

CLYRO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Held at

7pm on Tuesday 10th October 2017

in the Village Hall, Clyro

MINUTES

PRESENT Cllr V Price (Chairman), Cllr E Brown (Vice Chairman), Cllr J Carter, Cllr J Fforde, Cllr G Franks, Cllr R Wells and Cllr P Bate.

APOLOGIES: Cllr D Hood, Cllr A Hood, County Cllr. James Gibson-Watt

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Richardson (School Governor Representative) and five other members of the public.

MINUTES Both August 2017 Minutes (not having been approved as there was no meeting in Sept) and the 27 September minutes were amended and subsequently approved by Chairman Price.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST Cllr. R Wells declared an interest in the planning applications P/2017/1092 and P/2017/1094 as the windows in question overlooked land belonging to his wife.

PLANNING MATTERS :

P/2017/1060 – Pant-Y-Cae Clyro, Hereford, Powys, HR3 6JU

Householder: Installation of a domestic sewage treatment package to replace the existing septic tanks

There being no objections, the application was approved unanimously

P/2017/1092 – 6 Edwards Court Clyro, Hereford, Powys, HR3 5FB

Householder: Application for the insertion of two second floor windows to form a play room rather than a store

Five councillors present voted NOT to approve the application, with one vote in favour.

P/2017/1094 – 1 Edwards Court Clyro, Hereford, Powys, HR3 5FB

Householder: Application for the insertion of two second floor windows to form a play room rather than a store

Five councillors present voted NOT to approve the application, with one vote in favour.

MATTERS ARISING:

Employing of new clerk. Cllr Fforde reported that despite emailing other local councils and an advert on the village noticeboard, there have been no applications. Chairman Price requested that Cllr Fforde advertise in the Wye Local and the Brec and Rad, but that costs 'should not exceed £100' Cllr Fforde agreed to do this.

Guidelines for acting Clerk. Cllr Fforde (currently acting clerk) asserted that the Council's email account would only be used for clerk matters, that nothing would be deleted from the server, and all the files generated would be saved on disc for the incoming clerk, whoever they may be.

Mail Redirect. It was agreed that ex-Clerk Lisa Blake would be asked to redirect mail to Cllr. Fforde's address.

Website. The current Community Council website is temporary and rudimentary. Cllr Roger agreed to look at various options for an economic alternative, and Cllr. Fforde agreed to contact Brian Morgan to see if the old domain 'Clyro.org' can be reassigned.

Format of Tuesday 17th Meeting Poultry Shed meeting. After discussion it was generally agreed that the following could be a good basis for the meeting, although a precise format was not agreed upon.

- 1: That the meeting is aimed to be over by midnight
- 2: That all members of public should be allowed to speak and give an opinion
- 3: That all members of public who speak should give their name and which town or village they reside.
- 4: That after announcing a caveat that councillors do not have to be bound by the mood of the room, that a show of hands over support/non support should be asked for, and the results entered in the minutes.
- 5: That a paper ballot could be proposed by councillors
- 6: Chairman Price requested that a PA system would not be necessary
- 7: Cllr Wells, Fforde and Franks requested that Councillors be able to ask questions regarding testimony given by members of the public. This point was not resolved at this meeting.
- 8: Cllr Wells suggested that the Community Councillors may wish to do a site visit, something that Chairman Price said was not policy, and had no precedence.

REPORTS ON DOCUMENTS READ, MEETINGS ATTENDED, ACTIVITIES ETC,

SCHOOL GOVERNOR'S REPORT: Trish Richardson (present at meeting) gave her report, the conclusion of which read:

"The school is being led by an energetic and enthusiastic Head, Staff team and new Chair of governors who are focussed on continually improving the standards and quality of school life for the children. It was an impressive and inspiring first meeting of the school year."

Ms. Richardson also noted that the new school building was proceeding smoothly, and that staff and children at Clyro CofE School were being consulted on interior colours and choice of blinds.

Ms Richardson was thanked for the report, and Cllr Brown made note that Harvest would be on Friday 27th at St Michael and all Angels.

POLICE REPORT: Emailed report from PCSO 8057 Helen Scott who was not present. Acting Clerk agreed to ensure she was invited for the November meeting.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR GIBSON-WATT: The contents of Cllr Gibson-Watt's report was noted, in particular that:

1: The Poultry Unit application at Lower House Farm would likely not be heard on the 26th October, as the planning authority are awaiting further information from Natural Resources Wales and the county ecologist about Wet Covert to the south of the application site.

