

**CYNGOR CYMUNED YR YSTOG**  
**CHURCHSTOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
 2 Rows Terrace, Plough Bank, Montgomery, Powys. SY15 6QD

**MINUTES of Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009**  
 at Churchstoke Community Hall at 7.30 p.m.

**1.0 Attendance, Apologies and Declarations of Members' Interests**

Attendance: Cllr M J Jones (Vice-chairman), Cllr S V Griffiths, Cllr L D Owen, Cllr D H Payne, Cllr P C Rigg, Cllr B A Rowley, Cllr J Stelmasiak, Cllr E N Swanson (acceptance of office sign prior to meeting), Cllr V E D Tudor.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-chairman took the Chair.

The Vice-chairman welcomed Cllr Nowela Swanson to the council as new Member for Churchstoke ward.

The Vice-chairman welcomed members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr D L Powell (Chairman), Cllr K H J Dowbiggin, Cllr C S Fowles.

Declarations of Members' interests: Members declared interests as follows:

Agenda Number	Item	Councillor	Nature of Declaration
4.4	Planning Applications	M J Jones	Personal not Prejudicial Interest as a Members of Powys CC Planning Committee
4.4	Planning Applications	M J Jones	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090210 acting as local Member
4.4	Planning Applications	M J Jones	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090221
4.4	Planning Applications	M J Jones	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090222
4.4	Planning Applications	M J Jones	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090238 acting as local Member
4.4	Planning Applications	L D Owen	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090210
4.4	Planning Applications	L D Owen	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090238
4.4	Planning Applications	V E D Tudor	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090221
4.4	Planning Applications	V E D Tudor	Personal and Prejudicial Interest in application P20090222

**2.0 Minutes of Meetings** – to approve and sign the minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at Churchstoke Community Hall, as a correct record.

The minutes of the meeting 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.

**3.0 Matters Arising from Minutes for Information** – to report matters for information arising from minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at Churchstoke Community Hall.

3.1 (3.2) Street Lighting ‘Switch off’ Review

The Vice-chairman reported that streetlights in Churchstoke and Hyssington have been switched on to part-night lighting as from 6<sup>th</sup> March.

3.2 (11.2) Waste Recycling Banks

The Clerk reported on a reply from Powys CC thanking CCC for feedback and comments regarding the over-full banks, and stating that ordinarily contractors empty banks prior to holiday periods but on that occasion the particular contractor was unable to fulfil the schedule. Powys CC also states the problem has been rectified by the contractor.

3.3 (15a) Police and Communities Together (PACT)

Cllr J Stelmasiak reported on attendance with Cllr Rowley and Cllr Griffiths at the latest PACT meeting at Montgomery. Topics discussed included:

- o Introduction of the new officer dedicated to driving and speeding issues in local communities and a more robust approach to offences
- o Churchstoke remains in a low crime band
- o Recent incidences of theft from telephone boxes and need for vigilance
- o Vehicle registration should be included wherever possible on reports of crime incidents as this makes electronic tracking easier.

3.4 (15b) Cae Camlad – Common Television Aerial

The Clerk reported on a reply from Powys CC stating that CCC’s request has been passed to the Housing Estates and Property Services Manager for attention.

#### **4.0 Planning Matters:**

4.1 Powys CC Planning Determinations – to report recent Powys CC planning determinations

The Clerk reported notification of planning determinations by Powys CC as follows:

Ref.	Site	Powys CC Planning Decision
None		

4.2 Planning Specific Correspondence – to receive planning specific correspondence (if any)

4.2.1 Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) – Consultation on Local Delivery Agreement

Council received progress letter on LDP indicating:

- o Formal responses have been approved by the Powys CC Board (copy of responses to CCC itemised and enclosed)
- o Due to delay with the preceding UDP there is a need to revise the timetable for LDP. As this is a significant change to the published dates, a further consultation is necessary on revised draft Delivery Agreement in the summer.

4.3 Planning Appeals – notifications/reports (if any) of Planning Inspectorate Appeals.

The Clerk reported on notification of planning appeals/decision as follows:

Plan Ref.	Appeal Ref	Site
P20081286	APP/T6850/A/08/2090520/WF	Barn at Fishpool Farm, White Grit
Appellant	Mr A W & Mrs J Y Shelly	

Description	Section 73 application for removal of condition no. 9 attached to application M20060531 (relating to vehicular access)
Inspectorate Decision	The appeal is allowed and planning permission granted for conversion of farm building to residential dwelling without compliance of condition no.9 previously imposed on planning permission M20060531.

