

# YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 12 July 2017, at 7.30pm at Cradoc Golf Club

**Councillors Present:** Jane Price  
Tess Birtles  
Bob Wood  
Dilys Davies  
Geoff Watkins  
Valerie Davies

**Also present:** Michael Westhorpe (Clerk)

### **1. Apologies for absence**

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Kate Dunning and County Councillor Iain McIntosh who had a prior commitment. Cllr Jane Price said that Iain McIntosh was very sorry to have missed the meeting but would be attending the next meeting.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 May 2017**

3.1 It was agreed that the minutes should be signed as a true and accurate record of the last meeting.

### **4. Clerk's report including information from minutes**

4.1 The Clerk reported that he was getting no response from BT Openreach about broadband provision in Yscir. He referred to an email he had circulated to members from a constituent who had wondered whether the community should pursue satellite based provision. A discussion followed; the main points were:

a) The Welsh Government has funded 'Fibre optics to the Property' (FTTP) and BT Openreach then has to make a final connection to the property.

b) The FTTP work has been done but BT are not completing the final stage of the installation. However, some properties have been connected to fibre optic broadband.

c) It was agreed to seek the support of Chris Davies MP, Kirsty Williams AM and Cllr Iain McIntosh.

4.2 The Clerk reported that following the intervention of Cllr Iain McIntosh a reply had now been received from the Highways department to outstanding matters:

a) Dangerous road edge near junction with Battle Hill; *repair to be made when resource becomes available*

b) Large pothole beyond Cradoc School; *potholes repaired even though not Highways responsibility*

c) Standing water near Cae Crwyn; *drainage system jetted and clearer*

d) Muddy road outside Cradoc school; *will look during Summer holiday when fewer cars parked in area*

4.3 With regard to 19.1 (2 Maes yr Awel) the Clerk reported that Highways had been instructed to remove the car and new tenants were being sought for the property.

### **5) Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 21 June 2017**

5.1 The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

- 6) To consider what can be done to deter speeding through Cradoc and Aberyscir**
- 6.1 Cllr Tess Birtled read out comments made by Cllr Kate Dunning about improving traffic safety in Cradoc. There was a discussion about speeding through Aberyscir and people travelling too fast on the narrow roads throughout the community. Whilst the Council would like a 30mph speed limit along the length of the road between Cradoc and Aberbran it was believed that this would not be possible. Aberyscir is the only hamlet without a 30 mph speed limit and it was agreed to ask Highways for a meeting to discuss the siting of 30mph signs in Aberyscir. It was also suggested that there should be 'Pedestrians in Road' signs due to the increased number of people walking along the roads and the reduced visibility caused by hedgerow growth.
- 6.2 After discussion it was agreed that a 20mph zone ahead warning sign was needed to slow down traffic on the approach to Cradoc from Brecon on Cradoc Road. The suggestion of a mirror on the telegraph pole opposite the Forge was rejected on the grounds of distraction and confusion.
- 6.3 It was agreed to ask for a meeting with Highways to discuss the above traffic calming measures in Cradoc and Aberyscir.

**7) To receive a verbal report from Councillors of training attended**

- 7.1 There were a number of complaints about the training on planning:
- a) the venue was far too hot making it very uncomfortable. this was made worse by a lack of water;
  - b) the meeting started 25 minutes late;
  - c) Some individuals dominated the groupwork, wanting to deal with their particular planning issues.
- 7.2 Cllr Tess Birtled reported that she had found the training very useful. In particular she mentioned an interactive guide on the planning portal.
- 7.3 It was agreed to feed these points back to the training provider.
- 7.4 The induction training provided by One Voice Wales had been very good.

**8) Financial Matters**

- 8.1 The clerk's hours (31 hrs), pay (£355.53) and expenses (£66.25) for May and June were approved. It was decided that the Clerk should no longer use his printer for the Council's work. He was asked to purchase a good printer suitable for the Council's use. The Clerk said that he would look into this and circulate possible options to members before making a purchase.
- 8.2 Payments to HMRC for PAYE, to One Voice Wales for training, and to the Society of Local Council Clerks for the Clerk's membership were approved.
- 8.3 Renewal of the Council's insurance was approved. The Council is in the second year of a three year agreement and the renewal premium of £168 was thought to be good value.
- 8.4 The Clerk reported that a VAT refund of £139.92 had been received. He said that he had been completely these returns sporadically but that he would now be doing it on a yearly basis.
- 8.5 The cashbook indicated that after the expenditure approved at the meeting there would be around £2,700 in the bank. The budget monitoring statement predicted an end of year balance of around £2,500. The Clerk reported a variance of £105 on his expenditure at the moment but he thought that this would come down as the year progressed.

**9) Application Ref: P/2017/0685 for building to house domestic swimming pool and associated works at Siloam Shalom, Aberyscir, Brecon, Powys**

- 9.1 The revised building was lower and out of sight of the road and other properties. Different views were expressed about the possible level of noise. Environmental Health had raised concerns about contamination of the ground. After discussion and consideration against the planning portal, the Council decided it had no objections to this application, subject to taking on board the comments from Environmental Health..

**10) To determine whether to vote for the appointment of a Town/Community Councillor to the PCC Standards Community Sub-Committee; candidates:**

10.1 As the members did not know the candidates it was decided not to vote for either candidate.

**11) Planning Application TREE/2017/0024, Consent for works to trees subject to a TPO, namely the felling of 7 Norway Spruce trees and 2 Lelandi trees at Cradoc Golf Club,**

11.1 There were no objections to this application.

**12) Any planning applications that have arisen after the agenda was sent out**

12.1 There were none.

**13) Determination of the Council's response to applications from Charities for financial assistance**

13.1 The email circulated by the Clerk was considered. It was pointed out that the Council's funds should be used for the local community only. There were no charities that were primarily serving the Yscir community. Whilst councillors themselves gave money to charity, as individuals they did not wish to see Council money spent for this purpose. It was decided to retain the existing policy of providing no support from Council funds for charity causes.

**14) Condition of the footpaths and bridleways in Yscir (email from Richard Field)**

14.1 The footpath from the Gaer to Brecon was discussed. It was reported that stiles on this path had been repaired recently and that the path was very well used at the moment. It was thought that nothing could be done about the bogginess. It was agreed to ask the National Parks to inspect this route and report back to the Council.

14.2 It was reported that a tree had been cleared from the path between Glanrhyd to Aberyscir Bridge.

**15) Correspondence**

a) Powys Newslines\*

b) One Voice Wales Annual Meeting 7.00pm 14 July Talgarth Town Hall

c) Focus on play: briefing for councils

d) Objection report for Welsh medium education at Brecon High School

e) One Voice Wales Newsletter\*

f) Invitation to Annual General Meeting of Powys Teaching Health Board\*

g) Invitation to PCC reception at Royal Welsh Show\*

\* circulated by email

\*\* received by email but not circulated

**16) Issues to report to Powys County Council**

16.1 There were none.

**17) Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Wednesday 6 September 2017 (7.30pm) at Cradoc Golf Club**

The meeting closed at 8.40pm