

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 17th May 2010 at 7.55 pm in Llanbedr Village Hall

Present: Mrs Sue Shaw (Chair), Mr Ian Maberley (Vice Chairman), Miss Bridget Barnes, Mr David Sharman, Mr John Morris, Mr Prydderch Rees, Mrs Elaine Lusted and Miss Samantha Jones.

Also in attendance: County Councillor John Morris & Maria James (Clerk).

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Mr Roger Llewelyn.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** Mrs Sue Shaw (*Item 6.1*) Organiser, Beacons Preservation Group.

3. **Planning:**

3.1. Applications

Rose Cottage, Glangrwyney, Crickhowell, Powys NP8 1EE (10/04682/FUL). New vehicle access to side garden with parking space. SS explained Rose Cottage borders her property and therefore she would abstain from further discussion and any subsequent vote. Following discussion and examination of the plans Councillors agreed to support the application.

3.2. Other

i. Pair Local needs houses **5&6 Springfields, Llangenny** (10/04525/OUT) **Withdrawn**

ii. Erection of Agricultural Building, **Pengilfach Farm, Llangenny** (10/04468/FUL) **Permitted**

iii Convert barn to single holiday let, **Ffawydd, Llanbedr** (09/04168/FUL) **Permitted**

4. **County Council Report:**

JGM informed Councillors his report related solely to Cwrt Y Gollen. It was therefore agreed to discuss under Matters Arising [Item 6.1].

5. **Minutes of the Meeting regarding Cwrt Y Gollen held on 08/04/10** [Pages 878]:

Proposed by IM, seconded by BB and agreed the minutes be accepted as a true record.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting 19/04/09 [Pages 879 – 882]:

Proposed by IM seconded PR and agreed the minutes be accepted as a true record.

6. **Matters Arising:**

6.1 Cwrt Y Gollen

SS recounted the current position confirming that BBNPA withdrew the application the day before the PAROW meeting scheduled for 27th April. In response to our letter enquiring why the application had been withdrawn John Cook issued a statement from the Park Authority's solicitor explaining the Case Officer needed to include additional information in his report therefore in order to allow Members sufficient time to read and reflect upon this it was decided to withdraw the application from the agenda.

Following a renewed planning notice published in the Abergavenny Chronicle SS contacted Rhodri Davies and asked if he could explain why this action was necessary and whether objections will have to be resubmitted. RD confirmed existing objections will stand. He stated the planning notice was necessary due to the site being classed as open countryside in the Local Plan but allocated for mixed use in the UDP, which superseded the Local Plan. This is therefore a technical departure from the Local Plan.

DS reported the only legal document is the 1999 Local Plan, the UDP is only approved, therefore because the UDP has been challenged BBNPA has had to revert back to the old Local Plan.

Councillors discussed whether any action was needed prior to the PAROW meeting.

It was reiterated the Community Council is against this development with justifiable reasons and would appreciate Powys CC's support.

JGM reported:

On highways issues MWTA have confirmed they are happy with the proposal for the junction. He also reported he believed that the application was withdrawn from the April PAROW meeting was because the Officer's report contained information on the proposed modernisation of schooling. Powys CC had asked that the application be deferred on the basis this information was not comprehensive and did not relate to the present position. It is not a valid Powys CC document and was used as an argument against the education gain requested.

The Monitoring Officer had informed Powys CC members that they could not participate in the meeting. Some Powys CC members had requested dispensation from the Standards Committee. Powys CC has appointed a planning barrister to look at the application as the long term cost to Powys CC will be enormous. JGM will meet with planning barrister in next couple of weeks.

BBC Radio Wales have contacted JGM. They are very interested in what is happening at the National Park Authority and intend to produce a programme (*Eye on Wales*) for transmission prior to the PAROW meeting. Peter Johnson will interview JGM and SS.

SS confirmed she met with Norma Barry of The Campaign for National Parks. Ms Barry has written to the BBNPA Members expressing concern with the proposal siting the size of the development as out of keeping with other parts of the National Park. Ms Barry is meeting with John Cook (Chief Executive) and has suggested the Community Council write to Jane Davidson.

SS reiterated there is currently lots of work being done to make people aware of the position.

6.2 LDP

The LDP will go before Members for approval on 28th May. SS and DS will speak at this meeting. Agreed there is nothing the Community Council can do until the Deposit Plan is out for consultation. JGM suggested once the Deposit Plan is available we contact other community councils and work together to formulate objections as well as contacting the Members individually.

6.3 Vale of Grwyney Community Land Trust Ltd

Councillors discussed the current position regarding the land. The Wales & West Housing Association is understood to be awaiting a water survey due to the need to divert a stream. SS confirmed she has spoken to the Chairman of the Community Land Trust conveying this information. Once proposals have been formulated Powys CC have suggested that the Land Trust host a public event to give opportunity for community input.

Councillors expressed disappointment at the lack of progress and discussed whether the Council should intervene. Agreed to consider this option.