4.4 Planning Applications/Notices – to receive and resolve responses to consultations by Powys CC including –

Declarations of members' interests

- Cllr M J Jones: all applications – previously declared a Personal not Prejudicial Interest as a Members of Powys CC Planning Committee
- Cllr M J Jones: application P20090210 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application
- Cllr L D Owen: application P20090210 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application
- Cllr M J Jones: application P20090221 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application
- Cllr V E D Tudor: application P20090221 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application
- Cllr M J Jones: application P20090222 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application
- Cllr V E D Tudor: application P20090222 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application
- Cllr M J Jones: application P20090238 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application
- Cllr L D Owen: application P20090238 – having previously declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest, left the room for this application

RESOLVED 'CCC responds to planning consultations as follows:'

Ref.	Applicant	Site	Description	rec.
P20090210	A C Norton, The Coppice, Hall Bank, Churchstoke	Buttercup Cottage, land adj. Water Lilly Cottage, Churchstoke	S73 application for removal of condition no. 6 attached to planning permission M20061182 (mains sewer connection)	S
P20090221	St Nicholas House Ltd, Churchstoke	St Nicholas House, Churchstoke	Erection of extension to existing care home (following demolition of existing building)	S
P20090222	St Nicholas House Ltd, Churchstoke	St Nicholas House, Churchstoke	Conservation area consent for demolition of bungalow at Dilstan Houser	S
P20090238	A C Norton, The Coppice, Hall Bank, Churchstoke	Buttercup Cottage, land adj. Water Lilly Cottage, Churchstoke	Installation of sewerage treatment plant	S

P20090304	Mrs V Thomas, Mellington Hall Hotel	Mellington Hall Hotel, Mellington	Advertisement consent for a pole mounted free standing illuminated sign	S*
P20090305	Mr R Delves, c/o Hogstow Hall, Minsterley	Old Post Office, Castle Rd., Churchstoke	Alterations to vehicular access – widening to facilitate left turning vehicles from Castle Road	S*
P20090311	Mr A & Mrs C Beaumont, Holly Ridge, Hyssington	Holly Ridge, Hyssington	Erection of extensions	S

\***P20090304** – CCC supported the application, but requested that planning officers require a reduction in height of the proposed sign in order to lessen the visual impact.

\***P20090305** – CCC supported the application on road safety grounds, but wished to inform planning officers that it believes that neither the applicant nor the owner of the Old Post Office owns the land in question.

Action – Clerk to process

#### 4.6 Planning Enforcement Appeals – notifications/reports (if any) of Planning Inspectorate Enforcement Appeals.

Ref.	Site	Description
None		

#### 4.6 Planning Enforcement – to report on planning enforcement matters within the community.

The Chairman invited Members to bring forward planning enforcement matters for discussion. Members discussed enforcement matters as follows –

Ref	Site	Description
None	Off A489 opp entrance to Cae Coed, Churchstoke	Large lorry container
Powys CC reply	Powys enforcement officer states that investigations are in progress and will advise following a site visit.	
M20050963	Land opp. Cwm Chapel, Mellington	The shed erected with the pump is still present although retrospective planning permission had been refused.
Powys CC reply	Powys enforcement officer states that the owner has informed that the shed will be removed following completion of an extension to the main house. Powys CC further states that should the owner fail to comply within a reasonable time, that it will pursue enforcement action and seek prosecution.	

#### 5.0 One Voice Wales / Society of Local Council Clerks, Guidance Notes – to receive reports of AGM / conference / area meetings / guidance notes / correspondence.

##### 5.1 OVW – Example Standing Orders

The Clerk reported that CCC has now received electronic document ‘Standing Orders and Chairmanship’, and these will facilitate a CCC review of its own standing orders by members with Special Responsibility for Democratic Governance and Organisation.

##### 5.2 OVW – eTrading for Community and Town Councils

The Clerk reported information regarding Welsh Assembly Government collaborative procurement initiative, for which councils are being sought to take part in a trial from April. Noted.

### 5.3 SLCC – Practitioners Conference, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Stoke,

The Clerk reported on attendance at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Practitioners Conference. The Clerk reported on a very thorough and professionally organised conference and that the event was a valuable learning and training experience, and recommended participation each year by way of good value training and keeping up to date with issues and topics in the work of clerks.

### 5.4 SLCC – Powys Branch meeting, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, Newtown

The Clerk reported on attendance at the Powys Branch meeting where the guest speaker was Mr David Payne, Wales Regional Account Manager for WAG Planning Portal. Clerks heard of the construction of the national planning portal which will act as the ‘hub’ for electronic processing of planning applications.

