

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

MINUTES of Meeting on 26th March 2008
 at Churchstoke Community Hall at 7.30 p.m.

1.0 Attendance, Apologies and Declarations of Members' Interests

Attendance: Cllr E Evans (Chairman), Cllr G F Griffiths, Cllr M J Jones, Cllr D H Latimer, Cllr D A Paterson, Cllr D L Powell, Cllr P A Rees, Cllr Mrs B A Rowley, Cllr Mrs A R Stephens.

The Chairman welcomed members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Mrs B J Davies

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

Agenda Number	Item	Councillor	Nature of Declaration
4.5	Planning Applications/Notices	M J Jones	Member of Powys CC Planning C'ttee (decision role)
4.5	Planning Applications/Notices	D H Latimer	Personal interest in application P20080261

2.0 Minutes of Meetings – to approve and sign the minutes of 27th February 2008 at Churchstoke Community Hall, as a correct record.

The minutes of the meeting 27th February 2008 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 27th February 2008 at Churchstoke Community Hall.

3.1 (3.1) Planning – Local Needs Evidence précis

The Clerk reported on an interim reply from Powys CC Planning Liaison Officer stating that she will take further advice on the matter.

3.2 (3.3) PACT meeting – re Zebra Crossing

Cllr D L Powell reported that high visibility posts have been installed and trees cut back for greater visibility at the zebra crossing.

3.3 (10.0) Seat on the Village Green

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had visited Mr & Mrs Roberts to view the seat proposed for the Cherry Tree Land. Members were reminded that a decision to place the seat was resolved in 2000. It was reported that this design is suitable but will need a hard-standing base for anchorage. Members asked the Clerk to confirm arrangements with Mr and Mrs Roberts, including the matter of donation and maintenance. The Clerk recommended that as the land is registered as Village Green, that CCC should check that placing the seat is acceptable to the registration authority, prior to installation.

Action – Clerk to process

The Chairman also reported that the Landlord of the Courthouse has kindly offered to dig out the daffodils and store them for replanting, and also to place a planter on edge of the Green. Members agreed to trim low branches for ease of use and safety reasons.

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
M20071218	The View, Churchstoke	Full planning permission refused

4.2. Llanbadarn Fynydd Wind Farm Application – to receive information regarding highways traffic and transportation impact during construction of a wind farm, and to resolve a response if desired to the Secretary of State or to Powys County Council.

The Clerk reported on information from Powys CC that it expects an application for a wind farm at Llanbadarn Fynydd. This information states that Churchstoke community is likely to be affected by additional traffic during the construction phase – an alternative route travels from Welshpool through Forden, Montgomery, Weston Madoc, then to Kerry on the A489 – and provides a traffic impact assessment. Powys CC is invited to respond to the Secretary of State and invites comments from the local communities.

RESOLVED *‘CCC notes that as Weston Madoc area is to be transferred from Churchstoke to Montgomery communities, it does not wish to comment on arrangements for routing of the construction traffic’.*

Action – Clerk to process

4.3 Other Planning Specific Correspondence – to receive other correspondence (if any)

4.3.1 Powys CC – Planning Liaison Officer

a) Re. Various enquiries by CCC

The Clerk reported on a reply from the Planning Liaison Officer regarding loss of CCC’s planning responses (and supplementary enquiries re traffic and vehicles) from October to December 2007. Powys CC apologises that CCC’s responses had been misfiled.

b) Re. Spring Planning Liaison Meeting

The Clerk reported on invitation to the liaison meeting, Wednesday 30th April, 6.30pm for 7.00pm start, at Neuadd Maldwyn, Welshpool. The guest speaker is Mr David Payne, of the Communities and Local Government Portal.

Action – for April agenda

c) Re. Local Needs Evidence précis.

See item 3.1 above.

4.4 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	Planning Inspectorate Decision
None			

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

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

- All applications – Cllr M J Jones, having earlier declared an interest as a member of Powys CC Planning Authority (decision role), refrained from discussion or voting.
- P20080261 – Cllr D H Latimer having earlier declared an interest left the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED: 'CCC responds to consultation on applications as follows':

Ref.	Applicant	Site	Description	rec.
<i>New Applications</i>				
P20080211	Mr R Pugh, R V W Pugh, Mellington	R V W Pugh, Mellington	Erection of extension to storage shed	S
P20080261	Mr & Mrs Morris, The Hollies, White Grit	The Hollies, White Grit	Erection of extensions and alterations	S
P20080311	Mr & Mrs N Bell, Daisy Bank, Snead	Daisy Bank Caravan Park, Snead	Extension to existing touring caravan park (28 pitches) to be used throughout the year & erection of toilet/shower block	S

Action – Clerk to process

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

Ref.	Site	Description
None		

4.7 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		

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

- a) Maldwyn Committee 9th April 2008 – Agenda
Cllr P A Rees reminded Members that the next meeting of OVW is to be held in Churchstoke on 9th April, 7pm, and highlighted agenda items. Noted.
- b) 2008 Local Elections – information leaflets.
Council received copies of information leaflets produced by OVW publicising the work of community councils, being a councillor, qualifications, and how to become a councillor. The Clerk reported that these have been posted by kind permission of OVW, to all notice boards and to the CCC website news page. Noted.
- c) Clarification (due to May-day bank holiday) of key dates following the elections.
Council received clarification as follows:
 - 1st May – election day
 - 6th May – current councillors retire, new councillors take office
 - 20th May – last day on which the annual meeting can take place
 Noted.

