

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

MINUTES of Meeting on 29th October 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 K H J Dowbiggin, Cllr C S Fowles, Cllr M J Jones, Cllr L D Owen, Cllr D H Payne, Cllr P C Rigg, Cllr J Stelmasiak, Cllr V E D Tudor.

The Chairman welcomed members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Cllr B J Davies, Cllr B A Rowley

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

Agenda Number	Item	Councillor	Nature of Declaration
4.4	Planning Applications	D L Powell	Prejudicial interest in P20081498
4.4	Planning Applications	L D Owen	Prejudicial interest in P20081498
9.0	Green Grants Awards	D L Powell	Prejudicial interest
9.0	Green Grants Awards	P C Rigg	Prejudicial interest
9.0	Green Grants Awards	K H J Dowbiggin	Personal (not prejudicial) interest
9.0	Green Grants Awards	C S Fowles	Personal (not prejudicial) interest
9.0	Green Grants Awards	M J Jones	Personal (not prejudicial) interest
9.0	Green Grants Awards	V E D Tudor	Personal (not prejudicial) interest

2.0 Minutes of Meetings – to approve and sign the minutes of 24th September 2008 at Churchstoke Community Hall, as a correct record.

The minutes of the meeting 24th September 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 24th September 2008 at Churchstoke Community Hall.

3.1 (4.5) Planning Enforcement

The Clerk distributed copies to all Members of the Welsh Assembly Government booklet 'Planning – a guide for householders'.

3.2 (9.1c) Highways – C2009/A488

The Clerk reported that Shropshire CC have informed that a direction sign on C2009/A488 junction for Hyssington will be commissioned and set in place.

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
P20081196	Waterlilly Cottage, Churchstoke	Full planning permission granted

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

4.2.1 Planning Portal – Planning Liaison Officer

The Clerk reported that the planning office has received a large number of comments regarding the progress towards the electronic portal, and has resulted in a temporary continuation of the existing policy of consultation using hard copy plans and applications for those who wish to receive them. Powys CC also states that further notice will be given when the paper-based system will cease. Noted.

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 –

Declarations of members' interests:

- P20081498 – Cllr D L Powell, having previously declared a prejudicial interest, left the meeting for this item. Cllr M J Jones was elected to the Chair.
- P20081498 – Cllr L D Owen, having previously declared a prejudicial interest, left the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED ‘CCC responds to planning consultations as follows:’

Ref.	Applicant	Site	Description	rec.
P20081430	Mr & Mrs P Delves, The View, Churchstoke	Chaseleyfield, Churchstoke	Erection of extension & alterations to detached dwelling	S*
P20081464	Miss M Lawley, Roundton House, Old Churchstoke	Roundton House, Old Churchstoke	Erection of conservatory to side and rear of dwelling	S
P20081495	Ms M C White, Haulfryn, Old Churchstoke	Haulfryn, Old Churchstoke	Erection of a porch at front of house	S
P20081498	Mr & Mrs C Owen, The Old Quarry House, Upper Aston	The Old Quarry House, Upper Aston	Erection of an extension to dwelling	S
TREE/2008/ 00004	WCE Network Services	Land adj. The Courthouse Inn, Churchstoke	Tree surgery works to trees in a conservation area in the interest of safety and security of electricity supply	S*

***P20081430** – CCC supported the application, and although aware that this is an existing dwelling asked that planning officers consider a requirement for improvement to the access onto the C2055 ‘Green Lane’.

***TREE/2008/00004** – CCC supported topping of the trees by 1 or 2 metres in the interests of public safety and security of electrical supply, but opposed felling of the trees.

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 the planning enforcement office stated on 4 th September that it is pursuing removal. Members asked the Clerk to enquire of the Planning Office as to the situation and what progress is being made		

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 – AGM and Conference 11th October, Pontrhydfendigaid

Cllr M J Jones reported on attendance at the AGM, with points of note as follows:

- Chief Executive's Report: increasing membership across Wales
- New website containing public and private sections
- Membership Fees: increase likely to be limited to approx 4.6% (24p per dwelling)
- Motions for Debate: all passed with the exception of alternating OVW venues.

