

**Trefeglwys Community Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**7:30pm, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013**  
**at Trefeglwys Village Hall Meeting Room**

**Present:** Councillors: Nick Bennett  
William Davies  
Endaf Meddins  
Derrick Pugh  
John Williams  
**In Attendance:** Mary Shergold (Clerk)  
**Members of the Community:** 9  
**Apologies:** Cllr A Williams, Cllr Jones and Cllr Preston

**Approval of Minutes** from previous Community Council Meeting of the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013: Cllr Davies requested that the minutes be amended to include his comment, as the Cllrs had not had those emails and it is important that this was included in the minutes. He felt that the Council had been kept in the dark. Cllr Davies advised that had he been privy to this information at the time then things would have been different.

Cllr Pugh said there have been accusations going around criticising Trefeglwys CC which was unacceptable. Therefore the majority of the Council decided an investigation into the matter would be the best way forward to restore confidence. One Voice Wales being the legal representative of the Council was approached to carry out the investigation. Cllr Pugh felt he needed more time to study the e-mail from Mr Breese-Davies and would not be happy to approve the minutes that evening due to variances of opinion. It was agreed that approval of minutes was postponed until the August meeting due to changes and additions.

**Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Bennett had previously declared a personal interest for the SPEN item if the CC1d route was to be discussed.

**Matters Arising:**

**SPEN/Mid Wales Inquiry:** The Chairman read out the previously mentioned e-mail from Mr Breese-Davies. The Chairman also read out a letter that Russell George had sent to Mr R Williams. Mr Williams would like the letter to put in the Community Council's files for future reference. It stated that Steven Edwards of SPEN confirmed in a meeting with Glyn Davies MP that he had taken the e-mail of the 2<sup>nd</sup> April from the then Chairman of Trefeglwys Community Council, as confirmation of the views of the community Council. It also stated that from the reply Russell George received from Mr Edwards that Mr Edwards now recognises this was not the view of the Community Council. The Clerk advised that every letter sent on behalf the Community Council is sent on a letterhead and always starts with "I write on behalf of the Trefeglwys Community Council". Mr Edwards was aware of this from previous Community Council correspondence.

Some inapt questions and comments were put to the Clerk. The Clerk responded and also made it very clear that she had not suggested any route to SPEN.

Cllr Pugh advised that if liaison had been between SPEN and TRAPP it wouldn't have had so much of problem as they were not the statutory body.

A resident stated that the Council, as statutory body should state that it is against the route. The Chairman advised that the Community Council cannot be for or against, as they have to remain unbiased.

Another resident advised that Meifod stuck together as a community and now this will be put underground. She said that in Trefeglwys, there is more going on with tourism and the shooting ground.

The Clerk responded that Mr Edwards had previously advised that SPEN would not underground 2km of continuous route.

Cllr Davies enquired about a response to Mr Breese-Davies' e-mail. It was agreed that the response to would be to advise that there is going to be an investigation. Mr Williams requested a copy of the e-mail, the Clerk advised that she would have to obtain permission to do this from Mr Breese-Davies.

Mr R Williams mentioned that Mr Breese-Davies has done a lot of good for the community in his time as Cllr but the last six months had resulted in a problem for Mr Williams, himself.

At the previous Council meeting it was agreed, by those members of the Council in the meeting room, that a letter of complaint be sent to the Chief Executive Officer of Scottish Power Energy Networks. This letter was sent and after chasing for a response, an e-mail was received from the CEO's PA to confirm that this matter was being looked into by their legal team.

Three copies of the Full Statement for the Conjoined Public Inquiry have been posted to Banks Solutions and an electronic copy has also been sent. It is now on the Banks website.

The Clerk advised that various e-mails had been received from Banks Solutions who are the co-ordinators re Conjoined Public Inquiry. These had been forward on to Cllrs.

At the previous Council Meeting the Chairman asked Cllr Pugh to seek advice from OVW as to TCC's situation with this issue. The result of this was that an investigation will be carried out by OVW, during that period all but one member of the Council agreed to the fees that would be incurred for this investigation; that member preferred to abstain.

**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Queen's Coronation:** Adjourned until August Meeting.

**TRAPP:** After discussion at the last meeting, it was agreed that there would be no Cllr replacing Cllr Breese-Davies for the TRAPP Meetings but Cllrs will attend the Public Inquiry. Since then a letter had been received from TRAPP seeking clarification of their status with the Community Council.

The Chairman read out the letter, which mentioned that TRAPP members were under the impression that they had been asked to form the group on behalf of Trefeglwys Community Council. They would very much like to continue to be associated with the Council and requested that the Community Council appoint another representative to attend their meetings. They felt that having a councillor present ensures that they work towards a common goal and serve the interests of the whole community.

