

# TALYBONT-ON-USK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Cyngor Cymuned Talybont ar Wysg Minutes of meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011

1. **Present:** Community Councillors J Jones, M Bugler (chairman), A Gray, G Davies, E Morgan, C Burdon, and S Osborne for item 5 only. County Cllr L Fitzpatrick in attendance.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr D Lawrence
3. **To receive any declarations of interest.** There were no declarations of interest.
4. **Applications for Planning Consent.** Old Storehouse, Llanfrynach, 11/06262/FUL. Continued use of premises as B&B accommodation only on a reduced level of bedrooms, new parking layout to front area adjacent to B4558, rebuilding of existing conservatory with disabled toilet. Supported.
5. **Co-option of new Councillor.** To consider the recommendation of the interview panel and to make a decision on the co-option of a new Councillor. The interview panel recommended that Mrs Donna Darbyshire be co-opted to the Community Council. This recommendation was then proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Osborne. Agreed unanimously.
6. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting.** These were agreed and signed by the Chairman
7. **Matters arising**
  1. Royal Mail letter box, Scethrog. The Chairman said that Royal Mail had still failed to install the box. Members discussed the issue and agreed that a press release should be issued condemning Royal Mail for its inaction and lack of customer service. Action: Clerk
  2. Dogs on playing field. Members noted that matters had improved although one person was still exercising his dog and someone has interfered with the 'No Dog' notice by the rear entrance to Penpentre.
  3. Talybont reservoir Local Nature Reserve. Cllr Jones reported that the Park Authority had still to respond to the Council's letter of lack of progress. It was agreed to review the situation in May.
  4. Station Road surface. Members commented positively on the work done and generally about the good standard of road maintenance in the the area.
8. **Correspondence** Boundary Review – latest report. Noted
9. **Secondary school review.** To consider members comments and agree a collated response. Members summarised their views. Cllr Davies said the document contained many recommendations he could not agree with. In particular it failed to acknowledge the value that post 16 pupils could bring as 'role models' in a school with a 6<sup>th</sup> form, the unsuitability of a 6<sup>th</sup> form college system for some pupils, and the logistical and cost implications of transporting either teachers and/or pupils between school sites. These comments were echoed by Cllr Jones who added that the document had failed to acknowledge the value of IT, and in particular internet based lessons, in providing teaching in the very low demand 'A' level subjects such as German. A number of members commented that the cost of providing Welsh medium education was excessive, especially considering the theme of financial stringency repeated throughout the document. The cost of providing Welsh medium education was seriously imperilling the quality of teaching in other important subjects. Members generally expressed concerns about the unquantified costs of transport between 'spokes' and 'hub'. It was agreed that the Clerk should collate members' comments set out in the document and respond to the Education Authority. Action: Clerk

Minor highway matters – report to Local Environment Area South Central  
Phone 01874 620500 or email [scle.area@powys.gov.uk](mailto:scle.area@powys.gov.uk)

- 10. National Park Authority Matters .** To receive a verbal report by Chairman and Clerk on meeting with Tourism officers re visitor parking problems and potential grant aid for new website and map board. The Chairman reported that the meeting had discussed visitor parking problems in the village and it would be discussed again at a meeting in May when Planning Officers would be present. The Clerk reported that the Tourism officers had outlined a bid for EU funding that could benefit the area, and that 2 local tourism businesses (a pub and a holiday cottage) had already expressed interest in forming a 'Talybont Tourism Cluster'. Further to this, the Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the holiday cottage owner asking for the involvement of the Community Council. This was discussed and it was agreed that at this stage it should be encouraged but without formal close Community Council involvement. Should the project grow and where there were implications for the wider community, then the Council would review its position. Agreed.
- 11. Canal anniversary celebrations.** Cllr Jones reported on a meeting he would be attending on behalf of the Community Council on 19<sup>th</sup> April. Action: Cllr Jones.
- 12. Community Council assets including Playing Field .** There were no items to discuss
- 13. Highway Matters.** Cllr Davies asked in view of the return to agricultural land of the caravan site at Gilestone farm, whether the now redundant caravan sign posts could be removed from the A40 and Station road. The clerk said he had received a call from a resident of Gilestone cottages querying the delay in removing caravan infra-structure on the upper site (adjacent to the canal). It was considered advisable to pursue progress on that area first. Action: Clerk.
- 14. Results from National Park of applications for Planning Consent and other matters.**
1. Planning application. Temporary change of use of land, Trefil Quarry to film set etc. 11/06519/FUL. Warmly supported.
  2. Enforcement Action by Park Authority. Car park opposite The Old Store House. The clerk read out a letter from the Enforcement Manager. Members discussed the situation and asked that the Clerk write to the Chief Executive raising the issue/complaint of the unacceptable delay to resolving the matter which was first reported nearly 5 years ago. Action: Clerk
  3. Gilestone Farm. Members commented upon the return to agricultural use of the land to the front of the house. However it was noted that some caravan infra-structure remained on the 'upper' site, adjacent to the canal. The Clerk was asked to check the situation with the Park Authority. Action: Clerk
- 15. Finance.**
1. Current financial situation. The Clerk circulated a draft unaudited statement of accounts as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011. This was noted. The current financial position recorded a balance of £791.74
  2. To approve payments of £208.60 for repair of steps to Henry Vaughan garden, of £5.00 for way-leave to Powys CC for map board, of £72.00 to Society for Local Council Clerks membership subscription. Proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Burdon. Agreed.
- 16. Date of next meeting.** 7.15pm on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Annual meeting (election of chairman and deputy chairman) followed by ordinary meeting. Noted