

Minutes of the Vale of Grwyney Community Council Meeting held on Monday 19th July 2010 at 7.30pm in Glangrwyney Village Hall

Present: Mrs Sue Shaw (*Chair*), Mr Ian Mabberley (*Vice Chair*), Miss Bridget Barnes, Mr John Morris, Mr Roger Llewelyn, Mrs Elaine Lusted & Mr David Sharman. *Also in attendance:* County Councillor John Morris, Garth Roberts, Maria James (*Clerk*) and 4 members of the public. (*Another member of the public arrived later in the meeting*).

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Miss Samantha Jones
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Mrs S Shaw & Mr R Llewelyn (*Item 7.1*) Organisers, Beacons Preservation Group
3. **Llanbedr School Board of Governors' Report:** Mr Garth Roberts informed Councillors a new teacher has been employed to replace Mr Billings who has taken early retirement. The school is currently looking at the viability of the three year old setting as it is unclear how successful this is in increasing pupil numbers when balanced against costs involved. Mr Roberts reiterated the fact the school faces continuing financial pressures with the budget remaining tight. A copy of his report was circulated amongst Councillors. Councillors thanked Mr Roberts for his time and asked if the Clerk could be entered on the distribution list for the school's newsletter.
4. **Planning**

4.1 Applications:

(i) Pair of local needs houses, Springfields, Llangenny (10/05039/OUT): Councillors were reminded this is a re-submission of a previous application [Page 879 Item 3.1]. The Chairman had been in touch with the Local Housing Enabler to seek clarification between "Local Needs" housing and "Affordable Housing". The Rural Housing Enabler had stated that Local Needs was where houses were built for children who worked in the family business and Affordable Housing was run by Housing Associations. Councillors discussed this application in depth. Without asking for the meeting to be adjourned (IM) the vice chairman asked the applicants to clarify what they had applied for, they could not answer the question, they said they did not know what they applied for. It was agreed a definitive definition of "local needs" housing should be sought and clarification obtained of the criteria applicable. The status of the land in respect of the Local Plan/UDP was again raised and discussed. JGM produced a copy of the UDP (March 2007 P27) showing the site to be within the white area. It was agreed that the application needed clarification as to whether it was Local Needs or Affordable, together with the eligibility requirements. Councillors emphasised their support for both local needs and affordable housing.

IM proposed it be agreed in principal subject to clarification being sought, as stated above, and the criteria needs. *Proposed IM and passed by majority vote.*

(ii) Removal of existing entrance lobby and erection of a single storey extension (10/05112/FUL) Llwyn-On, Llanbedr, Crickhowell, Powys NP7 7LW: Following examination of the plans Councillors agreed the application is in keeping with the property. No objections.

4.2 **Decisions:** Permitted - Retention of existing workshop – 1 Old Abbey Place, Glangrwyney (10/04798/FUL)

5. County Council Report

JGM reported:-

Cwrt Y Gollen - Councillor Wyn Jones confirmed to date the developer has not held a further meeting with PCC to discuss CYG. JGM stated that whilst attending a meeting between PCC and BBNPA he had requested that should CYG go to appeal Officers will be as vociferous in objecting to the application as they were in supporting it. Burger Van in Glangrwyney: JGM has forwarded the letter regarding the burger van to Geraint Hopkins who is responsible for Highways. No response as yet.

Affordable Housing, Llanbedr – Six houses are intended to be built on the exception site funded from the sale of three houses built on the white area. Plans have been prepared for 2 bedroom houses with the option of a third bedroom in the roof space. Highways originally requested 27 parking spaces however have now agreed 21. Community allotments are also proposed.

Councillors asked JGM whether he was aware of the current situation regarding the LDP. JGM reported Officers have admitted some affordable housing figures are wrong. It is therefore anticipated the deposit LDP will not be published until the end of August/Sept. It was agreed the meeting in Llanbedr could not be organised until the Deposit LDP is available.

