

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

MINUTES of Meeting on 27th August 2008
 at Churchstoke Community Hall at 7.30 p.m.

1.0 Attendance, Apologies and Declarations of Members' Interests

Attendance: Cllr D L Powell (Chairman), Cllr B J Davies, Cllr K H J Dowbiggin, Cllr C S Fowles, Cllr M J Jones, Cllr D H Payne, Cllr P C Rigg, Cllr B A Rowley, Cllr J Stelmasiak, Cllr V E D Tudor.

The Chairman welcomed new Members to the Council.

All Members present signed prior to the meeting as follows:

- a) New members – the combined statutory declaration of acceptance of office, incorporating a declaration to abide by the new code of conduct as adopted by CCC on 23rd July 2008
- b) Existing members – the statutory declaration to abide by the new code of conduct as adopted by CCC on 23rd July 2008.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr L D Owen

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

Agenda Number	Item	Councillor	Nature of Declaration
None			

2.0 Minutes of Meetings – to approve and sign the minutes of 23rd July 2008 at Hyssington Village Hall, as a correct record.

The minutes of the meeting 28th July 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 23rd July 2008 at Hyssington Village Hall.

3.1 (6.0) New Model Code of Conduct

The Clerk reported that CCC's notice of adoption had appeared in the County Times of 15th August 2008

3.2 (14.0b) Cemetery

The Clerk reported that Powys CC does not appear to have officers locally to offer specialist advice on trees, will endeavour to contact alternatives for advice.

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
P20080869	Waterlilly Cottage, Churchstoke	Full planning permission refused
P20081016	Harry Tuffins Supermarket	Full planning permission refused

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

None.

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	Planning Inspectorate Decision
None			

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

Ref.	Applicant	Site	Description	rec.
P20081180	Mrs A Newlands, 4 Fir Court Avenue, Churchstoke	4 Fir Court Avenue, Churchstoke	Listed building consent for installation of satellite dish	S
P20081196	Mr N Rowbottom, Water Lilly Cottage, Churchstoke	Water Lilly Cottage, Churchstoke	Erection of storage building (resubmission)	N*
P20081244	Mr & Mrs M Lawrence, Jacobs Barn, White Grit	Jacobs Barn, White Grit	Conversion of barn to dwelling (design amendments) (retrospective)	S
P20081252	Mr J K Rogers, Pond House, Bacheldre	Coot Meadow, Churchstoke	Erection of replacement dwelling, detached garage & alteration to existing vehicular access	S

***P20081196** – CCC noted the application, and requested that planning officers ensure that there is sufficient internal turning and parking area within the curtilage of the site in order that vehicles do not have to reverse out of the site onto the busy A489 highway to the detriment of safety

Action – Clerk to process

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

Ref.	Site	Description
None		

4.5 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
M20050963	Land opp. Cwm Chapel, Mellington	The shed erected at the pump is still present although retrospective planning permission had been refused.
CCC noted that despite an enforcement notice which has been upheld on appeal, the shed is still present, and would like to enquire of the Planning Office the situation and progress with the enforcement action.		
M20071240	Middle Alport	Erection of shed at side of proprty

CCC noted that a shed has been erected at the side of the property, and have received information that no planning application is has been granted, or indeed actually needed. Members are also aware that similar applications M20050565 and M20051356 have been refused in the past. CCC would like to enquire of the Planning Office:

- a) Whether there is a policy that new build can take place without permission at the side/rear of premises?
- b) Under what situations such structures can be erected or amended without planning permission?

Action – Clerk to process

4.7 Consultation by Powys CC: Planning Application Validation Checksheet – to resolve a response to the proposals (previously circulated).

