

Aberedw Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held on the 17th July 2017 at 8pm

1. Present

Cllrs Mr R Samuel (Chair), Mr S Coe, Mr A Lewis, Mr G Jones (Clerk), Mr P Hope, Miss C Morris, Cllr M Mackenzie.

Two members of the community were also present at the meeting

2. Welcome & Introductions - The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

3. Apologies for Absence – Cllr Mrs E Davies

4. Minutes of Meeting held on 4th June 2018 were approved as a correct record

5. Matters Arising – Planning

Planning Application for the erection of 3 Holiday Cabins and associated works at Upper Blaenmilo Farm.

The Clerk apologised to members for misinforming them on the application at the previous meeting and he confirmed that he had discussed the application with a planning officer prior to this meeting and they had confirmed that the Community Council Could still make representations.

Cllr Miss Morris asked if she could take part in the discussion and vote as the site was adjacent to the land farmed by her family. The clerk informed Cllr Morris that as a member of the Council she had the right to take part in the discussion but should not take part in any vote on the issue due to her potential pecuniary interest.

The clerk informed members that he had spoken to the applicants and they had confirmed that following a site visit that their agent was in the process of preparing further information to provide clarification around the proposed access and site issues.

All members recognised and supported the need for farm diversification and developments such as the proposed would also have benefits to other local businesses such as the local pub when it reopened. It was further accepted that the development, if approved, would increase the traffic flow on the narrow single-track road and that this had been identified as an issue by the Highways Authority in their response.

Members had differing views over the proposed site and it's proximity to land owned by Mr & Mrs Morris of Lower Blaenmilo and it was suggested that the applicants had other suitable sites at a greater distance from Lower Bleanmilo. The clerk reminded members that the council was required to comment on the application made and not to suggest alternatives to the application.

Recommendation. It was agreed that the clerk and chair should jointly respond to the planning authority making the following points in respect to the application.

- Support the need for farmers to strengthen the financial viability of their businesses and the councils support for farm diversification.
- The impact on traffic flow on the single track road from the village to the proposed site.

- That the planning authority should consider the impact the application would have on the farming enterprise of Mr & Mrs Morris of Lower Blaenmilo when deciding to approve or decline the application made.

6. Finance – Following the publication of the accounts the members of the council approved the accounts without amendment and approved the accounts for submission to Grant Thornton as the appointed external auditors.

The clerk informed members that the balance as at 17th July stood at £4,728.11

7. Tri – Towns Meeting

The clerk provided members an update on the work of the Tri – Town group which he is representing the smaller community councils in the Builth Area on. Although progress to date has been slow there is now some good joint planning taking place.

Members noted the update and approved that the clerk should continue to attend the meetings of the group.

8. Standing orders – The clerk presented the revised model standing orders, which were approved by members.

9. Planning Issues – it was noted that the only current planning application for the council area is the one at Upper Blaenmilo discussed under agenda item 5 above.

10. Correspondence – The following items were discussed:

a. Members were informed that the Severn Stars Inn was due to reopen in August. **All members expressed their pleasure in the proposed reopening of this valuable community resource.**

b. **Applications for Funding were received from:-**

i. **Aberedw Sports Committee (Verbal)** - in respect of contribution to the costs of upgrading the table and seating areas at the Gliesion.

ii. **Wyeside Arts Centre** - County Councillor Mackenzie outlined the request for funding from the Wyeside Arts Centre either as a Community Council or as an individual.

Recommendation: The clerk was asked to prepare a paper in respect to the development of a funding strategy for such applications and that the two above applications should be considered with any other received applications at the next meeting of the council.

11. Any Other Business

The following issues were raised by members:

a. The overgrown nature of the hedgerows along the roadsides belonging to the Court Farm and how they were now presenting a danger to the high sided traffic travelling

the roads. **Agreed** that the clerk should discuss the position with Mr Davies of Court Farm.

- b. The speed of the Traffic travelling along the road from Llanfaredd to Erwood Station. **Agreed** that the clerk should raise the councils concern with the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Highway matters.

12. Date of next meeting – The date of the next meeting was agreed as 10th September, with the date being dependant on the chair and clerk agreeing that there was sufficient business to call a meeting.