**Gwernyfed Community Council**

**Minutes of Meeting held on 4th February 2014**

**St Peters Church Hall, Glasbury on Wye**

Present Mr Derek Price (Chair)

Mr Eric Hoole

Mr Andy Jones

Mrs Cheryl Hyde

Mr Ray Jeffries

County Councillor Geraint Hopkins

Mr Graham Day

Mr David Edlin

In Attendance Mrs Rachel Jones (Clerk)

1. **Opening Comments**

DP welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that he had received an e-mail from James Evans of Velindre that he would be interested in joining the Community Council. DP had sent him a copy of the agenda

**2 Declarations of Interest**

None

**3 Apologies**

Mrs Margaret David

**4 Minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2014**

The minutes were signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Item 4 – The Clerk had made the amendments to the protocol for members of the public speaking at a Community Council meeting. The changes were agreed and the document will now be displayed on the notice boards and website.

**Action**: Clerk to distribute the final document and send a copy to the Web Editor.

Item 6(iii) – AJ had attended the One Voice Wales meeting where there had been a presentation by the Police & Crime Commissioner, which had been well received by the audience.

Item 9 – GH confirmed that the vote of no confidence in the Leader of Powys County Council had been carried and Cllr Barry Thomas had been elected as the new Leader. He had reduced the Cabinet to 9 members, made up of 5 from Montgomeryshire and 4 from Brecon & Radnor.

Item 11 – DE has had confirmation, following intervention by GH, that PCC would not be charging for Officer time for the Speed limit works. To date, however, he has not received a response to the options of spreading the payment over two years. It was suggested that the advert could be placed in Wye Local instead of the Brecon & Radnor Express.

EH has received a response to the issue over stray dogs and dog fouling. This has been circulated.

**5 Planning Matters**

There were no planning matters.

**6 Literature & Information Received**

(i) BBNPA Planning Training

GH would be attending this training in his role for the National Park. He explained that these training sessions were being delivered in response to the relaxing by the Welsh Government of the Permitted Development rights of householders, so that the system was clear.

(ii) GP Survey

GH encouraged everyone to complete the survey.

(iii) Spinal Injuries Association Press Release

This item was noted

(iv) Funding Opportunities

This item was noted

(v) Neighbourhood Management Update

This item was noted

(vi) Stable Renovation at Penyrheol Chapel

An e-mail which had been received from Janet Mathews was read out. It was felt that whilst there may be a level of competition with the village hall in Velindre, this building could provide a very useful facility, particularly for walking groups. RJ suggested that they should be encouraged to contact the local Outdoor Education centres, as a suggested useful base for school groups and potential lunch time facility. It was agreed that a letter of support should be sent

**Action**: Clerk to draft a letter and send to DP.

(vii) PCC Consultation on Additional Learning Needs

The letter from PCC regarding this consultation was read out. This is potentially a major issue for those families who it affects. It was felt that this is a very sensitive issue and it was hoped and expected that Governing Bodies would be making their views known.

(viii) Pound Field Children’s Park, Felindre

A letter from the Friends of Felindre was read out. CH explained that a financial contribution at this point in time was not being requested, but that the Friends needed a commitment of funding before they would be able to go ahead and source other funds. It was felt that if this contribution allowed a valuable resource to remain available for local children, then this is a project that should be supported. CH clarified the position over the top playground and that this is being managed and equipped by Powys County Council. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Friends of Felindre, supporting the project with confirmation of the £500 and that Gwernyfed Community Council hope to be able to be in position to support this project for the long term.

**Action**: Clerk to draft letter and send to DP

(ix) Post Office Advisory Council

This item was noted

**7 Glasbury Public Conveniences**

It was reported that PCC had agreed to fund these facilities until March 2015. Further to this, following a discussion with Sally Williams it was agreed that the Trust would not be required for 12 months, and therefore Gwernyfed Community Council would not be providing £2,000 to support the facility in the coming financial year. It was suggested that a letter be sent to Sally Williams as the Chair of the Trust, and copied into Glasbury Community Council, confirming this position, but that should anything change in the coming 12 months then they should contact the Community Council. AJ suggested that should anyone notice any disrepair in the facilities over the next 12 months, this should be reported to PCC in order that the facility was no run-down over the next year. It was noted that documentation regarding the ownership of the Bont had still not been received.

**Action**: Clerk to draft letter and send to DP

**8 Financial Management of the Community Council**

AJ suggested that there was a need for a role within the Community Council where there was an overview of the financial side and where payments had been made to groups, that the money was being used as specified. DP felt that on a project by project basis, this was already happening, e.g. DE overseeing the speed limit works. It was felt that what might be required was a treasurer to keep a running eye on the finances of the Community Council. CH proposed AJ for this role, AJ declined. AJ proposed GD who indicated he would consider this proposal.

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

**9 Review of Historical Spend of the Community Council**

In addition to the paper previously circulated, DP provided a summary of expenditure over the last four years. There was a broad discussion regarding the venue of the Community Council meetings. DP suggested that alternative venues could be explored, but others felt that to continue to use the Community and Church Hall was an important support of these facilities and that they also provided an appropriate space should members of the public wish to attend and speak. Following comments on various other issues, e.g. payments for grass cutting, it was suggested that this item be discussed further at next months meeting and that everyone should consider the historical spend in the meantime.

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

**Action**: All to consider the historical financial spend

In light of the delayed implementation of the Trust to manage the public conveniences in Glasbury, the precept request was reviewed. As the request to spread the payment of the speed limit works over two years hadn’t received a response, and a £500 commitment was being given to the Friends of Felindre for the Pound Field Children’s Park, it was felt appropriate that the precept remain at the level to produce £9000.

DE agreed to establish the cost of the advert and VAT element for the speed limit works.

**Action**: DE to contact Powys County Council in this regard.

**10 County Councillors Report**

GH reported that the budget process is ongoing with a seminar being held shortly to see what the Cabinet are proposing and he felt there would be contentious issues as part of this, e.g. charging post 16 students for transport to school. He also reported that the Cabinet were still £2million short of the required savings of £20million for this financial year.

**11 Financial Matters**

The salary of the Clerk of £100 was agreed. The Clerk requested permission to purchase some robust plastic boxes to hold the Community Council archive, this was agreed.

**12 Any Other Business**

CH raised the issue of the grit bin in Velindre being hidden by the overgrown hedge. GH agreed to look into this.

Next Meeting 4th March 2014 at Velindre Village Hall, Velindre.