

Minutes of a Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 19th April 2011 at 7.30pm.

Present: Mrs Margaret Price, Mr David Filsell, Mrs Elizabeth Gibbs, Cllr Rosemarie Harris, Mr David Mantle, Mr George Moretta and Mr David Williams.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Mr Brian Griffiths, Mr Chris Jenkins and Mr Paul Lindoewood.
2. **Declaration** of interest in items of business listed below: none.
3. **The Minutes** of the meeting held on 29th March 2011 were approved and signed by the Chair (pp. GM sec DW) MP gave thanks to EG for taking and typing up the minutes.
4. **Clerks Report:** forms have been circulated about the incinerator planned for Merthyr and a response has been received from Kirsty Williams A.M. – circulation. PCC have re-done the bridge on Cyffredin Lane, although it is still higher than it was originally.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - i. Thank you note from Jessica Rees – *noted*.
 - ii. Welsh Assembly Government Research into what Welsh language provision is needed in the area – *to go on notice board*.
 - iii. One Voice Wales Conference and AGM 8th October 11 - *circulation*.
 - iv. Local Government Boundary Commission – final proposals for electoral arrangements submitted to WAG – *circulation*.
 - v. Thank you note from Rhian Ralph – *noted*.
 - vi. WAG is consulting on a Draft Welsh Fire and Rescue Authority Equality and Diversity Strategy 2011-2016 – comments and observations wanted. Visit <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/equality/frsequalitystrat/> the consultation ends on 20th May 2011.
 - vii. Western Power – Invite to Stakeholder workshop on future investment plans at Cardiff Wales Millennium Centre on 19th May 2011 – *circulation*.
 - viii. SevernWye Energy Agency – Pathfinder Programme – sponsored by WAG to support community action on climate change – *circulation*.
6. **Finance:**
 - 6.1 **Statement of Accounts for 2010/11** – The Annual Return for the year ended 31st March was presented to the Council. The Clerk also circulated a budget report. The expenditure for the year was £12,040.40 and the total

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income was £12,030.36. Only three quarters of the recycling income was received. The final quarter will go into 2011/12 accounts. The amount is £487.27. The year end balance is £18,256.42. Following certification by the Responsible Financial Officer, the Council approved the accounting statements in section 1 of the Annual Return. The Council has been randomly selected for a more detailed external audit. The RFO has this in hand. The external auditors have advised that HMRC have now confirmed that clerks cannot be self employed, as a clerk is an office holder and all office holders are subject to PAYE. Agreed that Clerk would become employed from April 2011.

6.2 **Statement of Assurance for 2010/11** - The Annual Governance Statement was presented to the Council and approved.

6.3 **Appoint Internal Auditor:** Clerk to ask Roger Hockey if he is willing to do the Internal Audit for 2010/11.

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6.4 **Approved:** payment of following cheques:

Clerks wages - April	£233.93
Cleaning of car park for April	£32.00
Refund G Moretta for gift for internal auditor	£17.69

7. **Report from County Councillor:** RH has arranged for the Councillors to meet with Brent Campbell, Powys County Council Highways at 7.30pm in Llandrindod on Tuesday 26th April. Some of the items to be discussed are speeding through the village; speeding on the mountain road; putting a footpath along Pont Canol; taking down the blue village sign now that the stone sign is finished and pot holes. If Councillors have any other issues please let RH know a.s.a.p. MP will phone RD about attending.

MP

8. **Annual Parish Meeting:** Date set as Tuesday 24th May 2011. Clerk to book hall and make poster for event. GM will organise drinks. RH will give an update on PCC. Ask BBNPA for update on plans for the 200 year Canal Celebrations. Clerk to ask if Carol Williams, BBNPA Tourism Officer, could do this. Clerk to ask P.C. Mark Keane to give short talk. EG will give an update on L.E.A.P. Rhian will do a short presentation on the horse trials. Community to be asked what they would like to do to celebrate the Queens Diamond Anniversary.

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GM
RH
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EG

9. **Highways:** there have been problems with large vehicles blocking Groesfford that are using the Red Lion. Clerk to do poster about parking and ask if Red Lion will display it. RH reported that concerns had been raised about fire engines and ambulances getting through the water works on the Dyffryn valley road. RH advised that whenever roads are

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Action

closed the emergency services are advised – both the fire and highways departments have checked the road, and report that while it is difficult, they can still get through in an emergency. The Clerk gave permission to Welsh Water to use a corner of the car park, while the work is ongoing.

10. **Village Maintenance:** Bryn Glas - the leylandii trees have been removed and the resident paid for this. The laurel hedge is also causing problems. The roots are in the sewerage system. The resident doesn't want it all taken away, but would like it taken back. The Clerk advised that the land does not belong to the Community Council. RH will find out if it is the County Council's responsibility.

RH

The sign pointing to the school has been pulled out. Agreed: Clerk to ask Mark Bartlett to put it back.

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The ground in front of the new sign is very hard and the Council has received a request for a rotavator to be hired and the ground seeded. Council feels that it should be left for nature to take its course. MP will scatter some grass seed.

MP

11. **Report from Rights of Way Committee:** DM spoke to Eifion Jones about Yew Tree, agreed to take no action. DM has spoken to Sam Ridge, the area warden, and he is liaising with RD about footpath issues in the Dyffryn valley.

12. **Reports from other meetings attended:** MP attended a village hall meeting. The sign outside the village hall has been smashed. The map can't be repaired. The Community Council has its own notice board on the opposite side of the road and has no use for this one. MP will see if any other groups are interested in taking it on. MP also reported on a Market Hall Trust meeting. They are pleased with the restoration work. There is a damp area on the wall and they are thinking of putting in glass doors to help with this.

MP

13. **Items from Councillors for next agenda:** none.

14. **Date of next meetings:** Parish Meeting 24th May and Council AGM Tuesday 31st May 2011.

Nicky Williams (Clerk)

Signed by Chair.....