

BEGUILDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th JULY 2009 AT KNUCKLAS AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present: Cllrs. A. Tippet (Chair), M. Morgan (Vice Chair), E. Harris, Ms. A. Hoyle, Ms. A. Jones, K. Jones, W. O'Leary, C. Thomas.

Apologies: Cllr. P. Swancott, County Councillor J. 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

Cllr. Ms Hoyle
Member of Knucklas and District Community Centre Committee (Heyope Recreation Ground Matters)

Cllr. K. Jones
Member of Knucklas and District Community Centre Committee (Heyope Recreation Ground Matters)

Cllr. E. Harris
Director of Wind Energy Company (Community Benefits from Wind Farms)

Personal and Prejudicial

Cllr. O'Leary
Director of Knucklas Castle Community Land Project (Heyope Recreation Ground Matters)

Cllr. K. Jones
Secretary and Director of Knucklas Castle Community Land Project (Heyope Recreation Ground Matters)

The public were then invited to submit any concerns. One person raised concern about the apparent lack of gamma and radon radiation readings for the Beguildy area. The Community Council was asked to investigate the issue further and to consider requesting that readings be taken using one of the specialist pieces of equipment. The Council were also asked to consider the implications of the digging required to site wind turbines on the radiation levels. It was stated that no mention of the possible increase in radiation levels was included in the environmental statements issued by the companies planning the wind energy developments. The Clerk agreed to contact the contaminated land officer at Powys County Council for more information.

MIN 4900 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 9th June, 2009 were approved with no amendments, The Minutes were then duly signed by the Chairman

MIN 4901 MATTERS ARISING

(1) Bryngydfa Wind Development – Cllr. Harris reported that the temporary wind monitoring mast had been sabotaged.

MIN 4902 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Cllr. Brunt was unfortunately unable to attend but had sent a written report which was read to the meeting. This included updates on Knucklas Station, the new notice board for Felindre and the present situation on wind farm benefits. A meeting of the three community councils – Llanbister, Llanbadarn Fyndd and Beguildy – had been provisionally arranged for 5th August.

MIN 4903 FINANCE

(1) **Payments:** The following payments were agreed -

T.A. Price (Clerks Salary)	£236.23
HM Inspector of Taxes (Tax due on above)	£59.06
St. Michael's Hospice (in lieu of internal audit fee)	£50.00

(2) **Annual Governance Statement** – The annual governance statement page of the External Audit Form was read out to the meeting and approved by all. Approval was given for the Chairman and Clerk to sign Section One, Statement of Accounts and Section two the Annual Governance Statement. In addition Members noted the additional notes on Significant Variances which must be included with the return.

MIN 4904 PLANNING

(1) The following **application** was considered :-

P2009 0707 Full, change of use of agricultural land to create two garden areas (one for the Town House and one for dwelling approved under PR637801) at **land to rear of Town House, Beguildy** – No objections were raised in respect of this application.

(2) **Community Benefits from Wind Farms** :- Notes compiled by the Clerk on the briefing by Cllr. Wynne Jones had been circulated to Members and were handed to out to interested members of the public. Cllr. O'Leary asked for authorisation to research extending the remit of any trust formed and this was given. Although he would be unable to attend the joint meeting on 5th August he agreed to submit his findings in writing. It was agreed to proceed generally as follows –

Up front payment of £5000 Per installed megawatt of capacity (index linked)

£5000 per megawatt per year (installed capacity) (index linked)

Fund split of 80/20

Detail of organisation of trust, appointment of trustees (Comm. Council to appoint reps., not just from Council but to select from wider community).

Remit of trust – energy saving measures, scholarships for the young, rate relief for affected homes/businesses, support for schools.

The need to protect benefits should there be a change in ownership.

Need to ensure adequate consideration given to transport issues and their effect on the wider community.

(3) **Planning Liaison Meetings, PCC** – Cllrs. Jones and Tippett had attended the briefing in Llandrindod and the Clerk had attended the meeting in Welshpool. Cllr. Jones had provided a written report on the meeting and summarised the main points for information. These included new flood maps, an update on community benefits from Wind Farms, affordable housing, UDP/LDP progress, web based planning applications, the code for sustainable homes, design and access statements and an update on wind turbine planning applications.

Cllr. O'Leary asked that it be noted that residents in the Heyope valley had been approached about electricity connections through their area.

(4) **Powys County Council Advice on handling Planning Applications** – The Clerk had circulated details of this advice prior to the meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that additional meetings of the full Council would be held to deal with any applications which could not wait until the next scheduled meeting.

Cllr. Tippett informed Members that one such application had been received that morning, relating to the planning application for log cabins etc at Beguildy. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Shropshire Council to check when comments would need to be received and arrange an additional meeting accordingly.

(5) **Powys County Council UDP** – The further modifications had already been dealt with under (3) Planning Liaison Meetings.

MIN 4905 HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

(1) **Street Lighting, Knucklas** – Cllr. O'Leary had completed the review of the lights and had only one change to request – light KL30 to be turned off. The Clerk agreed to notify Powys County Council of this amendment.

- (2) **Speeding Vehicles, Heyope** – Cllr. Ms. Jones reported that the locations for the signs had been agreed, although the narrowness of the road had limited choice. These should be in place within 6-8 weeks.
- (3) **Gate, Beacon Lodge** – This had now been completed and the Clerk confirmed she would thank Carlton Parry for arranging this. Cllr. Morgan stated that since the installation of the new gate it had been left open several times. He agreed to report back to the Council if this continued to be a problem.
- (4) **Pathway 3 and 4 Border View, Beguildy** – The Clerk reported that the Highways Inspector George Lloyd had agreed to visit and inspect the path.
- (5) **Knucklas Highway Matters** – A recent site meeting had been held with George Lloyd. Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Ms. Jones and the Clerk had attended. A number of matters had been noted for attention and should be completed in the near future.
- (6) **Grass Cutting, Heyope** – The request for additional cutting had been refused on cost grounds and because it would set a precedent in other areas.
- (7) **Other Highway Matters** – There were no additional matters to report.

MIN 4906 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) **Community Notice Board** – The Clerk updated Members in the present situation. County Cllr. Brunt was still consulting with the Planning Department about permission requirements. The Clerk was in touch with Mrs Rebe Brick of the WI and would keep her informed of progress.
- (2) **One Voice Wales Area Committee Meeting** – Cllr. O’Leary had been unable to attend.
- (3) **Mid and West Wales Fire Rescue Authority Draft Annual Action Plan** – Cllr. O’Leary read the survey questions to the meeting and completed the Council’s responses as agreed by all. In particular the need for more local publicity in the form of local meetings and literature was highlighted as a means of improving accessibility to services.
- (4) **One Voice Wales** – Details of the forthcoming training programme were noted.
- (5) **Letter from Suzy Davies** – The letter from Suzy Davies was read to the meeting. Members noted her concern regarding the weight given by the Planning Authority to Community Council responses and the Clerk was asked to reply asking Ms. Davies to keep the Community Council informed of her findings.
- (6) **Phoenix Community Furniture** – These details were passed to Cllr. Jones for possible inclusion in the Parish Magazine.

MIN 4907 HEYOPE RECREATION GROUND

- (1) The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June were approved without amendment and duly signed by the Chairman.

Cllrs. O’Leary and Jones left the meeting at this point, having declared a prejudicial interest in the following item.

- (2) **Application for Grant from the Fund Knucklas Community Land Project Limited** – Members had all received full details of the above application

Cllr. Ms. Jones noted that a survey of the churchyard had been done approximately twenty years ago and Cllr. Ms Hoyle stated that Garner Southall had drawn a scale plan of the churchyard. Cllr. Ms Hoyle felt strongly that this information should be sufficient to compile further studies without the need for the specialist equipment for which the grant was required. It was agreed to obtain more information and the meeting was suspended to allow Members to talk to Cllrs. O’Leary and Jones to obtain further details.

Cllrs. O’Leary and Jones returned to address the meeting and answer questions on the involvement of the community and the benefits of the project. Both then left the meeting again.

After some further discussion it was agreed that the Trust be asked to provide further details of the volunteers involved. These details to be provided for the special meeting to be held in late July/early August when the matter would be discussed again.

Cllrs. O’Leary and Jones rejoined the meeting at this point.

MIN 4908 INFORMATION ITEMS

These items were noted.

Cllr. Tippett informed Members that he had attended the recent Civic Service in Knighton on behalf of the Community Council.

The Clerk asked that three further items of information be noted – a request from Shelter Cymru for a donation which had been replied to in the usual way, a further letter of objection to the Bryngydfa Wind Farm which had been circulated to all and a letter from Powys County Council Standards Committee Chairman, Peter Swanson regarding confidentiality and ethics (again this had been circulated to all).

MIN 4909 URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. Harris informed Members of the school transport consultation currently in progress and explained the effect on Beguildy School should this policy be implemented. He stated that this could result in a reduction in numbers at the School by between a half and two thirds and would make the School unviable. All agreed that the Clerk should write to Powys County Council opposing the changes.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.