Clerks at the meeting welcomed the positive lead being taken by WAG but indicated some of the problems for town and community councils will have meeting costs of equipment and changes to working practices. Clerks present also noted the potential benefits to applicants (cost/time), to Planning Authorities (cost/time), and town and community councils (time)

## 6.0 Cemetery Fees – to report on the triennial review of cemetery fees and to resolve on the level of fees from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 (previously circulated).

The Clerk reported that cemetery fees are due for the triennial review and referred to the previously circulated briefing paper which indicated cost comparisons and a rational basis for costs based on annual cemetery maintenance expenditure

RESOLVED *‘That the recommendations are adopted and the adult burial, exclusive right, and monument fees are to be increased to £135, and other fees increased pro-rata with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009’.*

Action – Clerk to process

## 7.0 Allotments – to report from the allotments task group recommendations following the site visit to Bishops Castle Town Council, and to resolve on commitment to proceed.

The Vice-Chairman reminded Members of the site visit arranged for the allotments task group and Clerk to Bishops Castle (BCTC) in order to hear of BCTC experiences of cost, public interest and administration of allotments. Cllr J Stelmasiak reported on findings of the site visit Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

RESOLVED *‘That CCC proceeds with the allotments and agrees to allocate resources, and that the project is taken forward by the allotment task group with the Clerk’.*

Action – Allotments group with Clerk

## 8.0 Village Green at Hyssington – to receive progress report from the task group.

The Vice-Chairman reminded Members of the arrangements being made by the village green task group to undertake a survey of evidence. Cllr D Payne reported on the group

meeting with the Clerk on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Members asked the task group to proceed with the postal survey of evidence and to hold a public meeting mid way through the survey period.

Action – Village Green group with Clerk

**9.0 Playgrounds** – to receive the reports if available, of the February 2009 inspections.

Council received.

The Clerk reported that the results of inspection have not yet been received.

**10.0 Green Grants 2009** – to invite applications for Green Grants 2009.

The Clerk reported that applications for Green Grants 2009 are now welcomed, with a closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> May. Members noted that the timetable will be as usual – applications (Apr-May), review applications (June-July), notify and Award (Aug-Sept). Notice of applications will be posted to notice boards and web site.

Action – Clerk to process

**11.0 Financial Report:**

11.1 Clerks' National Pay Agreement 2008-2009 – to report and to resolve on the final annual settlement determined by ACAS Arbitration Board (previously circulated).

The Clerk reported on conclusion of the ACAS arbitration of the protracted negotiations at a national level for the 2008 national agreement and that a final award of an additional 0.3% has been determined by the arbitration panel.

RESOLVED *'That CCC adopts the final arbitration settlement with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008, to pay back-pay due, and to amend the standing order'*.

Action – Clerk to process

11.2 Annual Investment Strategy 2009-2010 – to receive & adopt the strategy (previously circulated).

The Clerk presented the Annual Investment Strategy 2009-2010, prepared according to Welsh Assembly statutory guidance.

RESOLVED *'That CCC accepts and adopts the Annual Investment Strategy 2009-2010 as presented'*.

11.3 Items received since last meeting – to report.

The Clerk reported on income received since the last meeting as follows:

Payer	Description	£
M & G	Charibond dividend Nov'08-Jan'09	1.90

11.4 Items for payment – to report and resolve to approve items for payment as follows:

RESOLVED *'CCC authorises payments as follows'*:

Chq	Payee	Description	£ex vat	£vat	£inc vat
<i>To authorise items for payment:</i>					
487	Ch'stokes Recr. Assoc.	Vill. Hall Grant 2008-09	1,572.00	0.00	1,572.00
488	Hyssington Village Hall	Vill. Hall Grant 2008-09	614.00	0.00	614.00
489	One Voice Wales	Example Standing Orders	14.99	0.00	14.99
490	Powys County Council	Rec field area'n 2008-09	290.48	43.57	334.05
491	E J Humphreys	BT Openw'd Oct-Dec'08	5.19	0.00	5.19

		<i>Total to authorise</i>	2,496.66	43.57	2,540.23
<i>To report items previously authorised to be paid by direct debit or standing order:</i>					
SO	E J Humphreys	Clerk's salary Mar'09	382.75	0.00	382.75
<i>Total previously authorised</i>			382.75	0.00	382.75

Action – Clerk to process

11.5 Consolidated balances at 25<sup>th</sup> Mar 2009 after sweep, receipts & payments – to report.  
The Clerk reported on gross, ring-fenced funds, & net available balances as follows:

Item	Reserve account £	Current account £
Gross balances	25,803.75	500.00
Less ring-fenced funds	5,720.35	0.00
Net balances available	20,083.40	500.00