Councillors expressed disappointment that the Environmental and Highways Departments of PCC did not respond regarding the Cwrt Y Gollen application. It was felt responses from these departments would have proved useful. Councillors reiterated their wish to meet Jeremy Patterson to relay their concerns however in response to a request for a meeting he had forwarded this to Lesley Kirkpatrick, Regeneration & Development for response. Ms Kirkpatrick has subsequently written to state she has asked Alan Southerby, Senior Manager Development Management to contact us. Councillors agreed it is important they speak direct to Mr Patterson. JGM stated he believed Mr Patterson would wish to deal personally with concerns regarding the operation of any of his departments.

ACTION: *The Clerk to write again requesting a meeting direct with Mr Patterson.*

Councillors asked JGM about the effects of the Local Government Boundary Commission Review of Electoral Arrangements for Powys. JGM explained this proposal recommends reducing the number of PCC County Councillors from 73 to 64 with each Councillor representing the same amount of people (averaging 1 councillor to 1616 electors). It is proposed to include Llangattock and Tretower with the Crickhowell ward. Crickhowell would then elect two county councillors. It is anticipated these proposals will be implemented during 2012.

JGM and Members of the Public then left the meeting.

6. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting 21/06/10 [Pages 887 - 889]:

Proposed by DS, seconded by EL and agreed the minutes be accepted as a true record.

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

7.1 Cwrt Y Gollen: As outlined previously Jeremy Patterson of PCC has passed our request for a meeting to Lesley Kirkpatrick. Ms Kirkpatrick has subsequently written to state she has asked Alan Southerby, Senior Manager Development Management to contact us.

BBNPA has confirmed as a statutory consultee we will automatically be informed should an appeal be lodged. Councillors agreed they need to remain vigilant.

7.2 LDP: As discussed previously the Chair of PAROW has confirmed the Community Council will not need to respond to the LDP over the summer period. She has asked BBNPA to send a letter to explain the situation.

7.3 Vale of Grwyney Community Land Trust Ltd: Mr Ian Fraser has confirmed he is happy for colleagues to keep the council fully involved with this project. Mr David James, Rural Housing Enabler for South Powys has provided an up-date which was distributed to Councillors. Mr James suggests meeting in order to discuss the matter further with a view to holding a public open event. Councillors agreed the Community Council needs to take an interest in this scheme due to the current lack of progress.

ACTION: SS to contact Mr James to arrange a suitable date to meet.

7.4 Llangenny Playground: The Clerk reported she had forwarded the necessary Contact details of the Rector of Llangenny Church as requested.

7.5 Llangenny Payphone: BT has written to state a notice has been in the kiosk since August 2009 when the kiosk was proposed for adoption. If the kiosk is not adopted it will remain in place, but due to low usage it is possible it could be included in a future rationalisation programme. However should that happen BT would start a fresh consultation process with BBNPA.

7.6 Five Councils Meeting: As reported last month the clerk confirmed other Community Councils were considering either organising a separate meeting or extending the Five Councils Meeting in order to discuss views on the forthcoming LDP consultation. This will be an item for discussion at the Five Councils Meeting in Cwmdru on Thursday, 22nd July (7.30).

The Clerk advised Crickhowell Town Council has requested an up-date on Cwrt Y Gollen as an agenda item. Agreed DS to provide.

Action: Clerk to email Councillors the Agenda for the Five Councils Meeting.

7.7 Training Courses: The Clerk reported that unfortunately she was unable to attend the previous course however would investigate future courses.

Details of training courses have been emailed as discussed at the last meeting. The Clerk asked if any of the Councillors were interested in attending and whether the Council were willing to finance training.

Resolved: to discuss further at a future date.

7.8 Any Other Matters Arising: The Clerk reported CRiC has provided statistics relating to the web site as previously requested. It was noted there was a sharp increase in activity shown following the decision to refuse the CYG application.

8. Finance:

8.1 Cheques: Clerk's salary £135, Expenses £20 & Travelling Expenses £8, Mrs A Jones – care of Llangenny Noticeboard - £10, Mrs J Morgan – care of Glanrwyney Notice board - £10, Mr R Llewelyn – Cost of Materials to Repair of Benches (labour pro gratis) - £152.33, Bronwen Birmingham – Internal Audit - £99.60

Proposed by DS and agreed IM that the above be paid.

The Clerk reported she had paid Llanbedr Hall £7 per hour in line with the other halls' hire rates however they have written to confirm their rate remains at £6 and have therefore issued a £10 credit.

