

Betws-y-Coed Community Council
Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th May 2015

Present – Gareth Wynne Chairperson, Marion Bettenev, Gareth Parry, Gwawr Jones, Sian Godbert, Janet Charlton, Cllr Elizabeth Roberts Conwy CB Council, Caerwyn Roberts, Clerk.
Apologies, Jim Boughton, Meirion Owen, Karen Pugh, Terry Bullock.
Declaration of interest. Cllr Sian Godbert declared an interest in min [2.5] Resolved that the interest was not prejudicial to the matter under discussion.
Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th April 2015, read and approved.

Election of Chairperson/Vice Chairperson

Resolved to defer the matter until the next meeting.

Matters Arising

[1] Police Matters

PCSO Dean Cavey advised of a proposed Public Spaces Protection Order by Conwy CBC to deter antisocial behaviour and jumping off the Pont-y-Pair. The order will incur on the spot fines to anyone contravening the order.

[1.1] Footbridge Betws-y-Coed Railway Station/Maintenance Request.

Noted that the matter was ongoing.

[1.2] Memorial Hall Balcony Damage

The clerk reported that he was waiting a report on the damage.

[1.3] Ivy Trees Branches/Path from Station Road to Royal Oak Stables

The clerk reported that a request for the branches to be cut back had been made to Mr Edward Jones at the SNPA.

[1.4] Dog Fouling Pentre Du

Clerk to request regular visits by the dog warden to Pentre Du

[1.5] World Mountain Running Event

The clerk referred to an application for sponsorship by Conwy CBC. Resolved to allow the use of Cae Llan and the hall free of charge as a contribution.

[1.6] Loose Slates/ [Empty Shop] Ultimate Outdoors

Noted that no further information had been received from Conwy CBC. Resolved that Mr Peter Brown Head of the Regulatory Services, be contacted regarding the matter.

[2.3] Highway Matters

[a] A5 trunk road junction by Glenwood – Noted, the response from the Welsh Assembly, clerk to request that the double yellow lines be extended.

Main Agenda

[2.4] The Chairman welcomed members of the public to the meeting and advised that the meeting was now adjourned to allow the public to express their views regarding the following two matters

[1] Car Park Charges Station Road.

[2] Planning Application Hydro Electric Scheme, Fairy Glen, River Conwy.

On reconvening the meeting members resolved as follows;

Car Park Charges Station Road - Noting the concern expressed including correspondence from Mr & Mrs Potgieter members advised that [a] The decision to introduce charges was made by the Ancaster Estate and the Snowdonia National Park [b] The Council had previously drawn attention of the SNPA to the free parking privilege to local residents. [c] That the petition handed in at the meeting be forwarded to the Assembly Member Janet Finch Saunders.

[2.5] Planning Matters

[a] Planning Application – Hydro Electric Scheme Fairy Glen, River Conwy

Resolved to advise the Snowdonia National Park that the Community Council is concerned at the impact a development of this nature will have on a largely unspoilt area of the river Conwy. The members are particularly concerned at the environmental effect, including construction proposals in an area renowned for its tranquillity and beauty. Representations have been made to the Council expressing genuine concern which the Council members share regarding the project.

[b] App no NP4/11/133D. Replacement external ATM machine at lower level. Midland Bank House, Holyhead Road, Betws-y-Coed

[c] App no NP4/11/14X Change of use from shop to café/restaurant. Unit 1 Station Approach, Betws-y-Coed.

[d] Certificate of Lawfulness of an existing use or development. Pentre Du Farm, Betws-y-Coed.

[e] Advertisement Consent to display non-illuminated sign and internally illuminated projecting sign. Tan Lan, Holyhead Road, Betws-y-Coed.

Members raised no objection to the above 4 proposals

[2.6] Play Area Cae Llan

Mr Neil Pigdon was welcomed to the meeting and advised on the possibility of creating a play area on Cae Llan at an estimated cost of £50,000. Mr Pigdon agreed to consider various other layouts and to provide further information in due course. Cllr Elizabeth Roberts agreed to explore possible funding

[2.7] Financial Matters

[a] Resolved to approve the receipts and payments [circulated] made during April 2015

[b] Noted the comparison admission figures for Swallow Falls [circulated] to the end of April 2015.

[c] Resolved to approve the end of year balances to the 30th March 2015

[d] Internal Auditor's Report – The clerk referred to the following two matters raised by the internal auditor

[1] The Council has wrongly claimed the employment allowance from HMRC and have therefore underpaid Employers National Insurance to HMRC of £633.38

Clerk to arrange payment of arrears to HMRC.

[2] The Council should ensure that it meets the requirements of the pension regulator with respect to auto enrolment.

Clerk to ensure that the requirement of the pension regulator is met.

[2.8] Defliberator

Cllr Gwawr Jones informed the meeting that a defliberator was available to the village free of charge. Clerk to enquire with Mr Glenn Evans whether the Waterloo Hotel would be a suitable location.

[2.9] Station Road Bottom Car Park

Clerk to draw attention to the litter being deposited at the car park and to request the provision of bins adjacent to the pay & display machines by the SNPA.

[3] Swallow Falls Information Leaflet

The Chairman referred to a meeting also attended by the clerk with Lady Willoughby, and Mr William Hall. Discussions were mainly regarding the Swallow Visitor Area including the possibility of producing some historical background information to the Falls. The Chairman advised that he would be contacting the local historian Mr Glyn Jones regarding the matter.

Chairman _____