

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of The Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held in Glangrwyney Hall on Thursday, 8th April 2010 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Mrs Sue Shaw (Chair), Mr Ian Mabberley (Vice Chair), Miss Bridget Barnes, Mr David Sharman, Mr Roger Llewelyn, Mr John Morris. Also in attendance Maria James (Clerk). **Apologies:** Mrs Elaine Lusted.

Action Plan/Strategy for Cwrt-y-Gollen & LDP

Councillors discussed an action plan in relation to the above and agreed to:

1. **Write to John Cook** (*copying Chris Morgan*) – outlining objections and dissatisfaction with the manner in which the BBNPA has dealt with this application. The VoGCC, a democratically elected body, has in effect been ignored despite being promised on more than one occasion they would be listened to. SS had drafted a letter which she presented to Council. The letter again queried the Settlement Level of Glangrwyney, the new methodology, the information presented by the BBNPA in the recent training session - the LDP is not now being based on housing needs. Also questions relating to the planning application – the developer has employed consultants to look at the lawfulness of the education planning gain and the developer has now proposed an on site sewage treatment facility – all of which the BBNPA are quite happy to accommodate.

Councillors **agreed** this letter covers all relevant facts and **agreed** the VoGCC will also notify BBNPA that an official complaint will be lodged with the Ombudsman.

2. **BBNPA's Ecologist** – decided not to contact.
3. **Environment Agency** - SS informed Councillors due to time restraints she has already emailed the Agency to thank them for providing the VoGCC with a copy of their response re: sewerage plant proposal and also informing them of the communities concerns, ie flood plain, proximity of houses to sewerage, and issues in past with sewerage regularly flooding houses. No consideration has been given to joint flooding of rivers Grwyne & Usk. From scaled drawing the sewerage plant is 4m x 4m? Questioned how this application could be passed on such meagre information.
4. **It was agreed to send reports to ALL BBNPA Members** - (*Peter Draper Report & VoGCC Report*) together with covering letter **stating** that on behalf of the residents of The Vale of Grwyney the Community Council has spent a lot of time and effort fighting these proposals on the grounds outlined in the attached reports. Unfortunately to date none of our views have been taken into consideration and therefore we are sending you this directly as a Member asking you to read these reports which spell out the reasons why we and the residents of The Vale of Grwyney feel this development should not go ahead. Finally the Vale of Grwyney Council is seriously considering approaching the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales as we feel to date that the BBNPA has refused to take any information from us or act upon it.

Copy also to Nick Bourne & Kirsty Williams – asking if they would be prepared to do a three minute speech on our behalf. Possibly write to **Roger Williams** – (*but as of today he cannot act as MP*) – but can speak as Candidate (as well as **Suzy Davies**).

5. Write to **County Councillor John Morris** reminding him that he and his colleagues represent our community who are against this application and asking for their combined support.
6. **PCC** – write to say we do not want this development. PCC will ultimately be responsible for services. Has planning gain for education £1.9 million been agreed?
7. **Media Campaign** SS proposed employing a professional PR person to compile and distribute a press release. The cost would be in the region of £300. The Council to supply all relevant information which would then be written in a manner to hopefully attract the nationals. (*Might be worth asking Kirsty Williams to quote*). This could be sent with a press embargo to allow us to control the timing of its release. Agreed the timing not the best with the General Election being held on 6th May. Councillors asked whether it might be able to persuade Candidates to use this as a party political issue?

Councillors unanimously agreed to the above action.

Angles to be explored include: *Village of Glangrwyney swamped by housing - disproportionate size - flood plain – no sewerage system – MOD – live ammunition – trunk road. - Glangrwyney to be Flooded etc*

8. SS to write to **Campaign for National Parks** who believe site should return to greenfield – as original status.

Councillors agreed they need to concentrate on contacting people who will have an effect on this planning application. Also agreed the press release should be released by the Thursday preceding the meeting (22nd April). SS will circulate the draft press release once complete.

Meeting closed 9.05pm