Noted.

b) OVW – Montgomeryshire Area Committee Meeting 14th October, Welshpool

Cllr M J Jones reported on attendance at the area meeting with points of note as follows:

- Address by Powys CC Chief Executive focussing on the community strategy and improving communications between authorities and organisations; Local Service Boards; LDP cannot proceed at present as further attention is required by Welsh Assembly Government to the sections on minerals policy
- Planning Portal and electronic processing of planning applications.

Noted.

c) OVW – Cross Border Meeting 15th October, Knighton

Cllr M J Jones reported on attendance at the area meeting with points of note as follows:

- Address by Powys CC Chief Executive
- Address by area manager National Association of Local Councils (NALC)
- Improvements to cross border links.

Noted.

d) SLCC – AGM and Conference 18th October, Reading

The Clerk reported on attendance at the AGM and Conference, with points of note as follows:

- Small councils workshop
- Chief Executive's keynote address
- Finance and banking workshop

- Panel question time on the theme ‘The Future of Local Government’
- Motions for Debate at AGM
- Skills workshops
- Various exhibitor displays.

Noted.

6.0 Vacancy in the Office of Community Councillor – to report that the electorate has called no election, and that the community council is to fill the vacancy by co-option.

The Clerk reported on notification from the office of the Returning Officer that no election has been called in Churchstoke ward, and that CCC should now proceed to fill the vacancy by co-option. Members agreed to seek interested members of the public, to post notice of intent to the notice boards, and to notify the Clerk of names of interested parties so that co-option can take place at the November meeting.

Action – Members to seek

Action – Clerk to process

7.0 Churchstoke Football Club – to receive and resolve on a request from the football club for erection of a pitch-side dugout on the Churchstoke Recreation Field.

Council received a request from Churchstoke Football Club for erection of a pitch-side dugout (block, steel, wood, approx 5m x 2m x 2m).

RESOLVED ‘*CCC gives permission in principle, with further permission to proceed being dependant on agreement of detailed design, and on agreement of matters such as ownership, maintenance, insurance, liability, ground rent, and right of removal*’.

Action – Clerk to process

8.0 There is no item 8.0

9.0 Green Grants Awards 2008 – to receive and resolve on the recommendations of the Green Grants Panel for Green Grants Awards 2008 (previously circulated)

Declarations of members’ interests:

- Cllr D L Powell, having previously declared a prejudicial interest, left the meeting for this item. Cllr M J Jones was elected to the Chair for this item.
- Cllr P C Rigg, having previously declared a prejudicial interest, left the meeting for this item.

The Clerk reported on the meeting of the Green Grants Panel on 3rd October, and the recommendations for awards of the Green Grants 2008.

RESOLVED ‘a) CCC receives and accepts the recommendations of the Green Grants Panel on Green Grants Awards 2008 as follows,

Organisation	£	Item description
Churchstoke Brownies	150.00	Group outing to machinations, and stationery materials
Hyssington Ladies Friendship Group	200.00	Coach hire, demonstrations and talks to the friendship group
Churchstoke School Infant Dept	300.00	Further development of the outdoor

		<i>activity area</i>
<i>Friends of Churchstoke School</i>	<i>400.00</i>	<i>Continued landscaping of the memorial garden</i>
<i>Churchstoke Bowling Club</i>	<i>500.00</i>	<i>Purchase of a liquid fertiliser dispenser</i>
<i>Churchstoke Tennis Club</i>	<i>500.00</i>	<i>Extensive work on the exterior wall</i>
<i>Hyssington Church PCC</i>	<i>500.00</i>	<i>Repair & rebuild the dry stone wall along western churchyard boundary</i>
<i>St Nicholas Church PCC</i>	<i>500.00</i>	<i>On-going refurbishment of the heating system</i>
<i>Corndon Amateur Drama Assoc</i>	<i>650.00</i>	<i>Extra stage lighting</i>
<i>Churchstoke Football Club</i>	<i>769.08</i>	<i>Construction of a pitch-side dugout and shelter</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>4469.08</i>	

*b) CCC will make the presentations early in November at Hyssington Village Hall
Action – Clerk to process*

The Chairman thanked the panel for the report.

10.0 Village Green at Hyssington – to set up a panel to work with the Clerk to set out a draft project plan for November meeting.

The Chairman reminded Members of their interest in registering the Village Green at Hyssington.

RESOLVED *‘CCC establishes a working panel to set out a project plan for the November meeting, comprising Cllrs C S Fowles, D H Payne, D L Powell, J Stelmasiak, V E D Tudor’.*

Action – panel & Clerk

11.0 Consultation by Dyfed Powys Police Authority on Annual Policing Plan 2009-2012 – to receive and resolve a response on CCC’s view as to suitable local policing priorities

Council received notification that the police authority is now setting out the annual policing plan for 2009-2012 and is inviting CCC to submit two priorities for policing in the local area. Replies are requested by 14th November.

RESOLVED *‘CCC wishes to request local policing priorities as follows:*

- *Visibility of police*
- *Anti speeding and enforcement measures’*

Action – Clerk to process

12.0 BT Payphones – to receive and resolve on the information from BT on ‘Adopt a Kiosk’ and ‘Sponsor a Kiosk’ (previously circulated)

Council received information from Powys CC on BT’s ‘Adopt a Kiosk’ and ‘Sponsor a Kiosk’ schemes, with a deadline for applications of 1st November. The Clerk provided further information from the BT web site.

RESOLVED *‘CCC does not wish to proceed with ‘Adopt a Kiosk’ or ‘Sponsor a Kiosk’ schemes’.*

13.0 Financial Report:

13.1 Financial Year 2007-2008 – to report and resolve on amendments to the Annual Return as required by external auditor (previously circulated)

The Clerk reported on amendments required to the Annual Return by the external auditor before audit for 2007-2008 can be concluded.

RESOLVED *'CCC approves amendments to the Annual Return 2007-08 as required by the external auditor: box 10 to include £71 payments in advance; and box 11 to total £24,175'.*

Action – Clerk to process

13.2 CCC Bank Investments – to report and resolve on the security and liquidity of the council's bank investments (previously circulated)

The Clerk reported on the risk assessment and status of CCC cash deposits with regard to recent concerns on the financial stability of the banking sector of the economy.

RESOLVED *'CCC accepts the Clerk's recommendations as follows:*

- *CCC notes the Financial Strategy of the council that the emphasis is placed on security and liquidity rather than yield*
- *CCC notes the medium risk, instructs the Clerk to research credit ratings of banking institutions, and authorises the Clerk and bank signatories to spread risk by moving cash to more than one banking institution where the credit rating is 'AA' or above'.*

Action – Clerk to process

13.3 Financial Year 2009-2010 – to receive the budget panel report on the 1st draft annual budget (previously circulated), & to resolve on bids for recreation and cemetery concurrent funding

The Chairman reported for the budget panel and presented 1st draft of the 2009-2010 budget. Members were reminded of the timetable and the need to submit bids for concurrent funding for recreation and the cemetery immediately after this meeting. A second draft will be presented for further discussion at the December meeting.

RESOLVED *'CCC proceeds with bids for recreation and cemetery concurrent funding grants based on the 1st draft as presented'.*

The Chairman thanked the budget panel and the Clerk for their preparatory work on the 1st draft.

Action – Clerk to process
& 2nd draft for December agenda

13.4 Items received since last meeting – to report.

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

Payer	Description	£
NatWest bank plc	Gross interest Jul-Sep 2008	182.01
e-on Central Networks	Pole/cable rents and wayleaves	64.39

13.5 Items for payment – to resolve to approve items for payment as follows:

RESOLVED *'CCC authorises payments as follows':*

cheque	Payee	Description	£ inc. vat
<i>To authorise items for payment:</i>			
458	Churchstoke Brownies	Green Grant 2008	150.00
459	Hyss'ton Ladies Friendship	Green Grant 2008	200.00
460	Ch'stokes School Infant Dept	Green Grant 2008	300.00
461	Friends of Ch'stokes School	Green Grant 2008	400.00
462	Churchstoke Bowling Club	Green Grant 2008	500.00
463	Churchstoke Tennis Club	Green Grant 2008	500.00
464	Hyssington Church PCC	Green Grant 2008	500.00
465	St Nicholas Church PCC	Green Grant 2008	500.00
466	Corndon Am'r Drama Assoc	Green Grant 2008	650.00
467	Churchstoke Football Club	Green Grant 2008	769.08
468	Churchstoke Rec'n Assoc	Room hire May – Sep 2008	46.50
469	Mrs B A Rowley	Village Steward Jul-Sep 2008	107.64
470	E J Humphreys	Refuse bags for cemetery (1 roll)	52.55
471	E J Humphreys	Admin expenses Jul-Sep 2008	182.09
<i>To report items previously authorised to be paid by direct debit or standing order:</i>			
St.Ord	E J Humphreys	Clerk's salary Oct 2008	373.58

Action – Clerk to process

13.6 Consolidated balances at 29th Oct 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	28,286.73	500.00
Less ring-fenced funds	5,456.15	0.00
Net balances available	22,830.58	500.00

14.0 Highways and Rights of Way Reports:

14.1 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) C2056 (Hyssington Village) – overhanging trees near Efail Hen and the Methodist Chapel (known as Blacksmith Bank) when entering the village from the south off C2009. Powys CC states that trees will be dealt with as appropriate with the respective owners.
- b) A489 (past near Snead Turn for Heblands) – deep potholes and surface damage. Shropshire CC states that the road has been marked for repair patching in the week commencing 13th October.
- c) That CCC enquires with Powys CC as to process for dealing with badger or fox carcasses found on the highway. Powys CC states that any animal carcasses on the highway which are deemed to be a hazard, are bagged, collected, and disposed of by refuse services, and that badger carcasses are incinerated.

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

- a) Cllr L D Owen: B4385 (near the feeding grounds cottage grid ref approx SO 267 923) – swing gates have been installed where the right of way abuts the road. Walkers at this entrance cause traffic to move to the middle of the carriageway, where traffic in the opposite direction also moves to the centre to avoid encroaching hedges.

- b) Cllr D H Payne: U2719 (Owlbury lane) – road damage by flooding near Snead mill, and deep void near the bridge
- c) Cllr D H Payne: C2056 (Hyssington Village) – traffic speed census wires have been installed on a bend where traffic tends to slow naturally. CCC would suggest that the wire would be better placed on stretches prone to speeding
- d) Cllr V E D Tudor: C2056 (Hyssington Village) – heavy lorries are being directed through the village by satellite navigation, and a sign is needed to discourage such a practice
- e) Cllr V E D Tudor: C2009 (near Hyssington Farm development) – water flowing from the new housing development onto the C2009, and damaging the carriageway
- f) Cllr M J Jones: C254 south (Courthouse to The Cann) – the brook alongside the road is blocked by fallen embankment, giving rise to flooding
- g) Cllr D L Powell: U2707 (Rock lane) – water mains leak near Rock Farm causing damage to the carriageway and flooding of the property. CCC noted this may require work from Severn Trent Water

Action – Clerk to process

15.0 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,
 - Council budget seminar is to be held 31st October
 - The shortfall in budget settlement will require further savings
 - Town and Community Councils can adopt street lamps at a cost of £35 per lamp (reduced from previous cost of £56)
 - The Iceland Banking investments were fixed term and could not be withdrawn prior to end of term.
- b) South Shropshire DC:
 - No report.

16.0 Correspondence – to receive other items of general correspondence.

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

Re: Town & Community Council representative to the Community Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee

Council received results of election to the subcommittee. Elected for Montgomeryshire is D T Hywel Evans (Llanfihangel CC). Noted.

16.2 Powys CC – Head of Recreation, Culture & Countryside Services

Re: Seminar for Town & Community Council on Responsibilities in Relation to Managing Play Areas

Council received invitation to the seminar to be held Thursday 30th October, 6pm, at Neuadd Maldwyn, Welshpool. Members welcomed the initiative by the county council and agreed that it would be appropriate for one of the Members with special responsibility for allotments and recreation to attend with the Clerk.

Action – Cllr M J Jones
& Clerk to attend

16.3 Powys CC – Local & Environmental; Services

Re: Tidy Towns Initiative

Council received information that Powys CC has been successful in a bid to the Welsh Assembly Government for grant funding to help communities to improve local environment quality of neighbourhoods. Powys CC will be working with 'Keep Wales Tidy' to support local community in actions such as local clean ups, habitat improvements, graffiti, dog fouling, and litterbins.

Community groups are invited to seminar at Newtown 14th November, or contact: delyth.richards@keepwalestidy.org, or telephone 07766-757145.

Large projects are invited to contact tidytowns@powys.gov.uk, or telephone 0845-6076060, or 'Tidy Towns, Local & Environmental Services, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5LG.

16.4 Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales - Secretary

Re: Review of Community Council Election Results 2008

Council received information from the commission on levels of uncontested elections (68%), seats remaining vacant (12%), and average number of electors to councillors (205). Implications were highlighted in that the present arrangement does not provide for effective local governments and that there is potential for amalgamation or reduction in numbers of councillors to electorate. The commission also indicates that it does not intend to commence work on the issue in the near future. Noted.

16.5 TraCC (Regional Transport Partnership Powys, Ceredigion, Gwynedd) – Chairman

Re: Public Consultation on Mid Wales Regional Transport Plan (RTP)

Council received information of the public consultation on the Draft RTP, and invitation to submit three priorities by 31st October. The RTP will be used to help set short term, (5 years) and long term (30 year) plans for the transport infrastructure in Mid Wales, and to inform the National Transport Plan. Further information is at www.tracc.gov.uk. Noted.

16.6 Various other correspondences listed:

- a) Welsh Assembly Government – Guidance for Community & Town Councils on Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act. For file.
- b) Welsh Assembly Government – Fire and Rescue National Framework for Wales 2008-2011. Noted.
- c) Mick Bates AM – invitation to attend public meeting to discuss the draft Regional Transport Plan, Newtown, 23rd October. Noted.
- d) Powys Regeneration Partnership – invitation to launch events for the Rural Development Plan 2007-2013, and the Rural Community Action Programme, on Friday 28th November, 9:45-15:30, Llandrindod Wells. Noted.
- e) Powys Local Health Board – Health Focus autumn newsletter. Noted.
- f) Montgomeryshire Community Health Council – The Montgomeryshire Pulse newsletter issue 12. Noted.
- g) Montgomeryshire Family Crisis Centre – Annual Report 2007-08. Noted.
- h) South Montgomeryshire Volunteer Bureau – publicity poster for notice boards. Noted.
- i) Army HQ 160 (Wales) Brigade, Brecon – notice of military exercise in Powys and Shropshire from 12-19th October. Noted
- j) Play for Wales / Chwarae Dros Gymru – autumn 2008 newsletter. Noted.

17.0 Chairman's Announcements & Date of Next Business Meeting

- a) Chairman – informed Members that he will be representing CCC at the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 9th November

Next business meeting: Wednesday 26th November 2008, 7:30 p.m. at Hyssington

Meeting ended 9.55 p.m.