The Chairman referred members to the consultation document concerning validation of planning applications against published standard checklists, with responses welcomed by 12th September. Members discussed the lists and,

RESOLVED *‘to reply:*

- a) that an indication is needed whether a document is mandatory or optional if applicable to each application type*
- b) that an indication of where and in what circumstances ‘local Needs’ documentation would be needed’*

Action – Clerk to process

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

a) OVW – Conference Update

CCC received further information on arrangements for the national conference and AGM at Pontrhydfendigaid, on Saturday 11th October. Speakers. Presentations and Exhibitions are arranged as follows:

- Jane Davidson AM, Minister for Environment Sustainability & Housing
- Sir John Houghton FRS CBE
- Ashton Hayes Parish Council
- Mr Peter Davies, Sustainable Development Commission for Wales
- Amlwch Town Council

Noted.

The Clerk reminded Members that:

- Conference is at 10:30am; two delegates per council; £70 per delegate; theme being ‘Local Councils and the Environment; booking by 1st August
- AGM is at 2.15pm, one vote per council; free of charge, at which CCC’s representative will be present.

b) OVW – Cross Border Event

CCC received information and invitation to the Government Office West Midlands (GOWM) event for Community & Town Councils in Wales / Parish and Town Councils in England at Knighton, on Wednesday 15th October 2008, 9.30am – 1.00pm. The event is free of charge. Noted.

6.0 Vacancy in the Office of Community Councillor – to declare the occurrence of a casual vacancy in the office of community councillor for Churchstoke Ward.

The Clerk reported on a letter of resignation of office of community councillor in Churchstoke ward from Mrs A R Stephens.

RESOLVED: *‘in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, CCC declares a casual vacancy in the Office of Community Councillor in Churchstoke ward as a result of the resignation from office of Cllr A R Stephens. Publication of the declaration of vacancy will be distributed for the notice boards in accordance with Section 87(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, and the Deputy Returning Officer will be informed’.*

Action – Clerk to process

7.0 Election of Members with Special Responsibility and of Representatives:

The Chairman reminded Members that due to the small number of councillors elected at the May election, CCC had deferred elections to positions of Special Responsibility and of Representatives until councillor vacancies had been filled. Members were elected as follows:

7.1 Special Responsibility: Democratic Governance and Organisation (x3)

Cllr D L Powell
Cllr B J Davies
Cllr C S Fowles

7.2 Special Responsibility: Allotments and Recreation Field (x3)

Cllr M J Jones
Cllr J Stelmasiak
Cllr P C Rigg

7.3 Special Responsibility: Annual Budget Preparation Panel (x3)

Cllr D L Powell
Cllr J Stelmasiak
Cllr D H Payne

7.4 Special Responsibility: Cemetery (x1)

Cllr B A Rowley

7.5 Special Responsibility: Green Grants Review Panel (x3)

Cllr B A Rowley
Cllr J Stelmasiak
Cllr L D Owen (subject to acceptance)

7.6 Special Responsibility: Internal Audit and Finance (x1)

Cllr K H J Dowbiggin

7.7 Special Responsibility: Personnel and Staffing (x1)

Cllr D L Powell

7.8 Special Responsibility: Police Consultation and Liaison (x1)

Cllr J Stelmasiak

7.9 Special Responsibility: Website (x1)

Cllr K H J Dowbiggin

7.10 Representative: One Voice Wales Montgomeryshire Area Committee (x1)

Cllr M J Jones

7.11 Representative: Churchstoke CP School Governors (x1)

Cllr K H J Dowbiggin

7.12 Representative: Churchstoke Recreation Association (x1)

Cllr P C Rigg

7.13 Representative: Hyssington Village Hall Committee (x1)

Cllr V E D Tudor

8.0 Council IT Equipment – to authorise expenditure for the replacement IT equipment from ring-fenced funds set aside for that purpose.

The Clerk reminded Members that CCC has achieved its target for set side funds for an update of its IT equipment and that authorisation is sought to proceed with purchase.

