

Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 15th October 2015

Present: Cllrs. D Lewis (Chairman), K Bufton, M Jones, S Powell, R Shelton, C. Cllr H Lewis

1 Apologies: Cllr R Watkins

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2015: The Minutes were read, approved & signed by the Chairman.

3 Matters arising:

- The Clerk reported that he had met Martin Bowen & George Lloyd at the Highways depot. He was told that the Biodiversity Officer, who has to cover the whole of Powys, has not yet inspected the land opposite the Underhill Riding Stables. The Clerk asked Mr Lloyd if he would inspect the overhanging trees in Church Lane: he promised to do so.

4 Correspondence:

- A letter had been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau requesting financial assistance: Councillors decided not to offer any help.
- The Chairman read a letter entitled **Concurrent Functions and Village Hall Grants- Future Funding**. The main thrust of the document concerns the extremely difficult financial challenges being faced by the County Council now and in the future. The Council proposes to withdraw the grant for Village Halls through a damping scheme which will conclude in the year 2017-18. This means that the current grant will be reduced by 50% in 2016-17 with the remaining 50% being provided for 2017-18. This means that no grant will exist for 2018-19 onwards.
- The Chairman read a Community Delivery letter. Much of the content was similar to that of the above letter. This document, together with the previous one, is appended to these Minutes.
- A document concerning the introduction of a once every three weeks emptying of waste wheelie bins had been circulated to councillors several days ago. The main reason for the longer period between emptying was the expectation that householders would be forced to recycle more waste. Some astonishment was expressed that a survey of some bins had revealed a high percentage of food waste in them which should have been placed in the green food waste containers.

5 To consider Planning Application P/2015/0842 for erection of a free range egg unit at Tregriggon, Dolau, Llandrindod Wells. Councillors studied the plans & C.Cllr Lewis reported on a visit he had made to the farm & his conversation with the owner. When Planning Permission was granted for the first egg unit on the farm, a condition was made concerning road improvement near the entrance: this had not been done, but the owner did tell Cllr Lewis that he would see to it. Councillors decided to approve the application but want to see the road improvement done before Planning Permission is given. They noted that the application included a note stating that lorry movements would not be made at times when the Primary School had pupils arriving or leaving, & hoped that this would be properly observed.

6 To receive Councillors' Statements of Interest: Cllrs Jones, Lewis, Shelton gave the Clerk their Statements of Interest. Their details will be entered in the Register of Interests & published on the Council's website.

7 Cllr Bufton, the Council's representative on the Governing Body of the Primary School gave the following report:

Our new Executive Head has settled in well & has revamped the school with new colour-coded books, etc.

We have today interviewed for a new class teacher, the result of which will be announced very shortly.

The school register remains at 29 but there are 10 children in the Playgroup now, all but one of which are expected to come to Dolau as they become old enough.

The mood of the school & parents remains very positive and we are looking forward to the next year under our new Head.

A Fun Ride was run to raise funds for the Playgroup on 20th September, & a total of over £800 was raised.

8 A.O.B. In answer to a question, neither the Clerk nor any Councillors had any new information about the problems at the Craffryn & whether a retrospective Planning Application was in the pipeline regarding building work at Tynywern.

9 Date of next meeting: 19th November 2015 At this meeting the Budget for 2016-17 will be fixed

From: [Melanie Amor \(CSP - Communications Services\)](#)

Sent: Monday, 12 October 2015 12:07

Dear Clerk

Below is an update on three weekly rubbish collections which will be introduced from November 2nd:

Following a decision by Cabinet last week (Tuesday 6 October), from November 2nd rubbish collections will be moving to three weekly collections.

Food waste and recycling collections will continue to be collected on a weekly basis.

The move will generate savings of more than £480,000 in a full year and provide a boost to the county's overall recycling rates – the county has to reach a 58% rate for the financial year 2015/16 under stringent Welsh Government targets.

The service is facing the twin pressures of finding significant financial savings as part of the council's overall budget response and meeting increasing and very challenging recycling targets set by the Welsh Government with severe financial penalties if we fail.

Between 2010 and this year the council rolled out a new kerbside collection service with residents provided with recycling boxes for glass, plastic and cans and paper and card, a special caddy for food waste – all of which are collected weekly.

Analysis of the rubbish collected was carried out on behalf of the Welsh Government for all authorities during July and August 2015. For Powys, this showed that 32.81% of material in the wheeled bin or purple sacks could actually be recycled at the kerbside. The majority of this is food waste (21.83%) with the remainder being glass, paper and card, plastic and cans.

Moving to a three weekly rubbish collection system will deliver savings and ensure that even more of our waste is recycled. There is a long way to go to meet the Welsh Government's targets and there will be even tougher limits in years to come. With residents support we can meet both our budget and recycling targets. Householders will receive an information pack detailing these changes later this month. More information on the weekly kerbside recycling and rubbish collections is available at www.powys.gov.uk/recycle

We would be grateful if you could please forward this onto your colleagues and residents within your communities as soon as possible.

Regards

Waste & Recycling Services

0845 602 7035



**Paul Griffiths Strategic Director – Place
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If calling please ask for / Os yn galw gofynnwch am

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Date / Dyddiad: 9 October 2015

Dear Mayor / Chair

Concurrent Functions and Village Hall Grants – Future Funding

As you will be aware the County Council is continuing to face extremely difficult financial challenges both now and in the future. The Cabinet has been working on a Medium Term Financial Strategy which allows the Council to plan more effectively for the scale of the current and emerging financial challenges. A complete review of the Councils financial strategy for the next 3 years has been undertaken during the summer and the conclusions are now being shared within the Council and with its partners. The Council will need to completely reshape the way it delivers services over the next 3-5 years in order to meet the major reduction in funding it receives from Government. At the same time the Council needs to ensure that increasing challenges around demographic change can also be met particularly in respect of Adult Social Care.

This review has included the Concurrent Function Scheme, which as you know has been in operation during the lifetime of this Council being previously developed by Montgomeryshire District Council. Over the last few years a number of significant changes have taken place in Radnorshire and Brecknockshire in the way that we deliver a range of services, particularly relating to outdoor recreation. Many Outdoor Services having now been taken over by a mixture of Town and Community Councils and Third Sector Organisations, which makes the continuation of Concurrent Functions in Montgomeryshire no longer justifiable. Taking account of the need to recast the Councils budget, the Cabinet have concluded that the current Concurrent Function Scheme needs to be phased out over the next few years. The intention is to replace this with a different scheme that provides opportunities for all Town and Community Councils across the County to access funding, particularly to encourage support for Community Delivery. Such funding will be subject to a growth bid that will be considered by the Council in time for the financial year 2017-18. In the meantime, for the financial year 2016-17, the rules of the scheme will remain the same i.e. Councils will be able to apply for up to 50% funding. However, the budget available will be reduced by 50%.

The Cabinet having considered the need to reshape the Councils budget for the medium term, and propose to withdraw the grant for Village Halls through a damping

Continued.....

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scheme which will conclude in the year 2017-18. This means that the current grant will be reduced by 50% in 2016-17 with the remaining 50% grant being provided for 2017-18. This means that the grant will cease to exist altogether from 2018-19.

The reason for writing and giving you notice of this proposal at this stage is so that you have the maximum amount of time to plan for these changes.

We will write in the next few weeks to confirm arrangements for Concurrent Functions funding for the next year. In addition, once the Council has concluded discussions relating to Village Hall Grants I will confirm the decision in due course.

Yours sincerely

Paul Griffiths
Strategic Director – Place
Cyfarwyddwr Strategol - Lle

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