The Council discussed the contents of this letter and it was noted that the Community Council itself had not asked anyone to form the group, which is now called TRAPP, on behalf of the Community Council. The Council is happy to continue its support for TRAPP to continue keeping the community informed of wind farm and pylon issues. Cllr Pugh said that TRAPP had done a lot of good in the community and he felt it was important that the Council should have a representative on their Committee.

It was agreed that a new Councillor will be assigned to attend the TRAPP meetings and this item has been put forward for discussion at the August Community Council Meeting.

It was agreed also, that a letter explaining that the invitation to form a group did not come from the Community Council but the Council is happy to continue its support and a new member will be appointed in due course.

#### **New Councillor:**

*Replacement Cllr for Cllr Hughes resignation* - there were no applications made to PCC. The invite for applications for a co-opted member will be placed on the noticeboard. So far two people have applied to be co-opted onto the Council.

*Replacement Cllr for Cllr Breese-Davies* - the notice for the vacancy has gone on the notice board. Todate, there are no applications made to PCC. The notice will stay on the noticeboard until 31<sup>st</sup> July and then a further notice will be placed for a co-opted member.

## **Re-cycling Area/Car Park:**

*Grass Area:* Cllr Preston has spoken to Mr Rees who agreed to communicate with Alun Bunford regarding the matter.

*Cardboard waste unit in the Trefeglwys recycling area:* Clerk has written to PCC to request this unit be installed – no response to date.

**Employment Matters:** Clerk advised that the advert will be in the County Times that weekend and she had placed an advert on the website.

**Dog Fouling Bins:** A request had been received for another bin to be placed at the other end of the footpath linking the B4569 nr Sewerage Works to Bodiach road. Currently, there is one at the Bodiach road end. It was agreed that the Clerk to write to PCC to request the extra bin.

**OVW re 2013 Conference and AGM on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October:** It was agreed that the Candidates attending will be Cllr Pugh and the Chairman.

**Hywel Dda Health Board:** TCC received an e-mail from Russell George's office in April regarding Colorectal and Abdominal Surgery. It contained a copy of a letter from Hywel Dda Health board, which stated that operations were not being carried out until the appointment of a locum surgeon who will take up the post in June 2013. The Clerk has written to Russell George to see if there is an update on this, as there is concern that the operations have not been resumed.

**Village Hall Letter re Sound System:** TCC has received a letter from the Trefeglwys Village Hall Committee Chairman responding to their letter regarding the problems with the sound system. Noted.

## **Highways:**

*Blocked culvert between 'Fron-Derw' and 'Penffynnon':* PCC are currently investigating this.

*Road serving Bryn Clywedog, Tremafon, Dolgwyddel Isaf and Dolgwyddel Uchaf:* PCC has advised that when a Highway is 'stopped up' it reverts back to the original land owner(s). Cllr Davies felt that this response was unsatisfactory and felt that it was up to PCC to prove that it was stopped up. Therefore, Clerk to write to request a copy of the legal document that has the road stopped up.

*Community Footpath:* This is to the footpath linking the B4569 nr Sewerage Works to Bodiach road, Powys County Council would have responsibility to ensure that access is not obstructed along the route but not for any upkeep of the path in terms of the surface etc. Landowners have certain responsibilities connected with footpaths that cross their land. A resident advised that the footpath has improved of late. It was decided that the Clerk researches who the landowner is for future reference.

## **Reports:**

**SLCC Meeting:** The main core of the meeting focussed upon insurance for Community Councils. The presenter from the Insurance company highlighted claims with regard to various sections of cover, i.e. Libel and Slander. Unnecessary claims have been made due to Cllrs heedlessly clicking on the "Forward" or "Reply to all" buttons when e-mailing. Caution must always be taken, as results of this may be a breach of the Code of Conduct, as well as increased insurance costs to the Council and heavy legal expenses to the insurance companies.

**Finance:** Items to be agreed by the Community Council for payment and monies in.

*End of Year Accounts:* The external auditors have acknowledged the interim details and, in their words, have not found any cause for concern. Their letter was circulated to the Councillors. The Council then gave final approval and the Chairman certified Section 3 of the Annual Return.

*Finance update:* The quarterly update was been circulated to Cllrs for perusal and approval. It was agreed to approve.

*New Bank Mandate* for signature details completed by Cllrs J Williams, Bennett and Meddins. Cllr A Williams, Cllr Jones, Cllr Preston to be contacted.