8.2 Charities/Donations: The Clerk reported due to the uncertainty in relation to the planning consultation's fees last year donations were made in October. However in line with previous years the Clerk asked if Councillors wished to consider donations this month. Following discussion Councillors suggested donating the following:

Llanbedr Village Hall £100, The School Hall, Llangenny £100, Glangrwyney Village Hall £100, Particio Church £100, Llanbedr Church £100, Llangenny Church £100, Llanbedr School £150, Wales Air Ambulance £150.

Proposed by IM, SS seconded and agreed.

8.3 Internal Audit: The Clerk reported the internal audit has been carried out and supplied Councillors with a copy of the Auditor's report in which it stated:

- (i) The two silver gilt links referred to in the insurance were an error as stated in the July 2009 Minutes [Page 851 Item 7.4 (3)]. The insurance should be amended to reflect this.
- (ii) Standing Orders are dated 1999. Clerk to check they have not been superseded by a more recent edition.
- (iii) Financial Regulations were agreed by Council in 2004. Changes have been made in May 2010. It is recommended new financial regulations are drafted based on the model document produced by One Voice Wales.
- (iv) Recommended an interim payment be made to the Planning Consultant for work carried out to date.

The Internal Auditor confirmed that as the Council's accounts were on a receipts and payments basis it is not necessary to record debtors or creditors. She also informed the new regulations appertaining to Community Council accounts meant the dates of the internal audit/external audit would need to be changed next year. The Clerk therefore presented copies of the amended Accounts for Council's approval.

Proposed SS, RL seconded and agreed to approve the accounts.

9. Highways: Councillors reported there is still a large hole at the crossroads, Llangenny. Also the drains have sunk on the Vicarage pitch. The road in Grwyne Fechan has now been tarmaced.

10. Reports on Other Meetings: The Code of Conduct training session in Brecon was attended by DS, SJ and the Clerk. The Clerk circulated information on the Code of Conduct to Councillors.

JM attended the One Voice Wales meeting on the 2nd July 2010. Matters discussed included; re-election of officers; training for councillors (suggested training be booked before February); LDP – JM questioned why feedback has not been received on whether OVW will be represented with the consultation; shared community model charter partnership ie working with the unitary authority, having meetings and feedback before decisions are made. JM also reported OVW has received a grant of £100,000 from WAG towards running costs and the Chief Executive has retired.

RL attended the Focus Meeting at The Bear and reported general discord was expressed. It was also questioned why The Park does not employ an Architect who could then advise on planning matters.

11. Correspondence

- 11.1 PCC – Licensing Act 2003 – Statement of Licensing Policy - Noted
- 11.2 WAG – Local Authority Byelaws in Wales – A Consultation Paper - JM
- 11.3 Shelter – Accounts & Request for Financial Support - Noted
- 11.4 OVW – Agenda/Minutes for Brecon & Radnor Area Committee Meeting - Noted
- 11.5 Annual Report of Public Services Ombudsman for Wales - Noted
- 11.6 Clerks & Councils Direct July 2010 - Noted
- 11.7 J Parker – Wholesale Catalogue - RL
- 11.8 Local Government Boundary Commission: Review of Electoral Arrangements for Powys – Clerk to copy & distribute relevant section
- 11.9 Brecon Advice Centre – Annual Report & Accounts - Noted
- 11.10 BBNPA – LAF Minutes - Noted
- 11.11 BBNPA LAF – Maintenance of Public Paths - Noted
- 11.12 Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Focus Group – Email SS & DS
- 11.13 BBNPA - Planned Visit to all Community Councils within the National Park - Noted

Circulated Items

OVW - Public Appointments

12. Miscellaneous/Late Items:

- 12.1 Glasdon Catalogue
- 12.2 OVW – Public Appointments
- 12.3 PCC – Local Plan Delivery Agreement / Affordable Housing SPG - SS / DS

13. AOB: IM reported the WAG web site will soon contain information on how to apply for a grant towards the installation costs of satellite broadband. This will only be available in areas where it is not possible to obtain broadband.

There being no further business the meeting closed 21.50 pm.