

**Cyngor Cymuned MOCHDRE gyda PHENSTRYWAID
MOCHDRE with PENSTROWED Community Council**

Ashford, The Bank, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2AB

**Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 4th February 2013, 7:00p.m. at Mochdre
Old School.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Russell Williams (Chairman)
Cllr. Robin Lewis (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. Linda Davies
Cllr. David Forster
Cllr. Gordon Jones
Cllr. Jean Williams
Cllr. Philip Williams

APOLOGIES:

None

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Kath Wigley (Clerk)

County Cllr. Roche Davies

1. 0. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

1.1. See above.

1.2. **Declarations of Members' Interests** – There was one Declaration of Member's Interest made.

Name of Councillor	Item	Personal	Prejudicial
Robin Lewis	6.2.	√	

1.3. **Co-Option Vacancy – Election of candidate.** A short presentation was given by each candidate followed by Councillor's questions, after which the candidates vacated the room whilst the vote was taken (by ballot paper). The Clerk counted the votes and the Chairman announced that Douglas Wood had polled the majority vote. The candidates re-entered the room and the name of the successful candidate was announced.

1.4. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office** – Douglas Wood signed the Declaration so that he could participate fully in the meeting.

2.0. Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting (previously circulated).

2.1. That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17th December, 2012 at Mochdre Old School were a true record of what there and then transpired and were signed by the Chairman.

3.0. Information from the Minutes.

3.1. With reference to Cllr. Gordon Jones's query concerning Mrs Griffiths (see Minute 15.2, 17th December, 2012 meeting) the Clerk contacted the police as instructed and gave the Council an update on what transpired at that meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED that, as the Neighbourhood Watch are in touch with the Police, complaints should be logged with Janet Davies for her to pass on (this should maintain discretion for all involved).

4.0. Finance

4.1. **Update on Accounts:** Mochdre CC bank statement £1,833.54 (includes the balance of the third precept payment after the election cost has been deducted at source = £227.49). Cash book stands at £1,713.54. There are two outstanding cheques, for £45.00 and £75.00. This was duly noted.

4.2. Mochdre CC No2 Account (for P & L funds) bank statement £1,296.91. Cash book stands at £1,296.91. There are no outstanding cheques. This was duly noted.

4.3. Ideas for ways in which the P & L funds might be used for the benefit of the community were discussed.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr Russell Williams would approach Young Farmers to see if they require funding.

5.0. National Assembly

5.1. Consultation on the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Bill – The Council looked at the questionnaire and decided that, as it had previously answered similar questions during the White Paper consultation, it would prefer a written reply to be sent, expressing its concerns about the proposed expenditure on a Commission which it felt was a total waste of money.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk should write by the revised deadline of 15th February.

5.2. White paper on proposals for the Sustainable Development Bill – series of consultation events is to be run, (details of which were e-mailed to Councillors on 20th January, 2013). This was duly noted.

5.3. Section 137 Expenditure: Limit for 2013-2014 – Notification has been received that the maximum expenditure that can be incurred under both section 137 (1) and (3) for the financial year 2013-2014 will be £6.98 per elector (an increase of £0.18p per elector). This was duly noted.

6.0. Planning Matters

6.1. Planning Application Ref: **P/2012/1273** Glanrhyd Barns. The Clerk gave the Council an update on the progress of this application (now withdrawn). This was duly noted.

6.2. Planning Application **P/2012/1091** – for Variation of condition 2 of permission P/2011/0723 to allow the approved turbine type to be altered with a new height of 34.585m to blade tip at Esgair Draenllwyn, Llaithddu, Llandrindod Wells (see Minute 16.7, 8th October, 2012 meeting). That this application was to be considered at the County Regulatory Committee on 30th January, 2013 was duly noted by Councillors on receipt of their agendas, prior to that meeting.

7.0. One Voice Wales

7.1. Two copies of the Winter 2012/13 edition of 'The Voice' received. This was duly noted and the copies circulated.

7.2. Details of the Montgomeryshire Area Committee Meeting on Tuesday, 15th January, 7:00pm at Abermule e-mailed to Councillors on 8th January for information. This had been duly noted by Councillors, but there were no attendees.

7.3. 2013 Training Programme details received – Courses continue being held at the Park Lodge Hotel, Aberystwyth but the majority are also now available at the Town Hall, Montgomery (including the Strong Roots Project Training Programme – Green Futures (*Sustainable Development*)). This was duly noted with approval.