*Payments In:* None

<i>Payments Out:</i>	Clerk's Expenses	£282.89
	Clerk's Mileage (SLCC Meeting at Llandrindod 11 <sup>th</sup> July)	£31.06
	OVW Conference	£130.00

**Correspondence:** To receive those listed below and other items of general correspondence.

Before the correspondence was read out, Cllr Pugh advised that he had received a form by e-mail that was drafted by OVW and requested that the Cllrs sign it. All Cllrs that were present signed the form, which was a statement exculpating Cllrs regarding the issue relating to consultation on pylon routes by SPEN; the form also relates to Council business.

**Planning Portals.** Noted.

E-mail from CSP – **Policy & Regeneration** on behalf of **Europe and External Funding**. Noted.

E-mail from **Dyfed Powys Police** re new Public Surgery programme. Noted.

The **Clerk and Clerks & Councils** Direct magazines. Noted.

E-mail from OVW re **Welsh Language Communities Alliance**. This is an invitation for Town Council or Community Councils to become a member of the Welsh Language Communities Alliance. The aim is to be a forum for different groups and councils to discuss, share ideas and good practice regarding the Welsh language in our communities. After the 2011 Census results, it was felt that there is need to ensure people speak and use the Welsh language. Clerk to request more information.

E-mail from OVW re Larger Councils **Conference**. Noted.

E-mail from **Montgomeryshire Community Health Council** re **Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013**. Noted.

E-mail from **Welsh Government** re **Plant Protection Products (Sustainable) Regulations 2012**. Some of the key points covered by the new legislation include:

- Training and certification requirements - by law, everyone who uses pesticides professionally must have received adequate training and hold a qualification called a 'certificate of competence' in using pesticides safely and is skilled in the jobs they carry out. This applies to users, operators, contractors, managers, employers and people who give instruction to others who use pesticides.
- New obligations for the regular inspection of Plant Protection Product Application Equipment (knapsacks and handheld sprayers will be exempt from the requirement to pass inspection) - by 26 November 2016 and at regular intervals thereafter owners of certain types of pesticide application equipment must ensure it is tested; Equipment must have tested at least once by 2016 and inspected at intervals of no more than 5 years between 2016 and 2020 and at no more than 3 years after 2020. The Agricultural Engineers Association (AEA), which currently runs the UK's non-statutory National Sprayer Testing Scheme (NSTS), has been designated the body responsible for implementing inspection systems for Plant Protection Application Equipment.
- Provision to protect water, public spaces and conservation areas via the frequency, type and amount of pesticides used. Users must confine pesticide applications to the intended target or target area, ensure that the amount used and the frequency of use should be as low as is reasonably practicable and, so far as is reasonably practicable, use products not classified as dangerous for the aquatic environment nor containing hazardous substances.

E-mails from OVW re **Welsh Affairs Committee** re work of Police and Crime Commissioners in Wales and Select committee Announcement on the Work Programme. Noted.

E-mail from OVW re **External Funding** Newsletter produced by Natural Resources Wales. Noted.

E-mail from **OVW re Public Appointments** for Chair and Non-Executive Members – Wales Audit Office. Noted.

E-mails from **OVW re Training courses** and also the new **Autumn Training courses**. Noted.

Posters re Surgery Dates from **Welsh Conservatory Office** – these have been placed on noticeboard.

E-mails from OVW re **appointments**. Placed on noticeboard.

Letter from **Powys Teaching Health Board** re **Advice for hot weather**. Notices have been put on Noticeboards.

E-mail from **OVW** re download of **'The Voice'**. Noted.

Letter from PCC re **Town and Community Council Websites** and also an e-mail from Upperbridge Enterprises regarding the same. This was discussed and it was agreed that an application be made for updating the current website and Upper Bridge be invited to come and talk to the council about redevelopment of the existing one.

#### **Planning:**

**P/2013/0626** Application for full installation of 50kw micro generation wind turbine 24.6 to hub and 34.2 to blade tip with control box and all associated work at Derwillwydion, Llawryglyn. The Community Council agreed they had no objections.

**P/2013/0699** Application for Change of use of agricultural land to carry our engineering operations to create a flood storage area at Land at Llwyn Celyn, Trefeglwys. The Community Council agreed they had no objections.

#### **Chairman / Councillors Comments:**

The Chairman advised that the **Staylittle Village Hall** will be replacing the current flooring and asked the Council to consider a donation towards this cost. It was agreed that the Chairman obtain details of the cost in order for the Council to consider a donation.

The Clerk advised that the **Playground inspection** had been completed and the report will be due in shortly.

A resident mentioned that the **Waen Road** is still bad and the residents of "Penyborfa are having trouble in accessing their property. The Council advised that this has been reported and County Cllr Jones was also looking into it. Clerk will write again re Penyborfa access.

**Date of next meeting:** 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2013 at 7:30 pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the Meeting at 10:23pm.