

YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 2 November 2016, at Cradoc Golf Club at 7.30pm

Councillors Present: Jane Price
Rees Price
Bob Wood
Tess Birtles
Roger Price

Also present: Michael Westhorpe (clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Margaret Rees and Cllr Gillian Thomas.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest

3. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 September 2016

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

4. Information from Minutes - Clerk's Report

4.1 With regard to item 8.3, the Clerk reported that he had not yet received an invoice for the external audit work.

4.2 With regard to item 12, (the trees overhanging Cradoc Road), Cllr Margaret Rees had told the Clerk that this was the area opposite Gludy Isaf going towards Cradoc and she thought it was the responsibility of Powys County Council. However, members of the Council thought that the trees were growing on private land. It was agreed not to write to Powys County Council but that when members saw Margaret they would talk to her about it.

4.3 Cllr Roger Price informed the Council that he had contacted the Environment Agency about two trees which were in danger of falling and possibly damaging the footbridge when the river swells. The Environment Agency were looking into the matter.

5. To confirm the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting on 19 October 2016

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

6. Possible relocation of Cradoc Noticeboard

6.1 The Clerk reported that he had cleaned the Cradoc noticeboard and increased the size of the holes so that it was easier to open the noticeboard. He had written to the school but had not yet received a reply. The Clerk thought that it might be better to wait until the works at the entrance of the school had been completed before pursuing a new sign. It may then be possible to have a joint noticeboard with the school. The Council agreed to wait until after the works at the school had been done before relocating the noticeboard.

7. To adopt the revised Code of Conduct

- 7.1 The Clerk reported that the meeting of Powys Clerks had alerted him to the requirement to adopt a revised Code of Conduct. This should have been done by July. Once adopted, it had to be publicised in a local newspaper and the ombudsman informed. It is possible to share the costs of publication with other Councils and the Clerk had contacted Merthyr Cynog and Trallong Councils to this effect. The Clerks of these Councils were in agreement which should reduce the cost from £83 (plus VAT) to less than £50 (plus VAT). Cllr Rees Price suggested that Honddu Isaf Community Council should also be contacted. The Council approved the new Code of Conduct and agreed to publish a notice in the Brecon and Radnor Express with the other Councils, including Honddu Isaf, should it wish to be involved.

8. Cradoc Recycling Centre

- 8.1 The Clerk reported the negative response he had received from Laura Samuel of Powys County Council with regard to the closure of the Cradoc recycling centre and that Cllr Gillian Thomas has made representations on this matter.
- 8.2 The Council was very concerned about the loss of the facility and thought there would be an increase in flytipping throughout the area, not just at the recycling centre. It was agreed to write to Chris Davies MP and Kirsty Williams AM seeking their support.

9. Financial Matters

- 9.1 The clerk's hours, pay (£220.67) and expenses (£61.29) for September and August were approved. The payment to HMRC for PAYE for July to September of £59.20 was approved.
- 9.2 The Council noted the current financial position as shown in the cash book spreadsheet and budget monitoring spreadsheet. The Clerk reported that expenditure was within budget and the balance after the most recent expenditure would be £2636 with a projected year end balance of £2,152.

10. To Review the Clerk's salary

- 10.1 The Clerk left the meeting for this item.
- 10.2 The Chairman said that the Clerk's salary had remained the same since he was appointed in May 2012. All members of the Council were very pleased with the work of the Clerk and it was agreed to put the Clerk on salary scale point 22, at the top of the recommended salary range. The Clerk was invited back into the meeting and thanked for his work for the Council.

11. Correspondence

- a) BBNPA Community Newsletter*
- b) Powys CHC Operational health programme*
- c) Invitation to PAVO Annual Conference 8 November, Dolfor**
- d) removal of BT phone boxes within BBNPA*
- e) Fire and Rescue Authority Draft Corporate Plan**
- f) Update on Local Government Reform*
- g) BBNPA Consultation on LDP Affordable Housing Strategy**
- h) Thank you letter from Chief Clerk to the Queen re. her birthday card
- i) Request for financial support from Powys Citizen's Advice Bureau
- j) Letter from Chris Davies MP raising awareness of Type 1 Diabetes in children

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

* circulated by email

** received by email but not circulated

12. Issues to be raised with Powys County Council

- 12.1 Cllr Tess Birtles reported that Aberyscir Bridge had developed deep and significant cracks next to the stile on the LHS coming from Cradoc. Concern was also expressed about the very large logging lorries that had been using the bridge recently. It was suggested that there should be a weight limit on the bridge. It was agreed to report these matters to Powys County Council.

14. Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Wednesday 11 January 2017 (7.30pm) at Cradoc Golf Club

1

The meeting closed at 8.10pm