

YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 18 May 2015, at Cradoc Golf Club at 7.30pm

Councillors Present: Jane Price
Dilys Davies
Rees Price
Roger Price
Margaret Rees
Helen Howarth

Also present: Michael Westhorpe (clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

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

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest

3. Election of Chairman

3.1 Cllr Jane Price was unanimously elected as Chairman of the Council. There were no other nominations. Cllr Jane Price thanked members for their support.

4. Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office

4.1 The Chairman then signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office

5. Election of Vice Chairman

5.1 Cllr Bob Wood was unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chairman. There were no other nominations.

6. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11 March 2015

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

7. Clerk's Report including information from minutes

7.1 With regard to item 4.2 the Clerk reported that planning was progressing at the school regarding improved parking and drop-off arrangements but that the school was not yet ready to share its proposals with parents or the public. The Council was keen to see this work progress and asked the Clerk to write to the school asking about the work to date and that the Council be kept informed of future developments.

7.2 The Clerk reported that he had been contacted by a resident who expressed his disappointment that the Council had done nothing to commemorate VE day. There was a brief discussion about this and it was noted that no other local councils had commemorated VE day. The Council did not know if the school had marked the occasion in any way.

7.3 Under item 6.3 Cllr Rees Price said he would be erecting the Battle noticeboard shortly.

8. To confirm membership of the Planning Committee

8.1 It was agreed that all councillors should continue to be members of the Planning Committee.

9. To review the Council's Standing Orders

The Standing Orders were agreed without further amendments.

10. **To review the Council's Financial Regulations**

10.1 The Financial Regulations were agreed without further amendments.

11. **To review the register of Members' interests and note the new requirement for publication of information on the Council's website.**

11.1 The Clerk circulated the relevant forms. These were checked and updated by councillors.

11.2 The Clerk drew members' attention to the new requirements for publication of information on the Council's website. This included a suggestion that councils' sign up to superfast broadband. As this was already well on its way in the area, this was not considered necessary.

12. **Financial Matters**

12.1 The Clerk reported that he had a positive meeting with Mr Arthur, the internal auditor. Mr Arthur agreed with the Clerk that the sony voice recorder was now too old to be considered an asset and should be written off on the record of asset value. This was agreed by the Council. Mr Arthur's report was noted and the Council expressed its gratitude for his work.

12.2 Following examination of the income and expenditure for the last financial year the Council agreed to approve Section 1 of the Annual Return.

12.3 The Chairman read through each statement in section 2 of the Annual Return, affirming each statement in turn. After all the statements had been answered, the Council approved section 2 of the Annual Return and the Chairman signed section 3.

12.4 The clerk's hours (44 hrs), pay (£351.74) and expenses (£55.20) for March and April were approved. Payments to HMRC for PAYE for January to March (£129) and membership of the Society of Local Council clerks (£65) were also approved.

12.5 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 be around £1470.

13. **Feedback on Planning Training attended by Cllr Bob Wood and the Clerk**

13.1 The Clerk reported that the training by Planning Aid Wales was a good refresher but little new had been learnt.

14. **To note that Yscir Community Council must have a pension scheme in place for its employees by 1 April 2017**

14.1 The Clerk alerted members to this requirement and it was agreed to await further guidance on this matter.

15. **Correspondence**

a) *Information about Brecon Food Bank

b) **letter from PCC about community delivery of services

c) Ombudsman: - Revised guidance on the Code of Conduct

d) One Voice Wales - Area mtg held on 17 April

e) PCC -dispensation on school modernisation and transport review

f) BBNP - Geopark News and Tourism in Action

g) Mid Wales Housing - consultation on shared home ownership

h) BT Adopt a Telephone Kiosk leaflet

* circulated by email

** received by email but not circulated

Cllr Helen Howarth reported that Powys County Council is now undertaking normal refuse collections on bank holidays except for Christmas and New Year. This was welcomed and it was noted that the recycling collections were now better at closing their doors so there was less of a problem of recycling litter on the roadside.

- 16) **Issues to report to Powys County Council**
- 16.1 The problem of large lorries trying to negotiate Aberbran and Aberyscir bridges was discussed. It was agreed to ask for a sign by the A40 turn off to Aberbran. Ideally the road at Aberbran bridge should be improved to remove the tight bend. This would benefit local farms where the trend was for deliveries to arrive in larger and larger lorries. Visibility near the bridge could also be improved by pruning of a large tree.
Cllr Helen Howarth said that the contractor who undertook the work on Aberyscir bridge had suggested that a weight limit should be put on the bridge.
The Clerk was asked to write to Powys County Council raising these points.
- 16.2 The road beside Battle Hill has been badly damaged by the Forestry lorries and should be repaired before next winter. The Clerk was asked to report this to Powys County Council.
- 17) **To note that Siloam Shalom is to open as a Museum and consider whether this should have planning consent.**
- 17.1 A postcard invitation to the official opening had been received by Cllr Bob Wood. The Clerk reported that Brecon Beacons National Park Authority had told him that if the property is to remain primarily as a dwelling and it is merely going to be just a room in the house to display paintings, planning permission would not be required. However if this is not the case and the museum is going to become the main use of the dwelling then a change of use application is required. It was agreed to await developments.
- 18 **Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Monday 13 July 2015 (7.30pm) at Cradoc Golf Club**

The meeting closed at 8.38 pm