

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 8th January, 2015 At 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre, New Radnor

1. Present: Cllrs. N. Dodman (Acting Chairman), E. Blackman, M. Cooper, R. Harris, J. Hodge, K. Williams.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Clerk.

2. Apologies: .None

3. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Only:

Cllr. Dodman re Water Break its Neck Byway (part of route forms the access to own property)

Cllr. Harris re. setting of precept possible grant, (Radnor Valley School Governor)

Cllr. Hodge re. setting of precept, possible grant, (Radnor Valley School Governor)

Cllr. Williams re. setting of precept, possible grant, (Radnor Valley School Governor)

The appointment of a permanent Chairman was deferred to the February meeting and it was agreed that Cllr. Dodman continue to be Acting Chairman until a permanent Chairman was elected.

4. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December, 2014 were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Acting Chairman.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

5.1 LM1268 ByWay Water Break Its Neck to Dolau: Cllr. Dodman reminded Members of the information supplied by the County Council indicating that the route would remain open from the Northern (Dolau) end and that a turning circle would be created to enable vehicles to return along the same route. The byway user group was still to be set up and Members agreed that it was essential that this group was set up democratically and that all users were included. The need for local input into decisions was also emphasised. Given the concern expressed the Clerk was asked to write to Kirsty Williams AM and Roger Williams MP asking for their assistance in ensuring full and democratic representation on the user group. Cllr. Jones and the County Council Officer to be copied into this email.

Cllr. Dodman stated that landowners were already reporting further damage to the route and all agreed that the views of the landowners should if possible be ascertained before the February meeting. Concern was expressed at the amount of money that repairs to the route would cost and at the funds already provided in settlement of the legal dispute. The Clerk was asked to ask for further clarification on the allocation of these monies.

5.2 Casual Vacancy Update: There had been no applications to date.

5.3 Refuse Collection Issues, Newgate Lane: The Clerk had again spoken to Mr. Davies at the County Council and the matter had been passed to the appropriate Officers to deal with. It was agreed that there was nothing further the Community Council could do.

5.4 Outstanding Items: The following updates were noted -

Street Lighting adjacent to the School - The changes had now been agreed with Cllr. Jones and the School and should be completed within a week;
Potholes, Rectory Lane - It was confirmed that these had just been repaired;
Cornwall Lewis Memorial - the latest emails were noted;
Lighting A44 junction - the Clerk reported that the changes were currently being looked at by the County Council legal department.
Road Surface, Presteigne to Walton Road - Members confirmed that the surface on the Herefordshire stretches was still very poor and in need of attention. The Clerk was asked to report this again.
Overgrown Hedge, Hollygate - This was reported to still be overgrown with some major cutting back to be done.

6. Correspondence/General:

6.1 Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner Press Release : Noted.

7. Planning:

7.1 Planning Application Decisions: The Clerk reported that there had been no change from the report in December.

7.2 Planning Applications: None received this month.

7.3 Hendy Wind Farm Application Update: Cllr. Dodman reported that there some issues with the application for works on the common including the failure to hold a meeting of the graziers, the status of the ground being offered as replacement land and the request by Welsh Government for the applications to be re-advertised. Powys County Council were waiting for a report by a landscape consultant and had concerns on highway safety, cultural heritage and biodiversity. No date had yet been set for a meeting to determine the planning application.

7.4 Powys LDP Draft Open Space Assessment: Members considered the details relating to New Radnor and had no comment to make.

8 Village Matters:

8.1 Radnor Ranges: Cllr. Harris confirmed that the meeting with the Ranges was scheduled for 16th January. Cllr. Harris and Cllr. Hodge would attend. Matters raised would be progress on the flashing light requested and the need for better alerts to the public of forthcoming range activity, possibly via text messages to those registered. Members noted that Environmental Health had received several complaints about explosions at the range in early December. The Clerk had also received an email from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales which had received one verbal complaint.

8.2 Defibrillator: Cllr. Williams updated Members on the progress of the grant application. A meeting of the former first responders was to be arranged to discuss the use of the former group's funds towards the unit.

8.3 Transfer of Play Area: The Clerk reported that this letter should have gone to the Playground Committee. It had now been passed to them by Cllr. Cooper and would be discussed at their AGM in February.

8.4 Dog Fouling, School Lane: Cllr. Cooper raised this as an ongoing problem. The Clerk reminded Members that additional signs and an extra bin had been installed very recently and that free dog poo bags obtained and kept in the school for collection. In the absence of any dog warden there was little else that the County Council could do. She suggested that notices asking for

information on the culprits could be put up in the area subject to County Council agreement. She was asked to see if this could be arranged.

9. Finance:

9.1 Payments: None this month.

9.2 Receipts: **Powys County Council** (final precept payment) **£1694.00.**

9.3 Setting of precept 2015-16: Members considered the draft budget prepared by the Clerk and after discussion agreed a precept of £23.00 per band D property, a total budget of £5263.55. This included additional grant payments to East Radnorshire Day Centre of £200 and to Powys Citizens Advice Bureau of £50. The grant to the Dragonfire Club made in previous years was removed although the sum of £500 was allocated to miscellaneous grants etc during the financial year. In addition the sum of £35 was allocated to training costs for the Clerk and it was agreed that she would attend the joint SLCC/OVW conference in May. The balance of the conference cost would be met through an application for a training bursary from Welsh Government.

10. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 12th February, 2015.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm