

BEGUILDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14TH OCTOBER 2008 AT BEGUILDY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Present: Cllrs. W. O'Leary (Acting Chair), E. Harris, Ms. A. Hoyle, Ms. A. Jones, M. Morgan, P. Swancott and C. Thomas.

Apologies: K. Jones, A. Tippet County Councillor Brunt

In Attendance: Mrs T. Price (Clerk) members of the public.

Declarations of Interest. Members were requested to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests they may have in matters to be considered at the meeting in accordance with the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct Order) (Wales) Order 2008.

Personal None

Personal and Prejudicial None

MIN 4800 RESIGNATION OF CHAIRMAN

The Clerk confirmed receipt of a formal letter from Cllr. Thomas confirming his resignation from the post of Chairman. Cllr. O'Leary therefore continued as Acting Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

MIN 4801 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on September 9th were approved without change and duly signed by the Acting Chairman.

The Minutes of the meeting on 29th September were approved with one amendment, the addition of the word 'therefore' into Minute no. 4799 as follows – '*and therefore Cllr. Thomas tendered his formal resignation as Chairman of the Council*'. The amended Minutes were then signed by the Acting Chairman.

MIN 4802 MATTERS ARISING

1) **Planning Application, Pound Farm** – Cllr. Harris informed Members that he had noticed a problem with visibility and that he had spoken to the applicant about amending the plans to avoid this. He asked that Powys County Council forward details of any amendment to the plans as viewed at the 29th September meeting.

2) **Speeding, Beguildy Village** – The Clerk confirmed that she had made enquiries and was awaiting a reply from Powys County Council.

MIN 4803 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

There was no report this month as Cllr. Brunt was unable to attend.

MIN 4804 FINANCE

1) Payments -

The following payments were agreed

T.A. Price	(Clerks Salary)	£369.68
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HM Inspector of Taxes	(Income Tax deducted)	£92.42
Petty Cash Expenses to date		£38.03
Petty Cash Fund		£40.00

The letters of thanks from Knucklas and District Community Centre and St. Michael's Hospice were noted.

- 2) **Grants to Village Halls** – Members had all received a copy of the letter from the Knucklas and District Community Centre asking that the Community Council consider increasing the grant paid annually. The Clerk explained that the grant was of particular importance as it had a direct relationship to the grant then paid to the Halls by Powys County Council. It was agreed to defer the consideration of this matter until the precept as a whole was discussed.
- 3) **Financial Projection to end of 2008/09** – Members considered the report produced by the Clerk which showed the state of the Council's finances. It was understood that expenses had increased due to the need to pay a Clerk, the additional projected audit expenses and the estimated invoice for election costs. The Clerk confirmed that she was hoping to negotiate time to pay the Powys County Council election account and that if granted this would ease the financial situation.
- 4) **Receipts** – The second instalment of the precept, £828.45, had been received.
- 5) **Letter from External Auditor** – The Clerk confirmed that she understood that the Auditors had concluded their investigation into the question raised with them and that the cost was confirmed at being between £280 and £360. She added that she had spoken with Mr. Bowen who was able to confirm that his queries had now been answered. The Auditors had yet to formally respond to the Council and she understood that recommendations would be made regarding the treatment of the Heyope Recreation Ground Trust.

MIN 4805 PLANNING

- 1) **Planning Applications** – No applications had been received this month.
- 2) **Planning Modernisation** – Members had received a copy of the initial response made by the Clerk and had no further comments to add.
- 3) **Community Benefits from Wind Turbine Developments** – Powys County Council had not yet formally consulted Community Councils. Members agreed to defer their consideration of this policy until a formal approach was made.

MIN 4806 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

- 1) **Street Lighting** – Cllr. O'Leary stated that he had checked the lights actually on with the map provided and that the two did not match. He felt that a meeting with the Powys County Council street lighting manager to discuss this was necessary. It was agreed the Cllr. Ms. Jones and Cllr. O'Leary would look at the lighting situation in Knucklas. Residents of Felindre who were present at the meeting confirmed that one light was on, one off but that this would be better the other way around. Beguildy had lost the light by the old people's bungalows. It was agreed that it would be best to approach Powys County Council once a full picture had been received.
- 2) **Tidy Towns Initiative** – Cllr. O'Leary confirmed that he would follow this up to see if litter bins could be provided for Knucklas. Cllr. Harris raised the dropping of litter in the Beguildy area, it being a convenient distance away from food outlets in Newtown and Knighton. Cllr. O'Leary agreed to raise the possibility of 'take your rubbish home' signs for Beguildy at the same time.
- 3) **Knucklas Bus Shelter** – It was confirmed that this work was now complete.

- 4) **Removal of Payphones** – The Clerk confirmed that the Community Council’s comments had been passed on to Kirsty Williams, BT and Powys County Council. Further correspondence had been received offering the opportunity to adopt or sponsor a phone kiosk but no costs had been included.
- 5) **Speeding through Lloyney** – Cllr. Tippett had asked that this be brought up at the meeting. The Clerk agreed to add this matter when following up the concern about speeding through Beguildy.
- 6) **Closure of Hendy Bridge** – The scheduled closure of the bridge was noted.

MIN 4807 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) **Question raised by Mr. Duthie** – For the sake of clarity Mr. Duthie outlined his query again. Cllr. Thomas stated that this question had been raised before and that nothing had changed. Cllr. O’Leary suggested that Cllr. Thomas prepare a written response for Mr. Duthie as he had been Chairman at the time the issue arose. Cllr. Thomas agreed to do this.
- 2) **Official Representative, One Voice Wales** – Cllr. O’Leary was confirmed as the Council’s representative.
- 3) **Correspondence from Mr. Bowen** – The Clerk confirmed that Mr. Bowen’s queries now appeared to be resolved. Mr. Bowen was present as a member of the public and confirmed this.
- 4) **Possible New Notice Board, Beguildy** – Cllr. Harris confirmed that the landlord at the public house had offered a site for a notice board. The Clerk agreed to ask Cty. Cllr. Brunt if he knew of any possible sources of funding.

MIN 4808 HEYOPE RECREATION GROUND

- 1) **Annual Return to Charity Commission** – Members approved the annual return, which corrected the information previously held, showing the Community Council as the corporate trustee for the charity and detailed the income and expenditure of the charity during 2007/08.
- 2) **Letter of Thanks** – The letter of thanks from Knucklas and District Community Centre for the contribution towards the tennis coaching programme was noted.

MIN 4809 INFORMATION ITEMS

The items listed for information were noted. The Clerk confirmed that the two most recent complaints made to the Ombudsman had been rejected. One remained under investigation.

MIN 4810 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

At this point the public and press were excluded.

MIN 4811 EMPLOYMENT MATTERS

Members discussed the present situation with the Clerk. Cllr. Harris proposed that the Clerk’s hours be increased to thirty per month. This was seconded by Cllr. Morgan. Checking around the table Cllr. O’Leary confirmed that this was agreed by all.

Before the meeting concluded Cllr. Thomas stated that he had considered the request by the Acting Chairman to prepare a written response to Mr. Duthie and that he felt it would not be appropriate to do so while the complaint to the Ombudsman was still outstanding.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.