

Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 15th August 2013

Present: Cllrs. D Lewis (Acting Chairman), K Bufton, S Powell, J Thomas, R Watkins
County Cllr H Lewis

Also present: Mr Alan Davies Transportation & Development Engineer Powys County Council, two representatives of Infinergy Ltd. and eight members of the public

Apologies for absence: Cllr M Jones

Special item: Road accidents on the A488 in the vicinity of Brook House

Mr Davies explained that part of his work is the investigation of road accidents where personal injury is involved. Initially he relies on information and death reports received from the Police. Then a number of surveys are done, e.g. highway condition, topography, etc..

A skid survey of the road where accidents have taken place has shown that the road condition was not an issue. A white line survey will be done and there will be a safety survey of the bridge and parapet.

Councillors and members of the public called for double white lines to be used to draw motorists attention to the dangers at the bends, not only in the vicinity of Brook House but also other parts of the A488 where it passes through Dolau. Other safety measures discussed included anti-skid surfaces, speed warning signs, speed cameras and other signage.

Mr Davies stated that he would consider all the options and would report back to the Council in September before making recommendations to higher authority. He warned that money is tight and therefore his recommendations will not necessarily be acted upon in the immediate future.

The Chairman thanked Mr Davies for his attendance at the meeting.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 18/07/2013: The Minutes were read, approved and signed as being a true record by the Acting Chairman.

3 Matters arising:

The Clerk reported that approval would not be given by Powys CC for the purchase of a laptop from monies available for setting up a council website;

- **Defibrillator:** The Clerk reported that he had spoken with Mary Lomax and that she had handed to him much information supplied by the Bleddfa group. During a brief discussion one councillor suggested that the cost of purchasing a defibrillator and a box in which to keep it should be met by increasing the precept next year. It was suggested that a public meeting should be arranged with an appropriate speaker to explain the benefits of having a defibrillator and a demonstration of the use of one. A flyer, funded by Cllr Bufton, should be delivered to all households giving the date and venue for the meeting with an invitation to the recipients to attend.

- The Acting Chairman stated that he, together with the Chairman and Robert Kennard, had met with a Regeneration Officer at The Graig to discuss the setting up of an organisation to

receive and manage Community Benefit funds. The Officer gave us several model structures for a Community Benefit Fund. approved of our constituted non-registered group that would be chaired by Mr Kennard and its transition into a registered company.

4 Correspondence:

- **The Wales Yearbook:** An email from a Wales Yearbook Researcher was read in which the writer asked for detailed information about the Council and details of the Community Councillors. It was decided that no information should be given since the Council now has its own website with all the information available there.
- **Treforgan Footpath Diversions:** Formal notice of the Path Diversion Orders for footpaths LR1017 and LR1006 has been received. Cllr D Lewis confirmed that the diversions were exactly as previously agreed.
- **SHELTER:** The Clerk stated that he had received information from SHELTER Cymru about the work of the organisation and a request for a donation. It was decided not to give a donation but the Clerk was asked to publish the information on the village noticeboards.
- **Pentre Tump Planning Appeal:** The developers proposing to build three wind turbines at Pentre Tump have asked for an Appeal hearing. Council decided that it had no comments to make.

5 Consideration of Planning Application P/2013/0702 for Full: Erection of a single wind turbine measuring 67m to blade tip and 40m to hub height, erection of an onsite substation and creation of access track at Upper Farm Dolau

One member of the public who was present stated that he had not received the information supposedly delivered to households close to the turbine site. The developers present, and Cllr Powell, on whose land the turbine would be erected, stated that they had personally called at the complainant's house but had not found him at home.

In answer to a question about the proposed connection to the National Grid, the developers stated that Western Power would be responsible for this and that they expected the connection point to be at the junction of the A488 and the minor road leading to Upper Farm.

The developers were asked if they intended to apply for official closure orders for either of the two public rights of way which cross the land adjacent to the proposed site of the turbine: in reply, they stated that they had no such intention.

The developers stated that Powys CC Highways department has requested a Transport Planning Application, even though they had been assured by a Planning Officer that no such application would be needed.

Shortly after this, one of the developers, who has a longstanding medical condition, fainted.

The Acting Chairman decided to close the meeting to the public and he, together with the councillors present and the Clerk, moved to another room to consider their response to the application.

Councillors decided to give their approval to the Planning Application, subject to all the conditions set by Powys CC's Highways and Rights of Way Departments being met.

6 Date of next meeting: The next meeting will take place on 19th September 2013, commencing at 8pm. This is an additional meeting to those previously scheduled.