

Minutes of The Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held in Llangenny School Hall on Monday, 15th March 2010 at 7.30 pm.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Mr Ian Mabberley, Miss Bridget Barnes. **Present:** Mrs Sue Shaw (Chair), Mr David Sharman, Mr John Morris, Mrs Elaine Lusted & Mr Roger Llewelyn.

Also in attendance: County Councillor John Morris, Mr Andrew Timpson, Maria James (Clerk) and Five Members of the Public.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** Mrs Shaw & Mr Llewelyn: *(Item 7.1) Organisers of Beacons Preservation Group.*

3. **Powys County Council: Secondary School Modernisation Programme:**

SS welcomed Mr Andrew Timpson, Head of Crickhowell High School, who provided an up-date on the current position regarding PCC's School Modernisation Programme and the possible options currently being explored. Mr Timpson assured Councillors closure of Crickhowell High School was not on the agenda. Changes throughout Powys are however necessary due to falling pupil numbers, together with the need to save money. Over the next 4/5 months a detailed plan will be compiled to show how economies can be made whilst allowing the quality of education to be preserved or even improved.

SS thanked Mr Timpson for speaking to Councillors and asked how the Council could support the school. Although it is difficult to know how to proceed until definite proposals are made Mr Timpson suggested the Council might wish to be involved during the informal consultation stage due to take place in late April/ May.

4. **Planning:**

Applications:

i) 10/04478/FUL New agricultural entrance – Land adjacent to Llangenny Lane

This ground is within Crickhowell Town Centre environs however BBNPA asked VoGCC to comment due to its proximity to the boundary. As instructed the Clerk confirmed she wrote to object to this application as the lane is considered too narrow for large agricultural vehicles.

ii) 10/04459/FUL - The Studio Llanbedr - conversion of outbuilding to studio (single storey)

Councillors supported this application on the basis there is no "on road" parking.

iii) 10/04468/FUL – Erection of agricultural building for livestock and storage – Pengilfach Farm, Llangenny.

No objection.

iv) 10/04525/OUT – Pair of local needs houses 5 & 6 Springfields, Llangenny

Councillors wish to obtain clarification from BBNPA on the status of the ground and query the suitability of access. Clerk to apply for extension until this information has been received. To be discussed at next meeting.

5. **County Council Report:** JGM reported:

1. The new Chief Executive of Powys County Council's wish for the Council to provide efficient services for the Green Heart of Wales and "Powys' Vision of the Future" with services/support from 2015 anticipated as being flexible, efficient and customer based. More information can be viewed on PCC's web site.
2. Wales & West Housing Association Ltd has still not confirmed how it intends to proceed with the affordable housing in Llanbedr.
3. Interviews are taking place this week for a new Headmaster for Crickhowell High School.
4. Salt bins should now have been refilled.
5. Roads/gullies should have been cleared of leaves.
6. A meeting has been scheduled for 25/03/10 with Rhodri Davies regarding Cwrt Y Gollen. SS will also attend.

6. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting 15/02/10** [Pages 871-873]

Proposed DS, seconded JM and agreed the minutes be accepted as a true record subject to EL being inserted into those present. The Clerk apologised for this oversight.

7. Matters Arising:

7.1 Cwrt Y Gollen

SS read a response from Rhodri Davies. He stated that comments had not yet been received from Welsh Water and the Environment Agency in respect of the Sewage Treatment Plant, and although the Environment Agency can advise on the acceptability of providing the works on a flood plain he didn't see this as an issue as it was not residential housing that was being built on the flood plain. He pointed out that the Community Council would be able to comment on the Reserved Matters application when finer detail will be provided.

SS has not received an up-date on the status of the outline planning application. SS will chase RD for an update or alternatively attend the meeting along with County Cllr John Morris.

Councillors discussed the situation and it was agreed they need to request a meeting with Mr John Cook.

RESOLVED: to request meeting with John Cook.

7.2 LDP/UDP

SS read out BBNPA's response to the VoGCC's letter querying the settlement assessment and site selection methodology in which BBNPA reported they do not propose providing a point by point answer to the questions raised in our letter as Planning Aid Wales Training Sessions are due to be held shortly and will address these matters.

The Clerk reported the training sessions referred to above will be held on 26th March, 23rd April and 11th June in CRiC, Crickhowell. Agreed DS and SS to attend.

SS reported settlement levels and candidate sites are scheduled to be approved by Members on 9th April meeting. Councillors discussed emailing Members prior to the 9th April meeting stating dissatisfaction with how the LDP has progressed and will endeavour to co-ordinate with other local community councils to speak at this meeting. Councillors believe the Park is not using the same criteria throughout and believe their method of assessing sustainability scores is questionable.

SS reported Kirsty Williams had written to BBNPA on behalf of the community of Glangrwyney and the BBNPA has provided her with MORE information than that given to the Community Council. JM suggested writing to One Voice Wales.

