

Trefeglwys Community Council
Minutes of Meeting
7:00pm, Thursday 23rd January 2014
at Trefeglwys Village Hall Meeting Room

Present: Councillors: Endaf Meddins
Derrick Pugh
John Williams
Beryl Crone
Rhiannon Jones
Nick Bennett
County Cllr Graham Jones

In Attendance: Alex Wilson-Mills

Visitor: Mr Steven Edwards and 2 colleagues from Scottish Power

Members of the Community: 12

Apologies: Williams Davies, Arthurs Williams and Janet Rowlands

Approval of Minutes from Community Council Meeting 19 December 2013 proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Crone.

Declarations of Interest: Cllr Nick Bennett

Matters Arising:

SPEN – Mr Steven Edwards and two colleagues attended the meeting in response to the Community Councils letter to SPEN of 3 December 2013 detailing the position of the council and the request for total retraction of the information recorded as representative from the council.

The Chair asked Steven Edwards if all copies and confirmation of correspondence for the last 12 months sent to SPEN could be returned to the council as the OVW report highlighted items not approved by the council and that the council are unaware if there is any further correspondence that has been sent out that the council has no awareness of.

Steven Edwards replied by stating that all information received would have been included in their stage 2 consultation and all referred to and couldn't see that there would be anything else.

Michael from SPEN continued saying that the stage 2 consultation was prepared using the information received as being representative of the councils view. The information can be traced. It is all recorded as feedback from Trefeglwys Community Council and it can be retracted. Anything not representative of TCC can be resolved and that SPEN would like to make it right. TCC to identify information to be queried and they will look at it. All the information referred to in the letter of 3 December 2013 to Steven Edwards is the understanding of SPEN of what is needed to be retracted.

Steven Edwards said that he would look at emails he had received from TCC for anything relevant and would forward to TCC.

Cllr Pugh mentioned that since the TCC letter of 3 December to SPEN more has come to light of documentation not sent by council approval.

Michael (SPEN) questioned whether all correspondence in the Stage 2 Consultation is to be taken as not from TCC. Any feedback recorded from TCC and listed in the report was in good faith and they had no reason to have thought otherwise.

The Chair said that the council will have to check on the documentation, although the fundamental letters as referred to were not approved by TCC. The chair also referred to the reference on the stage 2 Consultation regarding 'Oakley Park' and confirmed that there was no reference from TCC or from previous clerk/chair either and this has not held the council in good light in Oakley Park.

After discussion it was agreed between the council and SPEN that all documentation is to be returned to the Council.

Update on Project

Steven Edwards confirmed that work started on the stage 3 consultation in October 2013. From the feedback received this will be published in the report in March 2014 and the line routes to use for environmental basis to start in Spring. This will from a line design, positioning of poles, which would form the basis of the application, to pledge towards the end of the year/January 2015.

The Chair queried whether undergrounding was an option.

Steven Edwards replied by saying that there was 70km of overhead line in total for project not just in Trefeglwys. The start of the design process is with overhead lines and parts tested for undergrounding on the impact of the overhead line and whether the proposal would justify undergrounding. With any application the cheapest connection option has to be given as a starting point.

Steven Edwards and his two colleagues left the meeting at 8.40pm.

One Voice Wales Report

The Chair read out a letter received from Mrs Williams who had asked for it to be read out in the council meeting;

Dear Endaf

Having read Michael's email of the 25th May in the OVW Report, where he refers to burying the hatchet with me, I would like to state, that it seems he mistook my polite and civil approach at a public event as being exoneration.

This is most certainly not the case and I do not condone or appreciate what he's done. I hope this clarifies the issue.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Gwyneth Williams

The chair confirmed that the Council had not received any feedback from the monitoring officer and confirmed that the public would be updated on the position.

A member of the public asked whether a request for Cllr Pugh's response to the OVW report would be acceptable. The Chair confirmed that a FoI request can be made but at present it is with the monitoring officer and the position would have to be checked on when the report by Cllr Pugh can be made available to the public under FoI.

Vacancy of Councillor

The clerk confirmed that the deadline was tomorrow and that Powys County Council will notify the council of any interest received in the position of councillor for the Llawr y Glyn area. If there has not been any interest the next step would be for co-option.

60th Anniversary of the Queen's Coronation –No developments at present Cllr Bennett will look into further.

Trefeglwys Community Council Website – the council discussed the two options available and all present were in favour for a new website.

Highways:

Blocked culvert between 'Fron-Derw' and 'Penffynnon' – County Cllr Graham Jones confirmed that this had now been repaired but in the wrong place but he would chase this up.

Road serving Bryn Clywedog, Tremafon, Dolgwyddel Isaf and Dolgwyddel Uchaf – County Cllr Graham Jones confirmed that he had spoken with Adrian Jervis of Powys County Council and confirmed that PCC do not know who owns the land and that they do not have any record and that the maintenance falls back on the people who use the road. PCC are unable to take over as they do not know who owns it. To be discussed in next meeting when Cllr Davies is in attendance.