- d) Maldwyn Committee 17th January 2008.
Council received notes of the meeting, on which Cllr P A Rees had already reported (item 7.0d January 2008). The next meeting is in Churchstoke 9th April 2008. Noted.
- e) Buckingham Palace Garden Party 15th July 2008.
Council received the annual invitation to submit 2 nominations for guests at the Garden Party, in recognition of past service. Members agreed to nominate past Chairman Cllr B J Davies and Mr Davies as attendees.

Action – Clerk to process

6.0 Local Council Elections May 2008 – to receive formal Notice of Elections, Election Timetable, and Election Packs.

Council received formal Notice of Elections, Election Timetable, and Election Packs from Powys CC. The Clerk reported that the Notice of Election and the Timetable had already been distributed to the notice boards, that information posted to the web-site, and that Election Packs had been distributed to all Members. Members noted that the electoral register has already taken account of the boundary changes at Weston Madoc but not at Weston Road, White Grit, and asked the Clerk to seek clarification from the elections office re. Weston Road. Noted.

Action – Clerk to enquire

7.0 Hyssington Notice Board – to consider repairs to, or replacement of, the notice board.

Cllr D A Paterson reported that the Hyssington Notice Board is showing sign of decay, and is in need of repair or replacement. Cllr P A Rees provided information on commercially available notice boards.

RESOLVED *'CCC will commission a suitable replacement notice board for Hyssington'.*

Action – Clerk to process

8.0 Tennis Club Wall – to receive progress report.

The Chairman reminded members of discussion of the matter at the January and February meetings. The Clerk reported on behalf of Cllr B J Davies that Cllr Davies has written to the Charity Commission to enquire on feasibility and mechanism of incorporation of the tennis club site into the auspices of the community hall. Cllr Davies is awaiting reply

Action – for April agenda

Cllr A R Stephens joined the meeting at this point.

9.0. Grounds Maintenance:

9.1 Recreation Field aeration – to receive quotations for aeration treatment 2008-2009.

The Clerk reported on a quotation from Powys CC for aeration treatment of the recreation field at £72.62 plus vat per session.

RESOLVED *'CCC continues with the usual aeration treatment programme provided by Powys CC – for 4 sessions at £72.62 plus vat per session'.*

Action – Clerk to process

9.2 Grass-cutting & Grounds Maintenance – to receive tenders for contract 2008-2009.

The Clerk reported that 3 tenders have been received. The tenders were opened and it was,

RESOLVED ‘CCC accepts the tender of G F & M Astley Landscapes to the value of £3,395 plus vat’.

Action – Clerk to process

10.0. Playgrounds – to receive the reports, if available, of the February 2008 inspections.

The Clerk reported that CCC is still awaiting the inspection.

Action – for April agenda

11.0 Future Projects:

11.1 Garden Allotments – to receive progress report.

Cllr Stephens reported that due to other pressing commitments that there is no further progress to report. CCC agreed to publicise its consideration of allotments and to invite constructive feedback from the public.

Action – Clerk to process

Action – for April agenda

11.2 Other projects – to further receive and discuss Members’ ideas and views.

a) Cross Likey Green Space – the Clerk reported that there is no response from Powys CC as to ownership of the green space

Action – for April agenda

b) Affordable Homes Scheme – the Clerk reported that there is no progress to report as to ownership of land, and to enquire about re-zoning of industrial land to housing land.

Action – for April agenda

12.0 Financial Report:

12.1 Annual Investment Strategy 2008-2009 – to receive & adopt the strategy (previously circulated).

The Clerk presented the Annual Investment Strategy 2008-2009, prepared according to Welsh Assembly statutory guidance.

RESOLVED ‘CCC accepts and adopts the Annual Investment Strategy 2008-2009 as presented’.

