

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday, 20th January 2025 at 7:30pm in Llanbedr Village Hall and remotely via the video conferencing platform Zoom.

Present: Cllr Elaine Lusted (Chair)
Cllr John Morris
Cllr Colin Alford
Cllr Roger Llewelyn
Cllr Roger Bridgwater

Attended Remotely: Cllr David Sharman
Cllr Phillip Bowker

Absent: Cllr Dean Christy
Cllr Jeff Greenidge

In attendance: County Cllr Chloe Masefield
The Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None received

2. **Declarations of Interest:** none declared

3. **Planning Matters:**

3.1 Applications: to consider and resolve responses to BBNPA:

- (i) **24/23464/FUL** and **24/23465/LBC:** "Householder planning and listed building consent application for Design changes to a modern lean-to extension on the rear of the house, including the roof profile, roof finish and windows". **Tyrywen, Forest Coalpit NP7 7LP**

RESOLVED to: submit response of no objection

3.2 Decisions/Other: no decisions were received.

4. **County Council Report to receive and discuss general Powys County Council (PCC) Matters:**

In addition to the written report circulated Cllr Masefield reported:

Budget: council tax is expected to increase by 8.9% (which will still result in a deficit). PCC is lobbying Welsh Government to get the settlement increased and making as many savings as possible, but the cost of social care is increasing massively.

PCC, with the support of other councils in Wales, is writing to Welsh Government to state the cost of social care means they are not able to deliver other services which should be delivered locally. Social care costs should not be a local council issue.

Signed:.....
Chair

PCC is changing procurement rules for ditch clearing. It intends issuing smaller less onerous contracts to encourage local contractors to apply. This should result in ditches being cleared on a regular basis.

Flood volunteer groups operating in Crickhowell/Cwmdru/Tretower/Glangrwyney are proving very effective. Flood wardens are provided with training/resources by PCC and able to report problems as they arise. PCC is looking at implementing a similar system for gullies and ditches. (Cllr Masefield will provide members with details of the flood group in Glangrwyney).

Discussion ensued on how highway issues are ranked, ie what is the process for something ranked as low being dealt with? Low ranked issues not being attended to can result in severe problems, ie landslips caused by blocked gullies. Cllr Bridgwater asked Cllr Masefield to arrange a meeting with the Cabinet Member and the senior highways leader to discuss risk processes/procedures.

ACTION: Cllr Masefield will arrange a meeting with PCC Cabinet Member for Highways (Jackie Charlton) and senior leader.

5. Highways: to receive and discuss highway issues

Llanbedr: two/three culverts have collapsed along the road between The Gudder Farm and The Cefn Farm. (Between Cefn Farm and Llwynon, by The Dyffryn and from Penroel up to The Henbant).

Glangrwyney: three street lights (reported previously) are still not working (PCL939, 940 and 941). Debris under the stone bridge from the recent flooding was cleared within a week.

Grwyne Fechan: the Bont Lane needs cleaning.

Llangenny: flooding has damaged the footpath between Millbrook and Glangrwyney – about 200 yards from Millbrook, close to the public footpath and electric pole. Further flooding may take the footpath/electric pole out and tree/s need removing from the river. Cllr Masefield will report to Natural Resources Wales and BBNPA. Potholes were reported on the road from the Salmon Leap to Hall Farm.

A stone retaining wall under the road to Llangenny before the bridge (visible from the barn in Golden Grove) has collapsed. Concern is if it gets worse the road will give way.

6. Minutes: to approve the minutes of the 16th December 2024 meeting

The minutes of the 16th December 2024 meeting [Pages 1562-1566] were approved as a true record [Proposed Cllr Morris; Seconded Cllr Bridgwater] and duly agreed.

7. Clerk's Report: information from the minutes/progress up-date

Page 1564 - Item 8 - James Evans MS will ask Ken Skates MS to follow up the request for speed camera signs with his officials.

Signed:.....

Chair

Item 10 - Bank application in progress

Page 1565:

Item 12 - PCC will complete the safety surfacing repair in the Spring.

Item 15 - PCSO Garrett will attend a future meeting.

P1554

Item 8 - Caravan Club is investigating alleged breaches.

The map for the Queen's Platinum Walk has been received – place on next agenda.

8. Parking Issues in Glangrwyney: to consider ways of improving parking

The owner of the land adjacent to the village hall may be prepared to sell/lease an area of ground between the hall and the river for the purposes of creating a parking area although there are considerable legal/cost implications. Following discussion it was agreed to ask residents if they are interested in attending a meeting to discuss parking. Depending on the response a leaflet drop may be undertaken.

ACTION: Clerk to put a notice in the noticeboard asking residents to contact the council if they are interested in attending a meeting to discuss parking.

9. Financial Regulations: to consider adopting revised version

Discussion deferred to the following meeting.

10. Llanbedr Noticeboard: to receive up-date/decide how to proceed

Cllr Llewelyn inspected the noticeboard but was unsure how it opened. Cllrs Bridgwater and Llewelyn will continue looking for a solution.

ACTION: Cllrs Bridgwater and Llewelyn to attempt repair of opening mechanism

20.58 Cllr Llewelyn left the meeting

11. Llanbedr Community Orchard/Nature Garden: to receive up-date/discuss maintenance

The community orchard/nature garden requires considerable maintenance. Cllrs Alford and Morris will look at repairing the gate and ascertain what else is needed. A decision on whether to employ a contractor will be taken at the next meeting.

ACTION: Cllrs Alford and Morris to meet to assess/repairs and install gate post

12. Cloud Storage: to consider using cloud storage for managing documents

Following consideration of the options available it was agreed to proceed with Microsoft One Drive (one year subscription). Agreed by majority vote.

RESOLVED to: subscribe to Microsoft One Drive

Signed:.....

Chair

13. The Robert Hamer Educational Trust: to determine current position

A trustee has been asked to find out from the treasurer if another educational trust is being set up. It was agreed the council should write to the treasurer to find out what the current position is.

ACTION: Clerk to write to the treasurer

14. Information from Members to be included in the next Agenda

- Policing Report (PCSO Garrett to attend a future meeting)
- Consultations – how to engender responses to consultations.

15. Finance:

15.1 The following items were approved for payment [Proposed; Cllr Morris; Seconded Cllr Sharman] and duly agreed:

Staff (Salary)	£	
HMRC (Tax)	£	
G James (Serviced Office £25/Travel £6.30)	£	31.30
G James (Reimburse: Zoom £15.59/Postage £0.85)	£	16.44
Glangrwyney Village Hall (Hire 16/12/24)	£	30.00
Welsh Water - Llanbedr Water Trough	£	15.99
Welsh Water - Llangenny Fountain	£	21.38
One Voice Wales – Training £40/Conference £95) (to replace cheques 001845 and 001846 lost in post)	£	135.00

15.2 The January Finance Report was noted.

15.3 Internal audit: it was agreed to ask Mrs J Hughes to undertake this year's audit.

16. To receive Reports on Meetings Attended

One Voice Wales Area Meeting: Cllr Morris attended. The meeting was not well attended. Simon Evans (Wye Valley Foundation) spoke on environmental issues and up-dates were given on the Wales Air Ambulance and pylons for wind farms.

17. Correspondence as itemised in Appendix A was noted.**18. Miscellaneous/Late Correspondence as itemised in Appendix B was noted.**

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21:28pm

Signed:.....
Chair