

TALYBONT-ON-USK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Cyngor Cymuned Talybont ar Wysg

Minutes of meeting held on 21st February 2011

1. **Present: Community Councillors** J Jones, S Osborne, D Lawrence, C Burdon, M Bugler (chairman). County Cllr Fitzpatrick was in attendance for part of the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Community Cllrs G Davies, E Morgan and A Gray.
3. **To receive any declarations of interest.** There were no interests declared by members. The clerk said he would leave the room for item 13.c.
4. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting.** The meeting agreed to the following amendment. Finance. Item 14b. Replace '£8200' with '£8500'. With that amendment, the minutes were signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising**
 - a. **Royal Mail box at Scethrog.** The clerk reported that Royal Mail had still failed to replace the box and had not adequately explained their reasons. The MP had written and had expressed concern over the likely delay of 6 months to replace one support post. It was agreed that the Clerk should write with a complaint to 'PostRS' – the final level of complaints. Action: Clerk.
 - b. Dogs on playing field. The clerk reported that Cllr Davies and he had installed 4 'No Dog' signs at sites on the field, and an article had been published in the recent newsletter. The cost of the signs would be considered at item 13.b of the main agenda.

Noted
 - c. Highway matters- school sign. Has been removed Noted
6. **Correspondence.** Powys CC school review consultation. Members agreed that it was important that the Council responded to the consultation. The document would be circulated to members, for a final collated response to be agreed at the April meeting. Agreed
7. **Vacancy for Community Councillor.** Members noted that an election has not been called, and agreed to an interview procedure for the co-option of a new Community Councillor. An interview panel comprising the Chairman, Cllr Burdon and Cllr Davies would assess applicants before the April meeting and then make a recommendation to the full meeting whose decision would be final. The clerk was asked to advertise for applications and arrange the interviews.

Agreed
8. **National Park Authority Matters**
 - a. **Talybont reservoir.** Cllr Jones gave a report on the LNR status for Talybont reservoir. It was noted that the Park Authority appeared to have made very slow progress. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to press for faster progress. Action: Clerk
 - b. **Community Council Charter meeting** on 22nd March 2011.

Noted
 - c. **Deposit Local Development Plan.** The clerk reported that objectors have re-submitted Park Authority-refused sites for consideration by the Inspector. The Park Authority has invited comments on these sites which were:- Land adjacent to Henderson Hall, Land at Pleasant View cottage (Ponsticill) and Land at Allt Farm, Llansantffraed. It was agreed to make no further comment.
9. **Community Council assets including Playing Field.** The Clerk reported that a quotation for annual grounds maintenance in sum of £767.69 for sports pitch and £578.02 for play area (including herbicide treatment). Total = £1345.71 (Last year = £1305.25) had been received from Powys CC. Cllr Burdon said that he knew that another potential contractor had

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expressed an interest in bidding. The Clerk said that it was now unfortunate that the quote from one bidder was now known. Members noted this but agreed that another bidder should be allowed to submit. A deadline of 28th February 2011 was agreed by which date if a second bid was received the matter would be considered at the March meeting, or if no second bid was received, the clerk may proceed with the only bid received. This was agreed by the meeting.

Action: Clerk

- 10. Highway Matters- parking in Talybont village.** There was a discussion about the situation in Talybont village which suffered already from vehicle parking congestion in the summer months, especially at weekends and bank holidays.

The Clerk reported that the village is a Unitary Development Plan recognised 'visitor pressure area'. He added that it had again been confirmed with the management committee of the village hall, that its car park may not be promoted as a visitor parking facility. The Chairman reported that he had also been in touch with the managing agent for the Talybont cattle market about the possibility of allowing that large area to be used at weekends for parking. This request was declined because the market was sometimes used at weekends, and the costs of defraying maintenance costs arising from vehicle use. Members noted that some years ago the Council approached Powys County Council about parking provision alongside the B4558 road adjacent to the playing field. PCC declined because it was against their policy and for funding reasons. In view of this members concluded that additional visitor initiatives in the summer months which will create parking pressure in the village should be resisted. However Members welcomed initiatives which supported the local economy, and particularly the shop/café and inns in the village, and which encouraged tourism in the 'off-season months when parking was easier.

Members also noted the recent initiative to promote mountain biking in the area and a conference apparently held in the village hall where, among other issues, Talybont was to be promoted as a 'cycling hub'. The Community Council regretted it was not consulted or informed of this initiative before it was launched. The Clerk was asked to write to the Tourism Growth Officer of the Park Authority on these points and to request that in future any proposal to promote tourism or visitors which may impact on this community, and especially Talybont village, are the subject of prior involvement with the Council.

- 11. Applications for Planning Consent.** There were no application to consider

- 12. Results from National Park of applications for Planning Consent and other matters.**

- a. Gilestone farm. Enforcement notices.** Members noted the expiry of the compliance date on 16th February 2011. The Clerk was asked to write to the Park Authority about its plans to deal with extant unauthorised development.
- b. Planning decisions.** Garage etc. at The Stables, Ty Newydd, Llanfrynach. 10/05973/FUL. Granted.

- 13. Finance.**

- a. Current financial situation.** £3377.69. The Clerk reminded members that he anticipated retiring in about a year's time and that some resources may be needed to equip a new clerk. Noted
- b. To approve payments for:-** 4 metal no dog signs £70.73, £50.00 for play area inspection, £100.00 for editing newsletter, and £70.00 for printing newsletter. Proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Osborne. Agreed.
- c. Clerk's salary.** The clerk left the room. It was noted that a sub-committee comprising the Chairman, Cllr Gray and Cllr Jones had met and made a recommendation as to the clerk's salary. Following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Burdon that the Clerk's salary be raised from £1500 per annum to £2500 per annum with effect from 1st April 2010 recognising that the Clerk's present salary fell below the Minimum Wage and also the high standard of input without reference to the excess number of hours sometimes undertaken both required and contributed by the Clerk. This was agreed unanimously.

- 14. Date of next meeting.** 14th March 2011