12.2 Items received since last meeting – to report.

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

Payer	Description	£
Powys County Council	Waste recycling proceeds Oct-Dec 2007	661.39
M & G Investments	Charibond Dividend Nov 2007-Jan 2008	1.90
J Munslow	Allotment No.3 rent 2008-2009	70.00
Churchstoke Bowling Club	Peppercorn Rent 2008-2009	1.00
E R D Corfield & Sons	Cemetery ashes fee (plot 119)	50.00

12.3 Items for payment this meeting – to authorise items for payment, including as follows,

RESOLVED ‘CCC authorises payments as follows’:

cheque	Payee	Description	£ inc. vat
434	Churchstoke Recr. Assoc.	Village Hall Grant 2007-2008	1,500.00

435	Hyssington Village Hall	Village Hall Grant 2007-2008	585.00
St.Ord	E J Humphreys	Clerk's salary Mar 2008	373.58

Action – Clerk to process

12.4 Consolidated balances at 26th Mar 2008 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	22,130.94	500.00
Less ring-fenced funds	6,316.13	0.00
Net balances available	15,814.81	500.00

13.0 Highways and Rights of Way Reports

13.1 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

- a) U2691 Dan's Lane: potholes and subsidence, possibly caused by heavy vehicles.
Powys CC states that work orders have been issued by the inspector.
- b) C2193 below Todleth: a number of potholes. Powys CC states that the inspector will assess the road to determine the appropriate course of action.
- c) C2055 at Yew Tree Cottage: hedge encroaching onto the highway. Powys CC states that Notices were issued to the tenant of the land but with no co-operation. A Notice has now been sent to the owner.
- d) C2193 below Todleth: overhanging trees have still not been cut back. Powys CC states that the hedge has been trimmed back.
- e) U2708 Stone House Lane: potholes have been identified and marked for repair, but works has not been undertaken so there is been further deterioration. Powys CC states that target dates for intended repairs have not been met, but should have been completed by receipt of this information.

13.2 Highways and Rights of Way report from CCC to Powys CC – to report.

- a) Cllr D A Paterson: C2009 – damage caused by heavy vehicles to both east and west edges along the length of the road.

Action – Clerk to process

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

- a) Powys CC:

Cllr M J Jones reported:

- Planning – following the unfavourable audit report, Powys CCC will have a single planning committee of 15 members, with meetings rotating between 3 venues North, Mid, and South.

Cllr P A Rees reported capacity problems at Churchstoke CP School, and a reduction in intake-limit despite being over-subscribed. The school also reports considerable budget constraints. It was reported that the school governing body is resisting further budget cuts and awaits a reply from Powys CC.

RESOLVED *'CCC will write to Powys CC to request that on the basis of increasing demands and the scarcity of alternative schools in the area, Powys CC considers a*

'flagship' school for Churchstoke, to request investment in school premises, and to request a release of more funding for the school'.

Action – Clerk to process

b) South Shropshire DC:

- No report.

15.0 Correspondence – to receive other items of general correspondence.

15.1 Welsh Assembly Government – Local Government Policy Division

Re: Members' Code of Conduct

Council received clarification via WAG of the High Court decision that the code of conduct can apply to Members whilst acting in an official or a private capacity. In order that Members understand these obligations they are required to undertake to abide by these provision by 1st May 2008 or else cease to be a Member. The Clerk distributed copies of the acceptance form to all Members.

Council also noted that the revised code of conduct is being drafted with the Order to be made in the coming weeks. A new Model Code will be prepared to assist authorities in adopting a new code. Noted.

15.2 Welsh Assembly Government – Head of Local Government Policy Division

Re: Statutory Guidance on developing & delivering Community Strategies

Council received the statutory guidance and noted that it contains reference to Local Service Boards, which could have long-term impact for the ways services are delivered. Noted.

15.3 Welsh Assembly Government – Head of Community Safety Division

Re: Consultation on updated Fire & Rescue National Framework for Wales 2008-2011

Council received the consultation document with replies welcomed by 20th June 2008. Noted.

Action – for April agenda

15.4 Public Services Ombudsman for Wales

Re: Principles of Good Administration and Principles of Redress

Council received copies of two documents 'Principles of Good Administration' and 'Principles of Redress'. Noted.

15.5 Powys Local Health Board

Re: Review of Arrangements for Clinical Governance and Patient Safety

Council received a copy of the review and recommendations. Members noted that the recommendations include change to governance in that a transfer of clinical in-patient services to a single NHS Trust, and that Newtown and Welshpool Hospitals may combine over time. Noted.

15.6 Various correspondences, tabled:

- a) Dyfed Powys Criminal Justice Board – process poster outlining the work of the justice system. Noted.
- b) BDO Stoy Hayward – Local Council Briefing 2008. Noted.

- c) Wales Rural forum – invitation to attend a day workshop on ‘Developing the Village Shop’, held on Sunday 18th May, the Pavilion, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion. Noted.
- d) Scope (formerly the Spastics Society) – invitation for volunteers to participate in the house-to-house charity collection 7th to 27th April. Noted.

15.0 Chairman’s Announcements & Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting – Wednesday 23rd April 2008, 7:30 p.m. at Hyssington.

Meeting ended 9.10 p.m.