FootPath in Village – Councillors confirmed that work had commenced on repairs to the footpath.

Footpath by caravan Park/Maestrannon – Cty Cllr Graham Jones confirmed that Colin Powell had agreed for the hedge to be cut the hedge back by Powys County Council for extra width and that Powys County Council would follow up shortly.

Finance:

All monies in and out agreed by the council

Monies Out

PCC License re provision of bus shelter and Bicycle	£5.00
Derrick Pugh Travel Expenses Reimbursed	£16.03
Clerk's Wages Dec 2013	£160.38
Clerk's Expenses Dec 2013	£26.58

Monies In

Powys County Council - Precept	£1982.00
Powys County Council – Recycling	£144.90
Powys County Council	£105.76

Reports:

Cllr Pugh attended the One Voice Wales Area meeting in Abermule which was held on 21 January 2014 and provided the following information of the main topics discussed:

1. Websites - OVW had written to all Unitary Authorities to check on progress in relation to this grant and see how many Councils had taken up the offer to date. A number of Unitary Authorities had responded but there was insufficient detail to hand as yet to present a comprehensive picture of the situation around Wales. However as far as TCC is concerned, as we all know we have received £500 from PCC.
2. Due to poor mobile phone receptions in the area, especially Minafon, two Community Affair Managers from Orange (EE) had travelled down from London to Abermule to explain how they plan to resolve the matter which was most appreciated by Council members.
3. An effective AGM Framework was discussed which should be in place for the next AGM in 2014 relating to Motions.
4. OVW 2014 Training Brochure has now been designed and finalised by the Office Administrator. There will be several Training Courses in Trefeglwys which will include Code of Conduct training. Maybe we as a Council should consider a block booking when the time comes for Councillors who have not attended a Code of Conduct Training.
5. Sponsorship - One Voice Wales. This was discussed at some length and was most appreciated on the night as this would put One Voice Wales in a prime position. They will have four films on their website as soon as their website is complete. TCC agreed the four films produced by Cllr. Pugh can be put on to their own new website for the general public to view with very interesting topics such as FoI, Chief Executive's Report, Planning Inspectorate Wales etc. This should bring a lot more hits to the website. Trefeglwys Community Council will now be amongst the leaders in the whole of Wales with this Media technology.
6. A letter to Jeremy Patterson CEO of Powys County Council from Lyn Cadwallader, Chief Executive of One Voice Wales.
Quote "I met with 38 community and town councillors and clerks representing 22 local councils in Powys last Tuesday evening 7 January 2014 in Llandrindod. This meeting was convened by me as a direct consequence of concerns raised by member and non-member councils of One Voice Wales over recent months on matters relating to the devolution of services including public conveniences, leisure services, car parks and more recently outdoor recreation services."

OVW recommend that Councils don't agree to anything until we have more information on this matter as it appears that County Councils are trying to offload responsibilities onto Town & Community Councils.

Correspondence:

E-Mail re: OVW Traing 2014 – council discussed and agreed to look at relevant courses closer to the dates they are runing.

E-Mail re: Resident regarding blocked culvert - an email received from the previous chairman was read out in full in the council meeting and the council discussed the points raised and agreed that a letter was to be sent in response.

E-Mail re: Student, Paul watson questionnaire. The council discussed this and agreed that they did not want to complete the questionnaire.

E-Mail re: Eisteddfod 2015 – council discussed and agreed to discuss at next meeitng.

Letter re: PCC Village Hall Annual revenue Grant Scheme – the council discussed and agreed to keep to the same as last year.

Letter re: OVW Buckingham Palace Garden Party – Chairman confirmed he would not be attending.

Letter re: OVW – general concerns over devolution of services – Cllr Pugh covered the points raised in his report.

Letter re: PCC – Community Recycling Site Payments – noted by councillors.

Planning:

Planning Application Ref: VAR/2013/0035. Grid Reference: 296117.46/292109.79 for Application to discharge Section 52 agreement attached to planning permission M17217 (local occupancy restriction) at Penrorin Barn, Trefeglwys, Caersws. This was emailed prior to the council meeting to all councillors and there were no objections.

Chairman / Councillors Comments:

The Chairman raised the council's attention to the fact that he had received a phone call from James Nicholas of the Cambrian News and that he had been asked a number of questions. The Chairman had not replied and had noted the questions which were discussed in the meeting and the answers to the questions also discussed and agreed to be sent in reply to James Nicholas.

The clerk asked whether the council wished to have the agendas put on the website as well as the minutes in the future. It was agreed by all present to proceed and put the agendas on the website.

The clerk asked whether the council would be in agreement to put up a notice regarding a questionnaire on Community Health on the TCC notice board. The council agreed to do so.

Cllr Crone also noted that there were rumours circulating that Llanidloes hospital was going to close and wanted to confirm that yes the hospital will be closing on 3 March but only temporary for the following:

- Boiler replacement
- Asbestos removal
- Installation of new windows (internal)

Date of next meeting: Thursday 27th February 2014.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the Meeting at 10.45pm