

Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Llanfihangel Rhydithon Community Council in the Community Hall on Thursday 3rd May 2018

Present: Cllr K Bufton(Vice Chair), E Newman, R Shelton, R Stuart-Lyon, R Thomas, R Watkins, County Cllr H Lewis

In attendance: Mrs Jo Ordonez

1 Apologies for absence: Cllr D Lewis(Chair)

In the absence of the Chair, Cllr K Bufton chaired the meeting

2 Declarations of interest: None

3 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2018: These Minutes were read, approved and signed by the Acting Chair

4 Matters arising from the above Minutes: None

5 Correspondence

- A letter from East Radnorshire Day Centre thanking the Council for a £40 donation was read.
- The Independent Review Panel on Community and Town Councils are looking to seek more views from members of the public on the future role of Town and Community Councils. They were asking the Council either to hold a “pop-in” session on Thursday 24th May 2018 or to publicise the nearest “pop-in” session to ensure all residents have the opportunity to share their views. Councillors thought that there was unlikely to be much interest and therefore decided against holding such a session.

6 To consider Planning application P/2018/0339 for LBC: Erection of an extension to farmhouse, conversion of fowl house to residential, conversion of cowshed to a holiday accommodation, conversion of barn to a workshop and all associated works at Craffryn, Dolau, Llandrindod Wells, Powys

Mrs J Ordonez who, with her husband, is the applicant, was given permission to speak by the Acting Chair. She described the plans that they have both for the buildings and the extension of her small business.

There followed a lively discussion during which it was stated that the applicants' agent had produced an excellent Heritage Impact Statement. Cllr Thomas read a short part of an article which appeared in the May edition of the Country Landowners Association magazine in which it was stated that plans for listed buildings must be seen from a 21st century viewpoint.

Councillors decided that they fully support the application for the following reasons:

- The listed buildings, some of which have ceased to be useful for their original purpose and are at risk, would be brought into new use and preserved in a sustainable manner;
- The complementary design of the extension to the farmhouse would enhance the overall picture;
- There would neither be any significant increase in traffic through the farmyard nor from/onto the A488;
- A small cottage industry would be helped to expand.

7 Any Other Business:

- Cllr Bufton, in her role as the Council's representative on the Governing Body of Dolau School, reported that the school carries on in good vein. The standards continue to hold up and the children flourish. Pupil numbers are stable. Mrs Gayther is back from her Welsh course and all the children are benefitting from her training by using Welsh in the classroom throughout their lessons. The FODS have improved and altered the garden to enhance the Eco area and make it more visible on a Health and Safety basis, so children have more room to use during outdoor activities.
- Review of the Electoral Arrangements in Powys by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales: The existing Llangunllo electoral ward is composed of the communities of Llandewi Ystradenny, Llanfihangel Rhydithon, Llangunllo and Whitton. It has 1099 electors (1008 projected) represented by one councillor, which is 30% below the proposed county average (1569 per member). In order to improve electoral parity the Commission has identified part of the Presteigne electoral ward which may be included with the Llangunllo electoral ward. The Community Council regards such a move as being based solely on number counting: there is no affinity geographically, or in any other way, with Presteigne.
- Cllr Newman is concerned that no action has been taken to remove the churchyard bench seat for refurbishment.

8 Date of next meeting: Thursday 17th May