## 12.0 Highways and Rights of Way Reports:

12.1 Highways and Rights of Way report from Powys/Shropshire CC to CCC – to report.

The Clerk reported on replies/correspondence from Powys CC/Shropshire CC

- C2009 – Potholes (deep in places) along the length of C2009, which risk damage to vehicles and put at risk the safety of cyclists and motor cyclists. Powys CC states that the potholes have been repaired.
- Street lamp Ch45 – faulty. Powys CC states that this has been reported to the street lighting section. Powys CC states that such faults can be reported by telephone on the helpdesk number 0845-607-6060.
- A489 Churchstoke – following road resurfacing in the village by contractors to the Highways Authority there occurred flooding from the mains sewer arising from blockage by large pieces of concrete. This gave rise to considerable inconvenience and financial cost to a local resident. Members agreed that this should be brought to the attention of the Highways Authority. Powys CC states that it is aware of the situation and is waiting contact from Severn Trent Water.
- C2055 (Shropshire) Old Churchstoke to Priest Weston – two very large potholes between Cwmdulla and Priest Weston which have given rise to tyre punctures. Shropshire CC states that the potholes have been repaired on 4<sup>th</sup> March.
- Priest Weston Village (Shropshire) – faulty street lamp in the village. Shropshire CC states that the faulty lamp is maintained by Chirbury with Brompton Parish Council, and CCC's report has been passed to the clerk Mr T Ward.

12.2 Highways and Rights of Way report from CCC to Powys/Shropshire CC – to report.

- Cllr D H Payne: C2056 Blacksmiths Bank Hyssington – CCC has previously reported edge erosion and need for repair. CCC would like to enquire if Powys CCC knows of ownership and responsibility for maintenance of the entrance to Hill View and Willow Lodge off Blacksmiths Bank.
- Cllr M J Jones: C2149 from top to Pullets bank to the Moat – potholes along the entire length, some of which have been marked for repair some time ago but no repairs have been undertaken.

Action – Clerk to process

**13.0 County Council Matters**– to receive and discuss other general Powys CC, Shropshire CC, and South Shropshire DC matters.

- Powys CC: Cllr M J Jones reported,

- Street lighting has been reinstated on 6<sup>th</sup> March (following the switch-off review) to part-night lighting. Lights will remain extinguished 00:30-05:30.

b) South Shropshire DC:

- No report.

**14.0 Correspondence** – to receive other items of general correspondence.

14.1 National Assembly for Wales – Visitor Services Manager

Re: Invitation to visit the National Assembly Sennedd building

Council received invitation to visit the Sennedd free of charge for a guided tour and to observe the work of the Assembly in debates or in committee.

14.2 Montgomeryshire Community Health Council

Re: Proposals for the Future of Community Health Councils (CHCs) in Wales

Council received copy of WAG consultation paper on the future of community health councils with comments welcomed by 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009 (together with a poster of display on notice boards re. the public meeting 19<sup>th</sup> March, Newtown). Members noted the WAG proposal for one CHC for Powys replacing the two present ones.. Noted

14.3 St Nicholas Parish Church – Churchwarden

Re: Open Day Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2008, 2-4pm

Council received invitation to participate in the open day at which it is intended to have information on activities in the villager. Members agreed that the allotments task group would take the opportunity to promote its allotment project.

Action – Clerk to reply

14.4 Welshpool Town Council – Town Clerk

Re: Community Councils Forum

Council received invitation to participate in the formation of an area forum of councils centred on Welshpool. The second meeting of the Forum is on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 11am, Welshpool. The Clerk reported on further information obtained from the Clerk's Office. Members noted that there appears to be some overlap with the work of OVW Maldwyn Committee of which CCC is already a member, but agreed to be kept in touch by receiving notes of meetings.

Action – Clerk to reply

14.5 Various other correspondences listed:

- a) National Assembly for Wales – poster 'Have your Say' re. new laws on rights to use the Welsh Language for public services in Wales. Noted.
- b) Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales – 'A Line in the Sand' first Newsletter. Noted.
- c) Keep Wales Tidy – information and publicity for the Tidy Towns Project. Passed to Cllr S V Griffiths.
- d) Welshpool Town Council – information that WTC is purchasing the Tourist Information centre in Welshpool and that notice boards are available as exhibition space. Noted
- e) Dogs Trust – posters advertising work of the Trust for the notice boards. Noted.

**15.0 Chairman's Announcements & Date of Next Business Meeting**

- a) Cllr B A Rowley – requested the matter of ‘Cemetery Trees be considered for the next agenda.

Action – for April agenda

Next business meeting: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009, 7:30 p.m. at Hyssington.

Meeting ended 9.55 p.m.