7.3 Vale of Grwyney Community Land Trust Ltd:

This has been reported upon under Section 5.0 County Council Report

7.4 Website

Clerk reported she can now input information onto the CYG site and asked Councillors what they wanted on the site. The "Welcome Page" and access to alter "Councillors Details" are still outstanding. Councillors agreed not to issue payment until the site is completely up and running to the Council's satisfaction.

Clerk reported she had contacted The Local Channel and they have removed the out of date page – they have included a link on their site to the CRiC site.

7.5 Five Councils Liaison Meeting

The next Five Councils Meeting will be hosted by Llangattock CC on Wednesday, 24th March at 7.30 in Llangattock Community Centre. Agreed the VoGCC submit LDP Up-date (*if not already on the agenda*) and Cwrt Y Gollen as agenda items.

7.6 Councillor Vacancy

DS reported he had spoken to Ms Samantha Jones who is interested in being co-opted onto the Council. Agreed Miss Jones should send an application letter in for Council to consider.

ACTION: Clerk to forward documentation on the role of a Community Councillor to Ms Jones.

7.7 Brecknock & Radnor Community Health Council Representative

A representative from the Council is invited to become a member of the Health Focus Group. The group meet every 6/8 weeks – the next one is scheduled at the Health Centre, Crickhowell on 14th April at 6.30 pm.

ACTION: Clerk to contact PR.

7.8 Community Projects

SS asked Councillors to provide suggestions for community based projects. To be discussed at the next meeting.

7.9 Any Other Business:

RL reported he had been approached regarding the closure of the Blue Bell Inn in Glangrwyney. The community are concerned at the loss of their “local”. Agreed to write to SA Brains & Co to enquire what their long term plans are for the premises.

ACTION: Agreed the Clerk write to SA Brains & Co as detailed above.

8. Finance:

8.1 Cheques:

Clerk’s salary £135 & Expenses £20
One Voice Wales – Membership - £93

Proposed DS, seconded SS and agreed to pay the above.

Cedryn Creative – Website Development - £100
Agreed amendments discussed [Item 7.5] be implemented prior to payment.

ACTION: Clerk to contact CRiC to explain the reason for delay in payment.

9. Highways:

9.1 PCC Winter Services Report – noted.

9.2 RL reported the pavors in the pavement outside the bus stop have lifted due to root damage from a tree (now removed)

9.3 SS reported a burger van was operating from the lay-by by Glangrwyney. This is a different van from last year [Page 860 Section 8.2]. Advertising boards are still in place.

ACTION: Clerk to report the defective pavors to PCC Highways Dept as outlined above and also contact BBNPA to request an up-date from the Enforcement Officer for the removal of the advertising signs.

10. Reports on Other Meetings:

1. 15/03/10: Training & Development Opportunity for Councillors Across Unitary Authorities in Gwent & Town/Community Councillors as part of One Voice Wales: Cwmbran – JM attended.
2. OVW – JM attended.
3. Dyfed Powys Police: 08/03/10: Rearranged Powys Community Consultative Meeting/Llandrindod Wells – JM attended.

11. Correspondence

- 11.1 Spiral Injuries Association: Great British Fish & Chip Supper Fundraiser (21/05/10) – noticeboard.
- 11.2 Cric Civic Society – The Chestnuts Nursing Home Closure - noted
- 11.3 OVW /MAG - Equality of Opportunity Committee Inquiry into Accessibility of Railway Stations – circulated
- 11.4 BBNPA - LAF Agenda for 4/03/10 Meeting & copy of unconfirmed minutes of 8/12/09 Meeting – circulated
- 11.5 BDO – Audit Briefing – Winter 2010 / The Good Practice Guide – noted
- 11.6 OVW – Welsh Language Policy & Legislation up-date - noted

12. Miscellaneous/Late Items

- 12.1 Crickhowell Guild of Weaves Spinners & Dyers – looking for new premises – noted.

- 12.2. Rural Housing Event – 15/04/10– Sustainable Communities How Affordable Housing Contributes Royal Welsh Show Ground Builth Wells – noted.
- 12.3 Powys Teaching Health Board – Workshop – Mon 12/04 at Gwernyfed High School Brecon - PR
- 12.4 BBNPA - The Green Valleys Community Action Day/George Hotel, Brecon on 27/03/10 – noted
- 12.5 CRiC – Community Membership – need nominated person with vote at CRiC AGM. - SS
- 12.6 Dyfed Powys Police – Consultation on Employment Targets & Publication of statement of accounts – consultation period for feedback on their proposed targets is Friday 19th March - noted
- 12.7 Clerks & Councils Direct - noted
- 12.8 Hafan Cymru – Charity requesting support for Spectrum Project – noted
- 12.9 Planning Aid Wales Newsletter – SS/DS
- 12.10 WAG Review of Planning Application System in Wales - end of Consultation period – 08 April - noted

13. AOB

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting at 10.05pm.