RESOLVED *‘to authorise the Clerk to proceed with purchase of updated IT equipment up to the value of the set aside funds.’*

Action – Clerk to process

9.0 Financial Report:

9.1 Items received since last meeting – to report.

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

Payer	Description	£
E R D Corfield & Sons	Cemetery burial & excl. right fees (plot 447)	200.00
HM Revenue & Customs	Vat reclaim 2007-2008	874.92

9.2 Items for payment – as follows:

RESOLVED *‘CCC authorises payments as follows’:*

cheque	Payee	Description	£ inc. vat
<i>To authorise items for payment:</i>			
451	Mr S Hockly	New notice board at Hyssington	285.00
452	D P Morris	Internal audit 2007-08 accounts	132.00
453	Society Local Council Clerks	Regional conference 8th Sept 2008	52.88
454	B A Rowley	Village Steward Apr-Jun 2008	104.88
455	E J Humphreys	Admin expenes Apr-Jun 2008	175.73
<i>To report items previously authorised to be paid by direct debit or standing order:</i>			
St.Ord	E J Humphreys	Clerk’s salary Aug 2008	373.58

Action – Clerk to process

9.3 Consolidated balances at 27th Aug 2008 after sweep, receipts & payments – to report.

The Clerk reported on the M&G six monthly annual statement for 1st Apr-30th June 2008,

Fund	Number of shares	Share Price	Value at 31/12/2007
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		(p)	(£)
Charibond	100	114.50	114.50

The Clerk reported on gross, ring-fenced funds, & net available balances as follows:

Item	Reserve account £	Current account £
Gross balances	25,286.74	500.00
Less ring-fenced funds	8,271.63	0.00
Net balances available	17,015.11	500.00

10.0 Highways and Rights of Way Reports:

10.1 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) U2696 (Pentrenant to Pen-y-Cwm): poor surface with deep potholes and the road is becoming impassable. This was reported as reported in September 2007 but no action seems to have been taken. Powys CC states that a works order has been issued.
- b) U2709 (Old Churchstoke to Woodgate) public rights of way towards Corndon Farm: the roadside rights of way signs/markers are missing at the point for gaining access from the road to the rights of way. This was reported on 29th April 2007, but no replacement has been put in place. Powys CC states that negotiations with the landowner are underway for an application for a diversion, and advice will await completion of the matter.
- c) C2054 (Wernddu Lane) junction with U4776 (Cae Camlad). In view of the nearby residential home in Wernddu Lane and the bungalow accommodation in Cae Camlad, CCC would like to request a drop kerb at the junction in order to assist those with mobility problems to gain the pavement. Powys CC states that a dropped access to the footway will be provided.
- d) C2056 (Hyssington Village): concern at speed of traffic through the village on the narrow road. CCC would like to enquire what assistance Powys CC Highways section could give to traffic calming (using legal restrictions or otherwise). Powys CC states that a traffic count will be undertaken when resources allow to determine speed of traffic and the results will be used to determine what if any action is required.
- e) C2193 (Old Churchstoke to Todleth): potholes have been marked for repair for some time, but works have not been undertaken. Powys CC states that repairs have recently been completed.
- f) C2193 (Old Churchstoke to Todleth) overhanging trees have still not been cut back between Todleth Farm and Rock Ridge. This was reported on 27th February 2008, on 6th July 2007, and on 31st July 2006 indicating hedge encroachment obstructing high loads and a risk of snagging. No action seems to have yet been taken to remedy the situation despite a statement from the highways office on 17th March. Powys CC states that efforts have been made to contact the owner but to no avail, and asks if CCC can assist with information as to ownership.
- g) C2054 north (Wernddu Lane) junction with B4385 (Blue Bell to Bishops Castle): to request a visibility mirror at the junction for traffic leaving Wernddu Lane onto the B4385, similar to the one which has proved successful at the nearby C2054 south junction. Powys CC states that it has a policy for mirrors against which an assessment will be undertaken. Members asked the Clerk to circulate copies of the policy.

