

YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 9 September 2015 at Cradoc Golf Club at 7.30pm

Councillors Present: Jane Price
Roger Price
Helen Howarth
Rees Price
Bob Wood
Dilys Davies

Also present: Michael Westhorpe (clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Gillian Thomas (personal reasons).

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest

3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 July 2015

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

4. Clerk's Report including information from minutes

4.1 With regard to 9.2 the Clerk read two responses from Cradoc school explaining what was being done about the car parking difficulties. The responses were duly noted.

4.2 With regard to 4.5, Cllr Bob Wood reported that the planning application for the swimming pool at Siloam Shalom had been approved through delegated powers. He expressed surprise at this as he thought that when there had been objections, planning applications were taken to the planning committee. The Clerk was asked to investigate this further.

4.3 Under item 11, with regard to the closure of Aberyscir bridge, Cllr Helen Howarth said that several people had approached her and asked if it would be possible to drive their vehicles through the river. She strongly discouraged them on the grounds of both legality (it is illegal) and practicality (very uneven river bed and a significant drop at the edge). She suggested that Powys County Council should put a temporary notice up by the river telling people that it is illegal to cross in a vehicle. It was also suggested that 'road closed' signs should be placed at Cradoc and Aberbran to avoid chaos from vehicles having to turn round or going via Pont Faen. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Powys County Council with these requests.

4.4 Cllr Helen Howarth handed a letter to the Clerk and announced that due to personal circumstances, she was reluctantly tendering her resignation. Councillors expressed their dismay but recognised that this was a sensible decision and thanked her for her excellent work for the Council, particularly for her involvement in the development of the website and Facebook page. On behalf of the Council the Chairman wished Helen all the best for the future.

4.5 The Clerk outlined the process that would now take place. A notice would be published on the website and the noticeboards stating that an election would be called if 10 electors requested one within 14 days. After this date, if an election is not called, the vacancy would be open for co-option. This was noted by the Council.

5. **To consider whether the Community Council should adopt the Cradoc Telephone Box and convert it to a free book library**
- 5.1 Cllr Jane Price explained that she had seen the telephone box in Llanfrynach that had been converted to a free lending library. She thought this was a great idea and suggested the same could be done for the telephone box in Cradoc. Cllr Helen Howarth said that another telephone box in the national park had been converted into an information booth. This idea could be incorporated.
- 5.2 The Clerk said that Community Council's could buy eligible telephone boxes for £1. He had contacted the insurer's and had been assured that acquiring the telephone box would not result in any additional premium. The telephone was still present in the box but was not in use as the card reader had been removed.
- 5.3 The Council thought this was an excellent idea and the Clerk was asked to initiate the transfer by contacting BT.

6. **Financial Matters**
- 6.1 The clerk's hours and expenses for July, August and September were approved. The PAYE payment for HMRC was also approved.
- 6.2 The Council noted the current financial position as shown in the cash book spreadsheet and budget monitoring spreadsheet. The end of year balance for March 2016 was expected to be around £1665.

- 7) **To receive an update on a new website design given the forthcoming withdrawal by Microsoft of the existing website platform**
- 7.1 The Clerk said that work on the new website had been delayed but it was hoped to present members with a mock up of the new website in time for the next meeting. The new website was expected to cost an additional £21 a year with a one off development cost of £200. This was noted. Cllr Bob Wood agreed to attend the next meeting with the website developers if Cllr Jane Price was not available.

- 8) **To discuss the Noticeboard for Battle**
- 8.1 The Clerk had previously circulated an email stating that the proposed site for the noticeboard was unsuitable as bedrock had been found just underneath the grass. Cllr Rees Price said that noticeboard was not in a good condition and that he thought that expenditure on a replacement was unnecessary. It was agreed that the central location of the Cradoc noticeboard and the placement of notices on the Council's website meant that the Battle noticeboard was no longer required. The Clerk was asked to put a notice on the website about this.

- 9) **Clearance of the Green Lane by the Probation Service**
- 9.1 Cllr Jane Price had been contacted to say that there was a tree impeding access on the lane and several other branches hanging low. She had left messages for the Probation Service community payback scheme but had received no replies. Cllr Roger Price said that he would remove any branches impeding access. The Clerk said he would provide the Chairman with the email address of the Probation Service.

- 10) **Planning Application for the relocation of hedgerow by a maximum of 4m to enable improvement of approach for large vehicles crossing Pont -ar- Yscir bridge**
- 10.1 It was agreed that the relocation of the hedgerow would improve access for vehicles on the side road. It was suggested that the hedgerow should be moved further back on the Aberyscir side as this would enable long vehicles to have a straighter run on the bridge, and reduce the bottleneck in this area. The planning application was approved with this additional suggestion to be made.

11) **Issues to be raised with Powys County Council**

11.1) The proposed change to rubbish collection to a three weekly cycle was discussed. There was concern about increased flytipping but it was agreed that no action should be taken at this stage.

12) **Correspondence**

- a) PCC consultation on closure of Welsh medium stream at Brecon High School*
- b) First annual general meeting of the Powys Community Health Council *
- c) Consultation on the deposit Local Development Plan of PCC*
- d) Invitation from PCC to attend a reception at the Royal Welsh Show*
- e) Notice of road closure in Battle from September 9th to 11th to repair a burst water main*
- f) Changes to recycling arrangements in Brecon*
- g) Brecon Advice Centre Annual Report and request for support;
- h) One Voice Wales - motions at annual conference

PCC = Powys County Council; BBNPA = Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

* circulated by email

** received by email but not circulated

13) **Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Wednesday 11 November 2015 (7.30pm) at Cradoc Golf Club**

The meeting closed at 8.26pm