

NEW RADNOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 11th February, 2016 At 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre, New Radnor

1. Present: Cllrs. M. Cooper, E. Blackman, N. Dodman, R. Harris (Vice-Chairman), J. Hodge.

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price, Clerk; County Councillor M. Jones.

2. Apologies: Cllrs. S. Bennett (Chairman), K. Williams.

3. Declarations of Interest:

Personal Only: Cllr. Dodman re Byway LM1268, part of route forms access to his property.

Personal and Prejudicial: None

In the absence of Cllr. Bennett, Cllr. Harris was appointed acting Chairman.

4. Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 14th January, 2016 were approved as circulated and duly signed by the acting Chairman, Cllr. Harris.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

5.1 LM1268 ByWay Water Break Its Neck to Dolau: Nothing further to report.

5.2 Potholes and Blocked Culverts Access Track Water Break its Neck: Cllr. Dodman reported that further work had been carried out by Natural Resources Wales but that this had been of poor quality and potholes were already returning.

5.3 4x4 accident: Cllr. Dodman reported that he had been approached by a number of residents asking what action was being taken by the police following the recent accident. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries and to contact PC Jackson of Dyfed Powys Police. In addition Cllr. Dodman expressed concern that the surface of the bridleway had been damaged in the incident and that the County Council needed to take action to ensure steps were taken to get the damage repaired.

6. Correspondence/General:

6.1 Website Progress: Work had begun on the new site and should be completed in the next few weeks.

6.2 Notification of 2016/17 S.137 limit from Welsh Government: Noted.

6.3 Email from Old Radnor Community Council re. letter to Microsoft on withdrawal of software: It was agreed that the Community Council wished to be included in a joint letter to Microsoft asking for reimbursement of the costs involved in setting up the new website. The Clerk was also asked to contact Yscir Community Council to see if it would also agree to be part of a joint letter.

6.4 Community and Town Council Engagement Event Swansea 2nd February: The Clerk's Report was noted.

6.5 Consultation: Proposals relating to the Statement of Public Participation for the National Development Framework: Noted. No comment.

6.6 Community Health Council Meeting: There would be a meeting on 5th April in New Radnor Community Centre. Members were asked to note this. A poster would be placed on the Council notice board.

7. Planning:

7.1 Planning Application Decisions: The Clerk reported the following decision -

P/2015/0799, Water Street Farm - Application withdrawn.

7.2 Planning Applications: The following application was considered -

P/2016/0037, erection of agricultural building at The Lea, New Radnor. Resolved no objections be raised.

7.3 Withdrawal of Paper Planning Applications: Members were very concerned that despite the objections of a number of Community Councils the County Council had now ceased issuing paper copies of planning applications. It was resolved that the Clerk write to Kirsty Williams AM and Chris Davies MP asking that they take the matter up with the County Council. In the meantime it was agreed that the Clerk would print of A4 versions of future applications on a trial basis. If these proved unsuitable consideration would be given to alternative methods.

7.4 Powys Local Development Plan Notice of Proposed Focussed Changes: No comment to be made.

8. Village Matters:

8.1 Radnor Ranges:

Meeting with Ranges: Cllrs. Hodge and Harris had attended the meeting and had raised a number of matters. These were -

Flying of Warning Flags: Mr. Bromage had stated that in accordance with the new safety policy the red flags were flown continuously. Yellow flags were used to indicate imminent dangerous activity. One flag that had been missing had now been replaced. He had also commented that yellow flags would sometimes be in position even when no noise could be heard due to long, slow burning activities, sometimes over a weekend.

Recent Building Activity: Mr. Bromage had informed Councillors Harris and Hodge that the work had been agreed with NRW. Members were still concerned and asked the Clerk to contact the County Council to ask that the works be checked.

Access Restrictions Consultation: Following discussion it was resolved that the following comments be submitted to Natural Resources Wales.

Members are extremely concerned at this application, albeit a renewal and I have been asked if a representative from Natural Resources Wales would meet with the Council to discuss the concerns and issues that Members have and to explain the position of NRW with regard to the request from the Ranges. It would therefore also be necessary to extend the time period for a formal response to the Council until after its March meeting on 10th March, to say 14th March. At this point the Community Council would object to the renewal and would also like to ask the following questions -

the flag flying policy has been changed with red flags flying continuously and yellow flags erected at times of activity, can NRW confirm it is happy with this arrangement; it was noted that annual reports on usage were requested at the time the last direction was granted - have these been sent and can NRW confirm that the usage reported does in fact justify the long term exclusion of the public.

it was noted by Members that the area for which public exclusion is requested comprises an area far greater than that covered by the explosives licence itself, should the two not be the same? If the extended area is also dangerous and thus one supposes used for explosions should the explosives licence not be reviewed?

8.2 Defibrillator Grant Application Progress: Cllr. Harris had spoken to Cllr. Williams and there were still problems with accessing the First Responders bank account.

8.3 Pavement/Cycle Route, Llanfihangel to New Radnor (email from resident): Members noted the email and asked that the Clerk forward the details to the County Council for comment.

8.4 Cornwall Lewis Memorial: Scaffolding was still in place but was due to be removed very soon.

9. Finance:

9.1 Payments: The following payment was agreed - Information Commissioner (data registration) £35.00.

9.2 Bursary Application: The bursary application for £65.50 towards a future training course for the Clerk was agreed.

10. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 10th March, 2016.

The meeting closed 8.35 pm.