 23 Summer 2013
33. **J Parker's Wholesale Flower Catalogue**

## 18. Miscellaneous/Late Items of correspondence

1. **PCC:** if the Community Council wishes to receive a £500 grant for website development this must be requested by 31<sup>st</sup> July. PCC then need confirmation of how the money is spent, ie developing a new web site, up-dating an existing web site. (It is intended to add the £500 to the August precept)
2. **Mr P Bowker:** issues in Glangrwyney – parking/lack of facilities within the village.
3. **BBNPA:** permission granted 13/09565/FUL: – 3 Springfields, Llangenny NP8 1HA
4. **BBNPA:** Webcasting survey

19. **Clerk's Report/Items for inclusion in the next Agenda.** This item was discussed under Item 9.3 when it was agreed to invite Mr Bowker to speak at the next meeting and Item 14 when it was also agreed to obtain further information relating to web site design/costs.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.25pm.