

Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 19th September 2013

Present: Cllr M Jones (Chairman), R Shelton, J Thomas, R Watkins, County Cllr H Lewis

Also present: Mr Alan Davies Transportation & Development Engineer Powys County Council, and four members of the public

1 Apologies for absence: Cllr. K Bufton and Cllr D Lewis

2a Minutes of the meeting held on 15/08/2013: That part of the Minutes which referred to accidents on the A488 was read and approved.

4 Road accidents on the A488 in the vicinity of Brook House: Mr A Davies reported that the white line survey was nearly finished but it was already clear that double white lines were needed on the approach to, and over the hill near the entrance to The Pant, on the approach to, and over the bends starting at Brook House, and around the bends adjacent to the church. He stated that consideration was being given to large signs such as, for example, DOUBLE BENDS AHEAD FOR 1.5 MILES being erected. He stated that warning signage could be in place within six weeks following approval but other work would have to be costed and submitted to a Management meeting for consideration. Ideally, he said, the road on the bends near Brook House would benefit from resurfacing with a 200mm rise on one side near the bridge to improve the camber. He stated that he was looking for matched funding for such work.

Concern was expressed that the signs pointing to Dolau Station are too low and that the Road Junction sign on the left, as seen by a motorist approaching from the church corner, would be better placed on the right. This might deter motorists who fail to see the sign on the left from attempting to overtake at or near this junction.

Mr Davies stated that he hoped to have a plan ready in time to bring to the next Council meeting. He was thanked by the Chairman for his report and he, together with two members of the public, left the meeting

2b Minutes of the meeting held on 15/08/2013: The Minutes which had not been read earlier were read now. In answer to a question, the Clerk stated that two small changes concerning a report of a meeting with a Regeneration Officer, had been made to the draft Minutes circulated previously to all councillors. The amended Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes: Cllr. Shelton stated that he supported the proposal for Robert Kennard to head a Community Benefits group and thought that a public meeting should be convened so that the terms of reference can be explained and public approval sought to legitimise and give authority to the group. He also considered that Llanfihangel Rhydithon community group should participate in the proposed area linked communities group that Powys Regeneration Unit is trying to facilitate.

5 Defibrillator: Cllr Thomas proposed, seconded by Cllr Watkins, that a defibrillator should be purchased. All were in agreement.

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for the supply of a defibrillator and a box in which to keep it, together with details of annual maintenance costs. It was understood that Powys Health Trust would provide free training for volunteers wishing to support the project.

6 Community Benefits Group: The Chairman's report is appended to these Minutes. During the ensuing discussion, the Clerk stated that he had not received any correspondence from Vanessa Garwood, Regeneration Officer for Powys CC, concerning a meeting of representatives from community councils discuss and develop plans for a Local Benefits Group to cover a number of community council areas. *[In fact, this was not correct and he has apologized to all councillors and Vanessa Garwood for his lapse of memory].*

After a proposal the Chairman agreed to contact The Community Benefit Group to suggest a public meeting. The proposed meeting is to confirm the community's acceptance of The Group and it's purpose.

7 Correspondence:

- **Expert group on Local Government Diversity - Call for Evidence:** Noted
- **County Consultation on proposed Designated Persons Order:** Noted

8 A.O.B.

- Council agreed to pay the previously agreed grant of £700 from the precept to the Dolau Recreation Association
- County Cllr H Lewis informed the meeting that certain bus routes which were under threat of being withdrawn, have been reprieved for the moment until a thorough Powys wide review has taken place”.
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9 Date of next meeting: 17th October 2013 commencing at 8:00pm

Appendix 1: Chairman's report concerning the Community Benefits Group

Chairman's Report From The Community Benefit Group.

At a meeting between myself, Vice Chairman David Lewis, Mr Bob Kennard (Proposed Group Leader) and Vanessa Garwood Powys Regeneration Team at Graig Farm we discussed with Vanessa our proposal of forming a Community Benefits Group as agreed by Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council..She clarified that what we were proposing was all correct and

legal. Vanessa suggested The Group should be kept quite simple in structure to start. She informed that a planning zone to the North of our Community had formed a Group representing a number of Communities and this was something that Powys Regeneration would like to form in the zone that covers our community. We were satisfied from our discussion with Vanessa that the proposal of forming of The Community Benefits Group is valid.

As agreed by Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council in a previous meeting, The Chairman and Vice Chairman asked Bob Kennard if he would lead The Community Benefits Group and he agreed. Bob stated that The Group would need other members and a Constitution, Structure and Strategy would have to be drawn up..

At the date of this meeting Geoff Lewis and Phil Hardwick have been asked to be members of The Group, but both declined.

On the 16th of September 2013 taking into consideration the timescale of Powys Regeneration facilitating the forming a group to cover the zone in which our community lies and with the planning meeting to consider the wind turbine at Upper Farm getting ever closer, The Community Benefits Group decided with no other options available to contact The Wind Turbine Applicant Infinenergy. The Group report that subject to planning approval they have negotiated an annual payment of £2,000 from the applicant. The first payment will be made when the proposed turbine starts producing energy. The annual payment will be linked to R P I.

The applicant agreed to make an upfront payment of £500 to cover any start up/legal costs of The Group.

The applicant would draw up any relevant legal documents and contract. It would be The Group's responsibility to pay for any legal advice/checking of the contract etc.

The Community Benefit Group asked if the annual payment could be linked to electricity prices rather than R P I, but the applicant stated the operator's income was based on R P I so it would not be possible to link to electricity prices.

The Group asked if the sum offered was negotiable but the applicant stated that £2,000 is the maximum amount they are prepared to pay on a single turbine of this size.

The applicant stated the expected lifetime of the proposed turbine is 25 years.

The applicant congratulated The Community on forming The Community Benefits Group stating there are many communities that have no group in place, making any negotiation extremely difficult.

The applicant informed The Community Benefits Group that to the best of their knowledge the application would be considered by the planning department in October.