

Cyngor Cymuned **Penybontfawr Community Council**

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING Held at Canolfan Pennant on Tuesday 20 May 2014.

Present:

Councillors: JE Jones (Chair), MH Jones, DR Lloyd, DG Smout, P Williams, RP Williams, Clerk G Bradley,

1- Apologies for Absence

Cllr G Roberts, County Cllr D Mayor

2 - Declaration of Interests

None

3 - Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting (29 April 2014) were approved, and signed (Proposer: Cllr. DR Lloyd / Seconded: Cllr. P Williams).

4 - Matters arising from Minutes

Cllr DG Smout reported that a site Meeting involving County Cllr D Mayor and a senior Powys highways representative (Keith Rowe) has been arranged for 10.00 am on 29 May. This is to discuss the poor condition of the back road to Abertridwr and the ongoing deterioration resulting from timber haulage lorry use. Possible attendees will be Cllr RP, Williams, Cllr P Williams, Cllr MH Jones, Cllr JE Jones. (Clerk away on holiday)

5 – Correspondence

The Clerk advised that his internet connection has still yet been repaired, and was not therefore regrettably able to report upon any correspondence received electronically. Correspondence received by post is as following:

- *Powys CC* – The Clerk advised that he had again reported the defective car park swing gate and adjacent fencing to Powys CC and had received a written acknowledgement dated 30 April 2014
- *National Eisteddfod - Invitation for two representatives to attend Proclamation Ceremony on 5 July.* Cllr MH Jones was the only Councillor who expressed a possible interest but he had some doubts about the date.

6 - Finance

The Clerk presented draft Financial Statements for 2013/14 which have been prepared as part of the Annual Audit process and which have now been handed to Alan Jones (the Community Council appointed auditor) together with the Account Books and supporting information etc. The external audit process requires these figures to be signed off by the Council before 30 June, and therefore this process needs to be completed on the next meeting after Councillors have been satisfied by the internal auditor that all is well.

Cllr DG Smout then opened up a discussion about the tightness of funds which has disappointingly caused the Community Council to substantially cut back on donations in 2013/14.

Apparently the local National Eisteddfod 2015 funding committee had expressed dismay at the lack of a contribution from the Community Council.

The discussion revolved around what additional funding could become available to the Community Council. The Clerk thought that unless we sought grants towards specific projects which would most probably also require matched funding from the Community Council, the only practical way of increasing our income would be seek a substantial increase in the Precept. The Community Council had avoided this in recent years but it was thought by Councillors that the time might have come when we might have to seek 'a way-above' inflation increase in order to generate a surplus over the much escalating base costs of running the Community Council (e.g. significant increase in Insurance Cover). As the Precept application has usually to be submitted to Powys CC during December, it was agreed to re-visit this issue at the November Meeting. The Clerk also felt that, as a substantial increase could become a contentious issue with local Council tax payers, it might be advisable to 'air' this issue in the local press before the Precept submission date.

- Current Bank balances were advised as:
Current Account - £2496.67 (as at 4 May 2014).
Deposit Account - £2741.98 (as at 12 May 2014).

7 – Planning

The following planning application consultation was discussed by Community Councillors:-

- *P/2014/0296 LlaInffyllin, Land at Allt Goch (Penilwyn Farm)*
Consultation about a 50 kw wind turbine in adjacent Community Council area.

This is another application of the type that the Community Council has significant concerns about due to the possible impacts on the local landscape by a prominent turbine mast and probably new grid connections, and the precedent that might be set for other such structures. It was agreed the Community should formally re-iterate its Objection to such structures.

8 – Highways

Apart from the forthcoming meeting with County Highways (see 4.above), no other specific issues raised.

9 – WW1 Commemoration Event

Nothing new to report

10 - Any Other Business

No items raised

11 - Date of Next Meeting

Agreed as 7.30pm Tuesday 24 June 2014.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm