

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ERWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE MARKET HALL, ERWOOD ON THURSDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Gwyn Davies
 Cllr Stephen Davies
 Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Williams
 Cllr Goronwy Davies
 Cllr Alan Pryce
 Cllr Mrs Anne Nicholls
 Cllr Haydn Powell (arrived at 8.40 p.m.)

Cllr Gwyn Davies, Chairman, thanked Cllr Stephen Davies for chairing the last meeting at such short notice.

There were no Declarations of Interest

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING were discussed and it was agreed by all the Councillors that it be signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Minute 140-2016

Councillors' Allowances Reference 124-2016. Cllr Stephen Davies agreed to input a Nil Return on the Community Council web site when he returned home from this meeting.

Minute 141-2016

New Financial Regulations Reference 130-2016. Cllr Stephen Davies had not had an answer from Powys County Council, but would ask again. It was agreed by all that the Clerk write to One Voice Wales to ask if all Community Councils had been notified by them to adopt these regulations or only Councils that were members of OVW. Councillors also agreed to find out from other Councils if they were notified of these changes.

Minute 142-2016

Speed Watch Scheme Cllr Stephen Davies & Cllr Alan Pryce had attended a meeting arranged by Ms Kate Lewis from Erwood Village for all volunteers on this scheme on Saturday 24th to begin the training with PCSO Helen Scott and complete all the necessary paperwork and ID requirements. Training was given in groups of three and used the speed camera for about 5 minutes each. Speeds of up to 43 miles per hour were recorded and the vehicles number plates etc were noted on the camera's spread sheet.

CORRESPONDENCE

Minute 143-2016

Dyfed-Powys
Police

A letter of introduction from Dafydd Llywelyn, the newly appointed Police & Crime Commissioner had been received offering to work more closely with all the communities in his area. He asked that the Community Council list three main issues in this area. The main one, obviously, was the speeding of traffic through Erwood Village together with telephone scams, many of which had been received recently and the theft of farm quads and other machinery, The August Crime & Incident Report was received with interest. Representatives of Dyfed-Powys Police were unable to attend the meeting due to a training day.

Minute 144-2016

Erwood Pit Stop
Trust

Cllr Alan Pryce produced the new lease agreement which had been drawn up by Erwood Pit Stop Trust, the details within this agreement had been discussed with Powys Legal Department who confirmed that it was now all in order. It was agreed by all that the Chairman, Cllr Gwyn Davies and the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Stephen Davies, sign the three copies of the agreement on behalf of the Community Council as Custodian Trustees. One lease to be kept by Erwood Pit Stop Trust, one by the Community Council and one to be sent to Mr Ellis, Brecon

Minute 145-2016

Highways -
Erwood

A letter from Mr Eric Johnson, Powys Highways was read out in reply to queries made after the last meeting.

- a) The pot holes on road down to Ramah Chapel had been filled with Cotswold chippings and had been plugged with tarmac.
- b) Tregare Road – The edge repair north of Bedw Farm had been logged and he would add the edge patching to the future capital programme list. The road to be swept with a bob cat. Residents of Old Bedw & Bedw Farm were to be asked to clear the excessive gravel that had washed out from their lane onto the highway. Grass cutting request had been passed on to Brian Price.
- c) Twmpath Grid – A request had been made for the grid to be tightened and also the grid near Gwtws Hirwaun.
- d) Ciliane Uchaf – This work had been included in the capital list but was not successful this year.

Minute 146-2016

External Audit

The completed External Audit had been returned from Grant Thornton, Cardiff. The only comment made was that the Council should obtain a letter of engagement from the Internal Auditor and should state their

independence and outline the tasks they will undertake. This was noted and will be amended for our new Internal Auditor this year. Grant Thornton also gave notice that their invoice would be £186.75 + VAT = £224.10. Their fee scale for auditing the accounts is based on annual income or expenditure figures so our accounts come into the £5001-£10,000 bracket. Last year with BDO the Council was charged £80 + VAT = £96.00. Councillors were appalled with this huge increase. An audit survey was included for Councils to complete and it was agreed by all that this cost should be questioned considering that this Council is very small with under 20 cheques going through the system in a year. It was also agreed that the Clerk write to One Voice Wales to ask if they could complain to the Wales Audit Office of the new Auditors fees on behalf of this Council.

Minute 147-2016

New Model Code of Contract

The Local Government's new Model Code of Contract had been received and Community Councils should consider adopting these new conditions. The Clerk to let each Councillor have a copy of this. All Councillors agreed to adopt this new Model Code of Contract and following this meeting, a press release to this effect should be sent to the local newspaper. A form will be available at the next meeting for all Councillors to sign.

Minute 148-2016

Defibrillators

Cllr Elizabeth Williams reported that the Friends of Builth Healthcare have received three new defibrillators and has allocated one to Gwenddwr Village which is already with the Secretary Mr David Ronicle. The Clerk agreed to find out from the residents of this Village if they would like to take up this offer. The defibrillator has been paid for and would also include the maintenance plan. Some villages are housing their defibrillators in the unused telephone kiosks. Llaneglwys Village will also be allocated one and Cllr Gwyn Davies was asked to find out from the residents of Llaneglwys whether they would like to have one. Both villages to decide where to locate the machine. A small contribution to Builth Healthcare would be appreciated. Cllr Elizabeth Williams agreed to find out whether these machines include a casings.

Minute 149-2016

Fire Safety Checks

A letter was read out from Ms Anne Clark, Gwenddwr asking for help in making the community aware that free fire safety checks were available to everyone. Cllr Stephen Davies stated that he was a member of the Mid & West Wales Fire Service and would ask for a batch of posters which could be circulated throughout the area. Cllr

Alan Pryce agreed to announce these checks at the next Coffee Morning in Erwood. The Clerk to acknowledge Ms Clark's letter and state that she will be contacted when more information is available.

Minute 150-2016

Boundary
Commission

Correspondence from the Boundary Commission for Wales has announced that it has published its initial proposals for changes to Parliamentary constituencies in Wales. This can be viewed on the Commissions website. It intends to combine Brecon & Radnor with Montgomery. Representations to be made before 5th December 2016.

Minute 151-2016

OVW Training

A list of local training sessions from One Voice Wales was read out but no-one was able to attend.

Minute 152-2016

Highways

Litter Bin

Cllr Alan Pryce asked if a request could be made for an extra litter bin outside the toilets in Erwood as the present one is frequently overflowing. The Clerk to write to Eric Johnson, Boughrood Depot.

Tregare Road

Cllr Elizabeth Williams stated that no work has been carried out up this road as yet. It was thought that a 'sausage' mound would help to make it much safer along this road, similar to the top of the common out of Erwood. An urgent request is to be made for the road to be cleaned and to point out that roots of trees are spreading under the road which now are making humps in the road.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Minute 153-2016

T4 Bus
Stop Review

Cllr Stephen Davies & Cllr Alan Pryce met with Nick Townsend, Powys Engineering Dept. to discuss the proposed locations for the new bus stops in Erwood Village. They both stressed to Mr Townsend that the opinion of Erwood Community Council is that the proposed location opposite the Holmes is not suitable and that it would be much safer sited on the grass area next to Erwood Inn. Mr Townsend agreed to take their comments on board.

Minute 154-2016

Diabetes Posters

A letter was read out from Chris Davies, MP asking the Council to display posters on Diabetes on the notice board which outlines the causes, symptoms and impact Type 1 Diabetes can have on people's lives. This was agreed.

Minute 155-2016

Show Raffle

Cllr Elizabeth Williams informed the meeting that proceeds from the raffle held at Erwood Show was divided equally between the Show and Erwood Pit Stop Trust with each receiving £329.00.

Minute 156-2016

Builth Wells

Community Support

The Community Information Fair will take place at Wyeside Arts Centre, Builth Wells this Friday 30th September with refreshments. Several Councillors said they would try to attend.

Minute 157-2016

Date of Next

Meeting

To be decided by Chairman & Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AT THE NEXT MEETING.