

YSCIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting, held on 10 January 2018 ,
at 7.30pm at Cradoc Golf Club

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

Also present: Michael Westhorpe (Clerk)
Cllr Iain McIntosh

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 All Councillors were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. To receive a brief presentation from PCSO Emma Jackson and to discuss whether to set up any Community Speed Watch Groups in Yscir

3.1 Cllr Jane Price welcomed PCSO Emma Jackson to the meeting. Emma said that she was there to support the council and could attend meetings as required. She agreed with the introduction of double yellow lines and said that she would pursue this with Jo Lancey and would monitor the parking near the junction.

3.2 Emma explained the Community Speed watch scheme. Councillors were keen to introduce this in Aberyscir but it may not be possible due to it being a national speed limit area. The lack of pavements would also be a barrier to the scheme for safety reasons. Emma said that she would talk to the scheme organisers about this.

3.3 There was a discussion about speeding in Aberyscir. Emma said that it was Highways responsibility to monitor speed. It was agreed to write to Jo Lancey requesting the introduction of 30mph signs in Aberyscir, drawing attention to the similarity with Aberbran that already has 30mph signs and the damage caused to the bridge by speeding vehicles.

3.4 Emma said that there had been an increase in sheep worrying with uncontrolled dogs killing lambs. The police were also taking a pro-active approach to poaching; this was often related to other crime. If people did not have permission to be on the land, the police would take action on this.

3.5 It was queried whether there was an increase in heating oil thefts. Emma was not aware of this being a particular problem.

3.6 Emma distributed her contact details and was thanked for her attendance.

4. To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15 November 2017

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

5. Information from Minutes - Clerk's Report

5.1 Under 4.5 the Clerk reported the response he had received from Lyn Parry:

a) Lyn Parry had suggested double yellow lines near the junction plus Police action to enforce no parking within 6m of the junction. Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he had tried to

discuss this and the results of the speeding surveys with Jo Lancey but she had been away from work a lot and he had not received a reply. Plastic bollards were being considered to protect the property beside the junction;

b) The speed signs in Aberbran are satisfactory.

c) PCC does not have the resources to keep repairing every verge; they will check the drainage on the road at Battle End;

d) Cllr Tess Birtles reported that the bridge at Aberysicr had been repaired.

e) It was planned to resurface Cradoc Road near Cradoc in February/March.

6. Progress report on the registration of common land in Battle

6.1 The Clerk reported that he had had a helpful meeting with Claire Lewis from Powys County Council and had visited Archives in Llandrindod Wells. A tithe map digitalised as part of the Cynefin project showed that the land designated as Battle Common extended in front of the church and Bryn yr Haf.

6.2 It was agreed to seek confirmatory statements from two or three people (Rees Price, Ryan Williams, Malcolm Jones, Mervyn Parry were suggested)

7. To determine arrangements for the Spring Newsletter

7.1 It was agreed that the newsletter should be approved at the next meeting and distributed in early April. Cllr Iain McIntosh said that he would provide an article on the introduction of faster broadband. Cllr Jane Price volunteered to contact Margaret Rees about the Women's Institute article. Cllr Bob Wood agreed to proof read the articles.

8. Progress report on faster broadband in Yscir

8.1 Cllr Iain McIntosh reported that a steering group had been formed to consider proposals by three providers, with the first meeting next week. Cllr Jane Price is on the steering group. When the provider is chosen, it is hoped to have people connected with faster broadband within 3 to 4 months.

9. To approve a plaque to be placed besides the Tree Charter tree at Cradoc school

9.1 It was decided not to consider having a plaque until the tree was well established. It was agreed that the framed tree charter should be hung in the school.

10. Financial Matters

10.1 The clerk's hours (21.4 hrs), pay (£183.58) and expenses (£11.25) for November and December were approved.

10.2 Payments to HMRC (£61.20 for PAYE), the Information Commissioner (£35), Mr M Westhorpe (£50.40 for the framed Tree Charter and £189.60 for the website hosting by Upper Bridge Enterprises) were approved.

10.3 The cashbook indicated that after the expenditure approved at the meeting there would be a balance of £2,436 in the bank. The budget monitoring statement predicted an end of year balance of around £2,780. The County Council would be charging £315 for election expenses. This would be taken from the January precept instalment. This is bad accounting practice but is out of control of the Council. The expenditure was approved. Cllr Jane Price explained that a Santander cheque had been paid to her and she had paid the same amount back to the Council.

10.4 The Council considered a spreadsheet detailing a summary of the Clerk's hours since 2013 and a breakdown for 2017. This was approved.

10.5 The draft budget paper was discussed. It was agreed that the bank balance should be reduced slowly and that £3,136 should be raised through the precept which would mean that a band D property would pay £12 compared to £15 in 2017/18. There was a discussion about funding for community support activities. It was agreed that the balances available were sufficient to allow for this if required.

10.6 The Clerk reported that Mr Paul Arthur was willing to act as internal auditor again. The Council expressed its gratitude and confirmed the appointment.

11) To determine the dates of meetings for 2018/19:

11.1 The following dates were agreed:

Wednesday 23 May

Wednesday 11 July

Wednesday 5 September

Wednesday 14 November

Wednesday 23 January 2019

Wednesday 20 March

12) Correspondence

a) Request for funding from Wales Air Ambulance Service**

b) Consultation on future plans for Powys schools*

c) PAVO e-briefing**

d) Urdd National Eisteddfod (Brecknock) request for funding**

e) Powys Public Services Board - Draft Well-Being Plan **

f) Planning Law in Wales Consultation**

g) Review of the community and town councils

h) Powys Newsline*

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

* circulated by email

** received by email but not circulated

13) Proposals for a major trauma network for South and West Wales and South Powys

13.1 It was clarified that the development of a major trauma centre would not be at the expense of the closure of local Accident and Emergency departments. After a brief discussion about this proposal it was decided not to submit a formal response.

14) To consider community resilience guidelines and determine if there is anything Yscir needs to do

14.1 After discussion it was decided to contact Powys County Council's emergency planning officer to find out what plans were in place for the Yscir area and if there was anything that could be done in preparation for an emergency.

15) Consideration of any planning applications received after the agenda was circulated

15.1 There were none.

16) Issues to be raised with Powys County Council including the state of the road leading to Aberyscir Church

16.1 Cllr Bob wood explained that this road had not been cleaned since Admiral Raikes had died. It was dangerous and unpleasant to use by people going to Church
It was agreed to ask for the road to be cleaned.

17) Confirmation of date and times of next meeting: Wednesday 21 March 2018 (7.30pm) at Cradoc Golf Club

The meeting closed at 8.45pm