2: That the budget process at Powys Council showed overspends in adult and children's social care services and delegated school budgets, and that the possibility of further cuts to care may be envisioned, and that Community Councillors should forward any concern about local resident's care on to J G-W.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Dog Fouling - David Rowlands of Environmental Health wrote to say that our enquiry regarding the issue of dog fouling in the Clyro area has been passed to him for attention and to contact him at our earliest convenience. This being an issue Cllr A Hood [had earlier]¹ raised, the email will be forwarded to him.
2. Tercentenary Celebration Invite - Invitation by the Masons to their 400 year celebration. The event had passed [Chr. Price]² suggested we should email our thanks.
3. James Lewis wrote to ask the CC if they might invite the Planning Authority to visit the site of the poultry shed, and also the route to where the chicken manure would take, and to visit his business so they can see for themselves the effect the Poultry shed might have. Cllr Price said that we have no power to request the planning authority to attend, nor any precedence

¹ Amended 14th Nov 2017. Words added

² Amended 14th Nov 2017. Replaces 'Cllr. Hood'

in such a request. Cllr Fforde agreed that we could forward the email to planning, but without comment from the CC.

4. From Nigel Lewis - details of sharing speed cameras. Ongoing conversation about a shared speed camera for several (ideally three) Community Councils. Nigel Lewis, clerk of Hay Town Council asked for more details. Cllr Fforde agreed to draft a reply, and Chairman Price agreed to speak to a Glasbury councillor he knew in order to illicit a response.
5. Future of our hills - Wendy Toomey. Flier was shown to the Cllrs and public who were asked to take note of details if wishing to attend.
6. Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. Requesting funds. Cllr Price pointed out that the CC generally only give contributions to local charities.
7. Andrew Jones of the Gwernyfed Community Council sent an email about their council's concerns regarding Powys Planning policy and the number of large-scale planning applications and bids for candidate-site status. He suggested that many of his parishioners view at least some of these applications as "opportunistic", and asked to hear of any experiences we had had in this matter, in order to see a wider picture. Cllr Wells asked for the email to be forwarded to him.
8. Cae Post Newsletter - contents noted, but no action
9. PAVO - contents noted, but no action
10. RTRC Independent Review of Local Councils - contents noted but no action
11. Boundaries Commission - contents noted, but no action
12. Chris Davies Parliament Invite. It was agreed unanimously that any visit to the Houses of Parliament would be at Cllrs own expense, and that the clerk should get in touch to see what days are available for Chris Davies MP to welcome any members who wish to go.
13. Letter from Lisa Blake, outgoing clerk. A letter outlining Ms Blake's reasons for leaving was circulated amongst Cllrs, and a copy put on file.

14. **FINANCIAL:**

Unknown during meeting, but subsequently found to be (as of 5th Oct 2017): Current A/C £3657.59 and Reserve A/C £2,832.96.

Cllr Brown requested that all bank statements be sent to acting clerk Cllr Fforde, and he agreed to speak to Ms Blake. Cllr Price currently has the chequebook, and at present, Cllr Fforde and Cllr Bate are in the process of becoming signatory. Chairman Price made the comment that since he holds the chequebook and two signatures are required, the funds would remain safe in the transition between clerks.

Cllr Brown said that it should be minuted the date the clerk resigned - 12th September 2017.

AOB:

Cllr Brown said he had not received the May Council minutes that included the Chairman's report and AGM. Cllr Fforde said that he had all the council's files and would send him a copy.

Cllr Brown pointed out that he asked for ex-clerk Ms Blake to send him the updated Standing Orders, Risk Management, Code of Conduct and Assets Register. Cllr Brown said that the Standing Orders and Code of Conduct were statutory documents, but the Risk Management and Assets Register were 'below par' and he had returned them to ex-clerk Ms Blake with notes but nothing had happened since, so until we have adopted the new documents, the 2016 notes remain in place. Cllr Brown asked for the issue to go on the agenda of the November meeting.

Cllr Brown wanted the council to know about remembrance Sunday celebrations: 12th November 2017, Clyro church yard, 08:30.

Cllr Franks returned to the public meeting procedure discussion earlier, and asked if a show of hands had been agreed upon or not, and Cllr Price reiterated that there would be a show of hands to gauge the mood of the room. Cllr Franks commented upon how he thought a paper ballot would be not transparent, and Cllr Price said that he would accept a paper ballot, if it were proposed and voted upon.

Cllr Wells reiterated his view regarding the difference between a predetermined view and a predisposed view, the distinction having been given recognition and validity by the Localism Act (Part 1, Chapter 4, Clause 13) which stated that if a councillor has given a view on an issue, this does not show that the councillor has a closed mind on that issue, so that if a councillor has campaigned on an issue or made public statements about their approach to to an item of council business, he or she will still be able to participate and vote on that same matter if it comes before the council.

Cllr Franks reported that the police had been present outside the village hall during the 28th September (Rescinding of Poultry Shed decision) meeting and asked if anyone knew who had called them. The Cllrs present expressed surprised that the police were there, but no-one volunteered any information as to who had called them.

Members of the public are invited to attend Council meetings and to contribute at the conclusion of business. Minutes and agenda available on request. Also displayed on website www.clyrocouncil.org.uk

There being no other business, the meeting was closed