Action – Clerk to process

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

- a) Cllr B J Davies – C2055 (Hall Bank): trees overhanging onto the carriageway near ‘Sunnyside’, at the top of hall bank
- b) Cllr D H Payne – C2056 (Hyssington Village): village name signs at both ends of the village are damaged
- c) Cllr D H Payne – C2009/A488 (Llan Turn); missing pointer sign for Hyssington Village

Action – Clerk to process

Cllr M J Jones commended the excellent work being done by Powys CC rights of Way officers erecting stiles and signage around Pentre and Mellington.

11.0 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,
 - Windfarms: a current controversy, especially on traffic implications during the construction phases. Cllr Jones clarified that applications are not on hold despite information in the press, but that highways issues for construction convoys may need to be resolved before applications can be determined. Members noted that there could be implications for road disturbance, but also that possible road improvement could be gained.
- b) South Shropshire DC:
 - No report.

12.0 Correspondence – to receive other items of general correspondence.

12.1 Powys CC – Head of Legal, Scrutiny & Democratic Services

a) Re: Members Code of Conduct

Council received copies of forms as set out by the Monitoring Officer to be used for declarations of interest under the New Code of Conduct, together with a guidance note and flow-chart to assist with declarations of interest and declarations of gifts & hospitality. Distributed to Members.

b) Re New Model Code of Conduct

Council received a reminder that CCC has yet to send the notice of adoption of the new Code, along with details of Members’ undertakings to abide by the Code. The Clerk reported that documents will be dispatched when all Members have signed.

Action – Clerk to process

12.2 Powys CC – Senior Manager Highways & Transportation

Re: Outcome of consultation of designation of Core Areas for Street Lighting

Council received information that core areas are designated as follows:

- Traffic controlled pedestrian crossings and zebra crossings
- Streets covered by public CCTV
- Areas where there is factual evidence of anti-social behaviour at night and where police have taken action such as ASBO
- Streets with traffic calming provisions
- Areas adjacent to hospitals, medical centres, & surgeries
- Areas adjacent to sheltered housing

and that 67% of lighting in non-core areas will be turned off. Powys CC also states that lights on Trunk Roads will continue to be lit in towns and villages.

12.3 Powys CC – Cllr Viola Evans, Chairman of the Council

Re: Reception

Council received invitation from the Chairman of Powys County Council for two representatives to attend a reception at Neuadd Maldwyn, Welshpool, on Wednesday 8th October 7pm. CCC agreed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman will attend

Action – Chairman and
Vice-Chairman to attend

12.4 Various other correspondences tabled:

- a) Welsh Assembly Government, Head of Procurement – information on ‘Value Wales’ procurement framework which aims to realise better value for money through collaborative procurement
- b) PAVO – Summer newsletter
- c) Keep Wales Tidy – invitations to apply for awards in a number of ‘Tidy Wales’ campaign categories for 2007-08

13.0 Chairman’s Announcements & Date of Next Business Meeting

- a) Cllr B A Rowley – reported that the dog waste is being deposited in the Cae Camlad Playground bin. Cllr B J Davies agreed to provide a laminated ‘no dog waste’ sign.
Action – Cllr B J Davies
- b) Clerk – reported that three wasps’ nests at the (CCC-owned) bowling club have been extinguished in the interests of safety and avoiding public nuisance, and recommended that CCC make a contribution of £20 towards the costs of the public spirited member of the public who commissioned pest control services. Members agreed to authorise payment at the September meeting.
Action – for Sept. agenda
- c) Clerk – reminded Members that CCC has 7 notice boards around the community and in the interests of cost savings, invited members to volunteer to take responsibility for posting notices to each notice board. Members agreed as follows
 - Pottery car park – Cllr Stelmasiak
 - Cross Likey – Cllr Rowley
 - White grit – Cllr Rigg
 - Hyssington – Cllr Payne
 - Tuffins – Cllr Tudor
 - Mellington – Cllr Jones
 - Snead – to be determined

Next business meeting: Wednesday 24th September 2008, 7:30 p.m. at Churchstoke.

Meeting ended 9.43 p.m.