Action: Clerk to contact David James requesting once he is in receipt of the necessary information he report direct to the Council

6.4 Llangenny Playground:

Clerk confirmed she contacted the Five Councils Clerks as requested last month regarding playground maintenance/running costs, etc and reported:

- i. Bwlch CC have been trying to upgrade their playground for 2 years. It has been very frustrating.
- ii. Llangattock CC state repairs can be costly. Annual inspections by RoSPA as well as weekly inspections are required.
- iii. Crickhowell TC state the play area in the Castle grounds is quite costly to insure and is high maintenance.

Councillors discussed maintenance liabilities involved and felt they may not financially be in a position to upgrade the playground. The Clerk also reported an inspector from Powys CC informed residents Llanbedr would be receiving some new equipment however the lease on the playground in Llangenny is coming to an end and Powys CC do not intend to renew it. The Clerk has written requesting clarification of the situation but has not received a response to date. DS informed Council the playground is leased from the Church.

Resolved: to await clarification from Powys CC as outlined above before deciding on a course of action.

6.5 Llangenny Payphone

BT has put a notice of adoption on the payphone. Agreed the Clerk should contact BT Payphones requesting they do not remove this payphone citing reasons similar to those put forward when BT were proposing to remove the payphone at Five Ways, Fforest.

6.6 Risk Assessment

As this relates principally to benches agreed to defer to next meeting.

6.7 Any Other Matters Arising

Web site - Clerk reported she had emailed the web designer asking him to provide data on the number of hits on the site but had not received a response to date.

IM reported he met Clive Williams of BBNPA and discussed the problem of off-road motorbikes in Grwyne Fawr. He confirmed the police are aware of the problem and will endeavour to prevent this activity.

7. Finance:

7.1 Cheques

Clerk's salary £135 & Expenses £20, Stationery/Photocopying/Postage £84.39
Welsh Water – Drinking Trough Llanbedr - £18.97
Glangrwyney Hall (CYG meeting) 2 hours @ £7 - £14
Spotty Dog Communications - PR - £300
S Shaw (Chairman's Allowance) - £75

Proposed EL seconded DS and agreed to pay the above.

7.2 Fidelity Guarantee:

The Clerk informed Councillors the Fidelity Guarantee Insurance is currently set at £8,000. Although the Clerk advised she felt this to be sufficient it is necessary to review the level from time to time and sought Council's instruction. Councillors agreed to leave the insurance at £8,000 in line with the Clerk's recommendation.

7.3 Payments:

HM Revenue & Customs Remittance Advice – VAT Refund £52.82 (period 17/11/08-2/03/10)

The Clerk informed Councillors the above VAT refund was received on 27/04/10.

The Clerk also confirmed a precept payment of £2,000 was received on 30/04/10.

8. Highways:

The Clerk reported:

1. The Mid Wales Trunk Agency have investigated the position regarding the burger van [Page 863 Item 8] operating out of the lay-by in Glangrwyney. They do not feel there is a significant safety hazard. The signs on the highway are considered on the basis of safety and the MWTA will monitor the situation. In response to our suggestion Powys CC introduce permit scheme to allow trading from lay-bys (akin to that operating in Monmouthshire) Powys CC state at present they do not intend to take such action. The BBNPA Enforcement Officer has also written to confirm the matter is still under investigation.
2. Powys CC have written to confirm the pothole by Cwm Bridge will be repaired and also the sweeping of the Grwyne Fechan roads will start as soon as practical.

Councillors reported:

1. The road is sinking just above Gelli Fanw/Gwrlodau.
2. The road at Partishow between Celyn Farm and Penybair is breaking up – water isn't draining away.
3. Track to Grwyne Fawr Reservoir the sign is out of date and should be changed to a Restricted Byway. This was reported on a previous occasion [Page 828 Item 8].

9. Reports on Other Meetings

None reported.

10. Correspondence

- 10.1 *Kompan – Children's Play Equipment Catalogue*
- 10.2 *OVW – Appt Lay and Legal Members / Adjudication Panel for Wales.*
- 10.3 *South Powys Community Stakeholder Workshop – 19.05.10 - Bishop Meadow Motel, Brecon*
- 10.4 *PCC – Licensing Information Flyer/Schools & the Gambling Act 2005*
- 10.5 *OVW / WAG Changes to Accounts & Audit Regulations & Capital Finance & Accounting Regulations in Wales*
- 10.6 *Clerk's & Councils Direct*

11. Miscellaneous/Late Correspondence

- 11.1 *The Voice*
- 11.2 *Guidance from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales - The Code of Conduct*
- 11.3 *Defence Estates – Exercise Long Reach will take place in the Black Mountains on: 16/06/10 to 18/06/10, 20/10/10 to 22/10/10, 16/02/11 to 18/02/11*

12. Previously Circulated Items

- 12.1 *OVW Funding News May 2010*

13. AOB

Depending upon the contents of the LDP DS suggested it may be necessary to hold a special meeting prior to the PAROW meeting on 8th June.

IM offered his apologies in advance as he will not be able to attend the meeting on the 21st June.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.35 pm.