

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 13th June 2013 At 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre, New Radnor

1. Present: Cllrs M. Haines (Chairman), N. Dodman (Vice-Chairman), R. Harris and N. Window

In Attendance: County Councillor E.M. Jones; Mrs T. Price, Clerk; Mr. G. Pugh, Friends of John Beddoes School

2. Apologies: Cllr. J. Hodge

3. Public Discussion Session: Cllr. Haines welcomed Mr. Gareth Pugh who gave a short outline of the present situation at John Beddoes School and asked that the Community Council consider supporting the third option put forward by the Friends of John Beddoes. If so to write to the Welsh Minister, Mr. Leighton Andrews, indicating this support; stating that the Council was unhappy with the decision made by the County Council; and asking the Minister to consider the third option

. Cllr. Haines thanked Mr Pugh for attending and Members agreed that the matter would be considered on the Agenda under Village Matters.

4. Declarations of Interest: None

5. Minutes: The Minutes were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

6.1 LM1268 ByWay Water Break Its Neck to Dolau: Cllr. Dodman informed Members that the byway was presently closed under a permanent TRO. He confirmed that the necessary notices had been posted and that photographs had been taken to confirm this. The deadline for appeals against the order was 42 days from 9th May.

6.2 Cornwall Lewis Memorial: The Clerk had been in touch with the County Council and reported that it had been agreed that a cherry picker could be used instead of scaffolding to replace pieces that had been taken off for safety reasons, and that this was expected to reduce the cost from £40,000 to around £5,000. This being the case the County Council Outdoor Recreation Service expected to carry out the work within the current financial year.

6.3 Micro Hydro Project Mutton Dingle: Cllr. Harris had met with the farmer concerned and reported that at present this landowner was reluctant to proceed. It was agreed that the matter be left for several months to allow time for reflection and that Cllr. Harris would re-visit the landowner after this time.

6.4 Appointment of New Clerk and Signing of Contract of Employment: Members had all received a copy of the contract prior to the meeting. No changes were proposed and the Clerk and Chairman duly signed the document.

6.5 New Radnor Snooker Club Application for Grant: Whilst in favour in principle it was agreed that funding for this be considered later in the year when setting the precept for 2014/15.

6.6 Council Representative Governing Body of Radnor Valley School: It was confirmed that Cllr. Hodge would be the Council Representative.

6.7 Renovation of Benches: Cllr. Haines confirmed that he had posted a notice inviting additional expressions of interest in carrying out the work and that no one had come forward. Four benches needed to be restored at a cost of £35 each. It was agreed that the work would be considered for inclusion in the precept for 2014/15.

6.8 Co-Option: Despite notices being posted no one had come forward to fill the vacancy. The Clerk agreed to produce a short press statement, for inclusion in the local papers and MyRadnor website, inviting applications to fill the vacancy

6.9 Kington Surgery: Cllr. Haines reported that a thank you letter had now been received from the Surgery.

7. Correspondence/General:

7.1 Powys County Council War Memorials Project: It was agreed that the Clerk reply to the County Council supporting their lottery application and stating that the Community Council was not aware of any events planned in the New Radnor area.

7.2 One Voice Wales Conference and AGM: No one wished to attend.

7.3 Information Commissioner Security Statement:/Data Security Policy: Members had all received a copy of the Data Security Policy which was agreed without amendment. The Clerk confirmed that she would complete the security statement and return it to the Information Commissioner.

7.4 Delivery Of Agendas: Members agreed that the serving of the summons to meetings/delivery of Agendas could be carried out by email. Printed copies would be brought to the meetings by the Clerk.

7.5 Powys County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy: Cllr. Window agreed to review this document before the next meeting.

7.6 PAVO E-Briefing - The Clerk agreed to forward this to all Members.

7.7 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 Guidance Consultation: Cllr. Dodman agreed to review this document for the next meeting.

7.8 South Wales NHS Consultation Leaflets - These were given out to Members.

8. Planning: No applications received this month.

9. Village Matters:

9.1 Harley Ranges: Members had been contacted by residents with concerns about activities on the Ranges. Cllr. Haines had emailed Mr. Bromage who had stated that the structures on site were temporary and had indicated that he would investigate the complaints concerning the release of irritant gases by checking that the appropriate measures had been taken to check wind speed/direction on every occasion.

The Clerk was asked to write to the planning authority to ask them to confirm that the site complied with it's terms of use,

- to express the Council's concerns,

- to check that appropriate monitoring had been carried out regarding the number of days use permitted,
- to ask for investigation into the gas emissions,
- to ask that the new building on site be checked to see it complied with any permissions issued
- and to try to obtain details of the explosives licence.

Natural Resources Wales, the C.P.R.W and Mr. Bromage to be copied into the letter.

9.2 Radnor Valley School Request for Community Notice Board: Cllr. Haines explained that he had received a request from the School for the purchase of a Community Notice Board to be placed alongside the existing school board at an approximate cost of £200-300. It was agreed that this request be deferred and considered for inclusion in the 2014/15 precept.

9.3 John Beddoes School Closure: Members discussed the issues concerning John Beddoes School and the options available. It was agreed that the Clerk write to appeal against the decision of the County Council to close the school, to support the further consideration of the third option put forward by the Friends of John Beddoes School and to draw attention to the lack of democratic representation from Radnorshire on the Council Cabinet making the decision.

9.4 Surgery Fund: Cllr. Window reported on the possibility of the installation of portable defibrillator(s) in the village. He stated that he had become aware of the scheme that could provide the equipment free of charge and it was agreed that he pursue this option further. Cllr. Haines reported that the possibility of installing hearing loops into the Community Centre and other local Halls in the area was being investigated.

10. Finance:

10.1 Payments Approved were:

Grants:	St Mary's PCC	£200.00
	St Michael's PCC	£100.00
	Baptist Chapel	£100.00
	Wales Air Ambulance	£100.00
	Dragonfire Club	£500.00

10.2 Letter from BDO, External Auditors re fee increase: Noted.

10.3 Letter of authorisation to change the address on the Council's Bank Account: Agreed and signed by Cllrs. Dodman and Haines.

10.4 Internet banking: It was agreed that the Clerk proceed to set up internet banking for viewing/printing of statements/transfers between accounts, only

10.5 Registration of the Council as an employer with HMRC: The Clerk explained the current advice from HMRC regarding Council Clerks and it was agreed that she proceed to set up the Council as an employer.

10.6 Receipts: £5 ESCO (paid in 30th April in repayment for website fee). Noted.

11. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 11th July 2013

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm