

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 12th September 2013 At 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre, New Radnor

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

2. Apologies: Cllr. E. Blackman

3. In Attendance: County Councillor E.M. Jones; Mrs T. Price, Clerk; Two members of the public.

4 .Public Discussion Session: The present Chair of the Save our Scenery group, Mr Andy Foster addressed Members and updated them on the present situation regarding the Pentre Tump wind turbine application appeal, the appeal processes and expected hearing date. Members agreed that the Clerk submit the original letter to the Planning Authority (from August 2012) direct to the Planning Inspectorate. Mr Foster agreed to keep the Community Council informed of developments.

5. Declarations of Interest: None

6. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July were approved as circulated and duly signed by the Chairman.

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

7.1 LM1268 ByWay Water Break Its Neck to Dolau: The Clerk informed Members that the matter was due to be heard in the High Court on 3/4 October and that the Crown Court case had been adjourned until the ruling of the High Court had been made.

7.2 Cornwall Lewis Memorial: The Clerk explained that the County Council Officer dealing with this matter was currently absent from work. She agreed to follow the matter up once the officer returned. Cllr. Haines stated that he was still pressing for a full structural review of the Memorial. He reported that the meeting between Jill Fairweather and the County Council had apparently gone well.

7.3 Co-Option: The Clerk reported that the vacancy had again been included in the local press but that no one had come forward. It was suggested that a younger person might be recruited from the Young Farmers Club. Members had also been making enquiries to see if anyone else would consider joining the Council and Cllr Harris agreed to approach two of those considered to ask if they would be interested. The Clerk would contact the Young Farmers Club if these two people did not wish to apply for the vacancy.

7.4 New Radnor Website: The Clerk confirmed that Upper Bridge Enterprises would attend the November meeting of the Council to explain the options for use of the website grant.

7.5 Affordable Housing: The Clerk confirmed that she had approached Mid Wales Housing but that without the identification of a site it was unable to help. Cllrs. Haines and Hodge agreed to continue to be alert for any possible sites and report back to the Council if any became available.

7.6 Local Govt (Wales) Measure 2011: Members had received the report of Cllr. Dodman. Members thanked Cllr. Dodman for his work on this matter.

7.7 Views on Public Services in Wales: The comments on the mobile library service had been submitted by the Clerk.

8. Correspondence/General:

8.1 Maps of Open Country and Common Land: Several Members said they had not received this and the Clerk agreed to forward the email again. Cllr. Window agreed to look at the maps and report back to the next meeting.

8.2 Closure of Public Toilets in Powys: Whilst there were no public conveniences in the New Radnor community Members were concerned at the effect the closures would have, particularly on tourism. The Clerk was asked to reply to the email from Rhayader Town Council indicating support for its opposition to the closures. The Clerk advised of the grant scheme currently available for private firms that made their toilets available to the public and agreed to forward this information to the local caravan site in case they were interested.

8.3 Dyfed Powys Police Survey: Noted. Several Members had completed this personally and it was felt that no further comment was necessary.

8.4 Public Right of Way ND1323(A): Members noted that the public enquiry into the status of this right of way due to a definitive map anomaly would take place in the Community Centre on 17th September. Cllrs. Haines and Dodman were able to attend.

8.5 Friends of John Beddoes School: Members had all received the letter of thanks and accompanying objection document from the Friends of John Beddoes. No further action required.

9. Planning:

9.1 P2013 0677 Red Lion Inn, New Radnor: The following comments were confirmed:

New Radnor Community Council has no objection to the application but asks the lighting should be considered carefully so that it does not impact on either traffic or the local environment at night.

P2013 0702 Upper Farm, Dolau: The following comments were confirmed:
New Radnor Community Council opposes this application on the grounds of: detrimental effect on the landscape contrary to PCC Unitary Development Policy E3 (1); noise, contrary to PCC Unitary Development Policy E3 (3); close proximity to dwellings and rights of way (one bridleway passes extremely close to the proposed site), contrary to PCC Unitary Development Policy E3 (5); lack of the necessary infrastructure to transport the necessary parts, it is noted that the description of the transport route is brief and whilst quoting 'A' class roads does not take into account the extremely twisty and narrow nature of these roads in many places, it is thus contrary to PCC Unitary Development Policy E3 (6); the wider effect to the wider rural economy and to tourism in particular. The Community Council strongly believes that wind turbine developments should in general be confined to the Strategic Search Areas defined in the Welsh Government's Tan 8 document, although it considers each application on its own merit when received.

9.2 P2013 0691, Orchard Bungalow, Clawdd Lane, New Radnor, for householder, erection of corner section of timber fencing, 1.8 metres in height: Members agreed to view the application in detail online and to submit any comments to the Clerk by the 15th September.

9.3 Planning Appeal re Wind Turbine Application, Pentre Tump : Members confirmed that the Clerk should send a copy of the Council's letter direct to the Planning Inspectorate.

9.4 Prospective Planning Application Wind Turbine(s), Hendy: Members noted that this application was expected to be made later in the year.

10. Village Matters:

10.1 Harley Ranges: Members had received a summary of the recent correspondence from the Clerk and the most recent responses from Kevin Bray and Ian Davies were noted. The Clerk agreed to follow up the outstanding responses, particularly the request to confirm compliance with the certificate of lawful use.

10.2 Hearing Aid Induction Loops in Village Halls: Cllr, Haines that as previously mentioned the balance of the New Radnor Surgery Fund would be used towards the provision of hearing aid loops in local Halls, those at New Radnor, Walton, Evanjobb and Kinnerton. The total cost was £2985 plus VAT and the balance in the surgery Fund was £2950. The Halls would each pay the VAT element of this cost.

10.3 . Powys County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation: Members had all received the report written by Cllr. Window on this consultation. Cllr. Window also gave a verbal report and agreed to monitor the matter on behalf of the Council.

10.4 Defibrillator - Cllr. Window confirmed that he was now in a position to complete the grant application to Welsh Hearts. Possible sites were discussed and it was agreed that the wall of the Town Hall was a possibility. Cllr Haines agreed to speak to Mrs Everett to see if this would be possible. Ongoing costs would need to be met by the Community Council. It would also be necessary to investigate whether planning permission would be needed.

10.5 Overgrown path, Caravan Site: It was reported that this path was overgrown and in need of trimming. The Clerk was asked to report this to the County Council.

10.6 Street Lighting: The Clerk was asked to find out if the remaining street lights would be changed to the new LED bulbs.

11. Finance:

11.1 Payments:

T.A. Price (pay June to Sept)	£518.52
HM Revenue and Customs	£129.40
BDO (external audit fee)	£156.00

11.2 Finance Report: The Clerk presented the financial accounts for the year to date, projections to the year end and a initial draft precept for 2014/15. Following her recommendations on reserves it was agreed that a minimum free reserve of three months expenditure (25% of annual spending) be kept.

11.3 Shelter Cymru, request for donation: Cllr. Haines agreed to look into this and report back to the October meeting.

11.4 External Audit Report: Members noted that the documents had now been officially certified by the External Auditors and agreed to formally accept and approve the Annual Return. No matters had arisen for the Council's attention.

11.5 Receipts: The following receipt was noted -
Precept Payment £1967.00 (inc website grant £500)

12. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 10th October 2013.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm