**Gwernyfed Community Council**

**Minutes of Meeting held on 1st July 2014**

**Velindre Village Hall, Velindre**

Present Mr Andy Jones (Chair)

Mrs Cheryl Hyde

Mr Derek Price

Mr David Edlin

Mr Ray Jeffries

Mr Grahame Day

Mr Eric Hoole

Cllr Geraint Hopkins (from item 8(v))

In Attendance Mrs Rachel Jones (Clerk) and Mr James Evans (observing)

1. **Opening Comments**

AJ welcomed all to the meeting, in particular JE who had expressed an interest in joining the Community Council and had come along to observe.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

AJ declared an interest in item 7 (Review of Clerk) and it was agreed that RJ would take the Chair for that item.

**3 Apologies**

Mrs Margaret David

**4 Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 2014**

Matters Arising

I Item 4(5) DE was disappointed that a response had not been received from the Planning Department. It was felt that this issue had now moved on from one of neighbour notification specific to this application, to a general query as to how neighbour notifications are chosen. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next meeting

**Action**: Clerk to place this item on next months agenda.

II Item 4(6ii) AJ had contacted Kirsty Williams regarding the Superfast Broadband issue. It was agreed that if there was no response received then further action should be considered at the next meeting.

III Item 9(v) DE reported that he had met with Ann Boyle and Margaret Morris from Glasbury Community Council to discuss the historical situation with the Bont. DE will write a summary of the meeting, which had been very cordial. AJ thanked DE for attending the meeting. GD queried whether a possible way forward on the management of the Bont could be for a group to put forward a suggestion to Powys County Council, but it was felt that such a proposal would have to come from Glasbury and that there was little appetite for this at present.

**Action**: DE to summarise the findings of his meeting.

**5 Planning Matters**

P/2014/0551 – Remove existing corrugated metal roof sheet coverings and renew with the original natural slate coverings at Old Gwernyfed, Velindre, Brecon, Powys – Listed Building Consent

This application was discussed, it was agreed that there was no observation on the application itself, but it should be noted to the planning department that the works had already commenced, although it was understood that they had ceased to allow the decision process.

P/2014/0561 – Insertion of stainless steel flue lining to 3 no. existing chimney flues at Old Gwernyfed, Velindre, Brecon, Powys

There was no observation on this application

Notice of Decisions at Primrose Organic Centre, Primrose Farm, Felindre, Brecon, Powys

These decisions were noted. It was explained that on the ceasing the educational activity the buildings would be removed.

**6 Footpath near Glasbury Garage**

GH had spoken to DP and had informed him that the drains had been cleared. RJ explained that whilst they might have been jetted, there was still considerable debris in the drains, and what was required was for the concrete blocks to be lifted and the debris dug out, until this occurred, the problem of flooding in heavy rainfall would persist. Whilst the garage owners had expressed a view that the Community Council should not be involved in this issue, it was something which had been brought to the meeting and so the Council had to discuss it. However, it was felt that the matter should be passed to Highways to remedy the substandard condition of the footpath.

**Action**: Clerk to write to Powys County Council regarding the condition of the footpath.

**7 Review of Clerk**

AJ had previously declared an interest in this item so the Chair was taken by RJ. The salary of the Clerk was discussed and it was agreed to increase this to £150 per month from next month.

AJ re-took the Chair.

**8 Literature & Information Received**

(i) Trunk Road Review

DE had understood that this review considered more than trunk roads, clarification was provided by JE. It was agreed that as the local AM and MP were raising an interest in this review, that this would be an appropriate time to raise concerns regarding the difficult, obstructive and lengthy bureaucratic process for local communities to implement change on highways.

**Action**: AJ to write to Roger Williams MP and Kirsty Williams AM

(ii) One Voice Wales Spring Newsletter

This item was received.

(iii) Brecon Advice Centre Annual Report

It was noted that in the last financial year 6 members of the Gwernyfed community had accessed this service, out of a total of 1413. This item was received.

(iv) One Powys Plan

This item was received

GH joined the meeting

(v) Hay & District Dial-a-Ride Service

This was accepted as a late item by the Chair. A request for financial support had been received. CH reported that this service is invaluable to Velindre, particularly because there is no public transport through the village. It was agreed that the Service should be asked to provide financial information to make a decision.

Following a discussion around the current financial position of the Community Council, it was agreed that any such request for financial support should only be considered at one of the quarterly Community Council meetings where financial information would be provided.

**Action**: Clerk to place this request on next months agenda.

**9 County Councillors Report**

GH reported that in relation to Item 6, Highways officers were willing to meet on site to discuss the issue.

GJ read a letter regarding grounds maintenance and grass cutting, and how communities can help with this. CH reported that the area around the grit bin had still not been cut back, despite numerous calls to the Boughrood depot. It was reported that verges on trunk roads would be cut, as this is funded by the Welsh Government. AJ considered that should there be community groups who wished to be involved in this, then this could be something that the Community Council could support. However it was felt that the County Council needed to have a dialogue with communities first rather than just hoping that they would take this on, and that there could be a feeling that this issue is something that Council Tax should be funding.

**Action**: Clerk to forward the grounds maintenance letter to members.

**10 Financial Matters**

The salary of the Clerk of £100 was agreed

**11 Any Other Business**

(i) EH reported that the hedge along the cycle route near Gwernyfed High School was overhanging dangerously. GH agreed to speak to Boughrood depot about this.

**Action**: GH to speak to Boughrood depot

(ii) RJ reported that he and GH had attended the Gwernyfed Sports Centre Management Committee meeting. The High School had indicated an interest in obtaining a defibrillator, and it had been explained that if this was in a location where it was available to the community, then this would attract support from Gwernyfed and Glasbury Community Councils and also the Hay Lions. RJ advised that training in its use would also be provided. The next Management Committee meeting is on 10th November 2014.

(ii) CH re-iterated her concern regarding the area around the grit bin and how long it is taking for this to be resolved.

(iii) DP queried whether the Welsh Government grant for website support had been received from Powys County Council.

**Action**: Clerk to follow this up.

(iv) DP queried who had the right to fell trees on the verge side. It was explained that it was the landowners right only, however, if an individual contacted the Council and asked if they could do this, it was likely this would be alright with them.

(v) AJ asked if, having observed the meeting, JE was still interested in joining the Community Council. JE said he was, this co-option will take place at next months meeting.

**Action**: Clerk to place this on next months agenda

Next Meeting 5th August 2014 at St Peters Church Hall, Glasbury on Wye.