

# YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 4 July 2018, at 7.30pm at Cradoc Golf Club

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

**Also present:** Michael Westhorpe (Clerk)  
Cllr Iain McIntosh  
Bridget and Andrew Smurthwaite

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

- 1.1 There were apologies for absence from Cllr Kate Dunning and Cllr Jane Price.
- 1.2 Members introduced themselves to the two members of the public who were present as observers.

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

- 2.1 There were none.

### **3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 May 2018**

- 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 Under 8.4 the Clerk reported that the Probation Service was willing to cut the vegetation in the Green Lane but it was short of people serving community sentences. Cllr Valerie Davies reported that at least part of the Green Lane had been cleared. She agreed to check the remainder of the Green Lane and inform the Clerk.

### **5. Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 16 June 2018**

- 5.1 These were agreed.

### **6. To approve the revised community emergency plan**

- 6.1 The Clerk reported that he had removed from the plan specific actions that were the responsibility of the Police and other first responders. Cllr Bob Wood was concerned that Yscir Community Council would otherwise get in the way during an emergency and confuse matters. Cllr Dilys Davies suggested the inclusion of the gas emergency service due to the pipeline running through the area. This was agreed. The plan was approved and the Clerk said he would now contact the halls and the golf club to see if they were willing to be included in the plan.

### **7. To consider the response of Powys County Council and BBNPA to the Wigwam signs in Aberyscir**

- 7.1 The Clerk reported that Powys County Council Planning Department was not taking any further action, other than to refer the signs to Highways. Their letter stated:

*It is considered the signs are all of moderate scale and are all located immediately within or adjacent to hedgerows. The colour scheme chosen for the signs and their scale helps to greatly reduce their visual impact and therefore it is not considered their erection has had*

*any detrimental impact upon the character and appearance of the surrounding area. It is noted however that the signs are located along a highway verge and therefore the Highway Authority will be informed regarding the erection of these signs and whether they require any action to be taken.*

*On this basis it is not considered expedient to pursue formal enforcement action and I can therefore confirm that the above case will be closed. I can however confirm that I will be notifying the Highway Authority so that they can pursue further action if they choose to do so.*

- 7.2 An interim response from Brecon Beacons National Park stated that:  
*The advertisement appears to come within the Advertisement Regulations 1992, but would not benefit from 'deemed consent' under the Regulations. As such, specific consent to display it would have been required from the National Park Authority. Advertisements can only be considered in terms of amenity and highway safety. I need to consult with Powys County Council Highways Officers as to any highways safety concerns. I will then be in a position to advise the person(s) displaying the advertisement whether or not consent would be likely to be granted. Enforcement action (prosecution) is taken if it is considered that there is serious harm being caused by the unauthorised advertisement.*
- 7.3 A majority of members of the Council were concerned that allowing these signs to remain would create a precedent and many more signs could appear as there is a lot of tourist accommodation within Yscir. Constituents had raised the matter and had asked for action to be taken. A minority of councillors present did not object to the signs. Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he did not object to the signs but that he had been advised by Powys County Council that there was a due process to follow to gain permission for the erection of signs. He said that he would follow this up. The Clerk was asked to write to the planning authorities expressing Yscir Community Council's concern that the same rules should apply to all and that turning a blind eye could lead to a proliferation of signs appearing.

## **8. Financial Matters**

- 8.1 The clerk's hours (34 hrs), pay (£296.17) and expenses (£35.60) for May and June were approved. The following expenditure was also approved:  
PAYE for April to June (£118.60)  
payment to Richard Whimmer for refreshments at Cradoc Golf Club after the litter pick
- 8.2 It was noted that the Council had received a VAT refund of £95.83 for 2017/18. This was largely due to the printer purchase.
- 8.3 The Council's three year insurance agreement runs out in August 2019. The cost of the insurance for 2018/19 was the same as for 2017/18 at £168. This was approved.
- 8.4 The Council noted that the cashbook showed a balance of £2,470 after the above expenditure is accounted for. The budget monitoring statement predicted an end of year balance of around £2,420, around £500 lower than the balance at the beginning of the year. This was part of a planned reduction to bring the balance down to around £1500.
- 9. To receive feedback on the community litter pick and to approve a cycle of future litter picks in October and April**
- 9.1 It was agreed that the litter pick had been successful and should continue. Cllr Geof Watkins said that he did a litter pick in the Aberbran area during December when the hedgerows were bare.
- 9.2 It was agreed to hold a litter pick in October, probably on the third Sunday of the month. Future litter picks would be held in the following April and October but more may be held in between if deemed necessary.
- 9.3 It was agreed to purchase 4 road signs to alert motorists to litter picking activity.

**10. To receive an update on Battle Common**

- 10.1 The Clerk reported that he had received a response from the Open Space society stating that it would only be possible to correct the boundary error if the Council had a statutory document which clearly indicated that the triangle of land was part of the common. As the Council has no such document and as nobody was contesting the land, the Clerk suggested that it was not worth further efforts to find the relevant legislation and that the matter should be left. This was agreed.

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

- 11.1 There were none.

**12. Correspondence**

- a) Bobarth, request for funding
  - b) Merchant Navy Day 3 September 2018
  - c) Powys Teaching Health Board AGM 18 July\*
- \* circulated by email  
\*\* received by email but not circulated

**13. Issues to report to Powys County Council**

- 13.1 Cllr Iain McIntosh reported that he had started sending in reports of potholes with photographs to Powys County Council (PCC). He hoped that this would encourage PCC to repair them as PCC would be liable for any damage caused by potholes they had been made aware of.
- 13.2 Cllr Iain McIntosh asked for an item to be put on the next agenda regarding placing large poppies on lamp posts in support of the British Legion

**14. Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Wednesday 5 September 2018 (7.30pm) at Cradoc Golf Club**

The meeting closed at 8.15pm