7.4. Invitation to Chairman to attend Buckingham Palace Garden Party – Nomination form completed and sent before the deadline of 18th January, 2013. This was duly noted.

8.0. Powys County Council

8.1. LED Streetlight Replacement Scheme – The response to the Council's e-mail received from Leigh Williams (Street Lighting Operations Manager) was read out.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to express the Council's view that this is unacceptable, and also to advise him of the correct number of lights which remain unlit in the community.

8.2. Two Blanket Dispensations received from Clarence Meredith (Strategic Director – Law and Governance):

1) For all Town and Community Councillors who are trustees of charities appointed otherwise than by their Town or Community Council.

2) For all Town and Community Councillors who are school governors appointed otherwise than by their Town or Community Council.

These were duly noted.

8.3. Statutory Director of Social Services third annual report. This was duly noted.

9.0. Highway Matters

9.1. Landslide on Mochdre footpath – The Clerk was made aware of this just before Christmas (via Mr. Dave Hyam) and contacted the Footpaths Officer, Mark Chapman, who took prompt and effective action by cordoning the area off. Having now found out that the footpath in question is actually an unclassified county road (U 2819) the Clerk has contacted Andrew Jones for details of when the footpath will be repaired and thus re-opened to the public.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk is to ask that this item be addressed on the proposed "walkabout" (see 9.3.).

9.2. Clerk received an e-mail from Cllr Robin Lewis concerning a land slip on the lower side of the road at Rhyd Y Cwrt, Pentre Road and e-mailed Andrew Jones requesting he give it his urgent attention. It has been investigated, but was very difficult to see because of the prevailing weather conditions, so it will be viewed again once the snow has disappeared and it is easier to see what has actually happened. The Council regards this matter as very urgent because the condition of the roadside is dangerous and needs to be cordoned off.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk advises Andrew Jones of the urgency of this matter once again.

9.3. Andrew Jones has supplied his calendar for end of January/beginning of February so that a mutually convenient date can be agreed on for a tour of the highway matters raised at the last meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts Andrew Jones to organise said tour.

10.0.Charities

10.1. List of charities who have requested donations (from April, 2012) was reviewed and the Council's preference was to continue to support local charities, keeping donations at a rate of £35.00 per selected charity.

10.2. Urdd National Eisteddfod – Request for a financial contribution.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk raises a cheque for a donation of £35.00, to be signed at the next meeting.

11.0.Rural Broadband

11.1. eXwavia, an ISP company based in Welshpool, would like the opportunity to meet the community (possibly through a public meeting) to make members aware of the service they can offer.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk contacts eXwavia with a view to setting up a public meeting as soon as possible and also contacts Russell George, to get him involved.

12.0.Correspondence

12.1.**Hywel Dda Health Board Recommendations** – ‘Stakeholder Briefing’ and ‘Balancing Opinions: Executive Summary’ received, for information. This was duly noted and made available for circulation.

12.2.**PAVO Community Engagement Meeting** – At Plas Dolerw on March 27th, 2013 (6:00 to 8:00pm). This was duly noted.

12.3.**OVW Montgomeryshire Area Committee Meeting Press Release** – Following concerns raised at the Abermule meeting over funding issues. This was duly noted.

12.4.**Spinal Injuries Association** – Request to publicise their forthcoming event, the ‘Great Fish and Chip Supper’, on Friday, 17th May, 2013. This was duly noted and there was no objection to posters being placed on community notice boards.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk posts several of said posters.

12.5.**Welsh Government and OVW – Websites for Town and Community Councils** – Funding has been released from the Welsh Government to County Councils to support local democracy and public engagement. Part of this is intended to be used to assist in the development of websites for town and community councils (as is provided for in the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Bill, which is currently before the Assembly). Each Principal council will receive £500 multiplied by the number of town and community councils within their area.

One Voice Wales is delighted with this announcement and welcomes the funding to support the costs of democracy. It has stated that at this time it would be helpful if member councils did not contact their Principal councils until detailed proposals are finalised, and that they will be in touch soon setting out details of how the scheme will be delivered. This was duly noted.

12.6.Montgomeryshire County Music Festival – Request for donation.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk raises a cheque for a donation of £35.00, to be signed at the next meeting and forwarded on before 31st March (to allow for printing of programme).

13.0.Chairman’s Announcements

13.1.Brian the Birches – The issue concerning his replacement gate has now been resolved and he is happy with the outcome.

13.2.The Chairman has purchased a second hand filing cabinet for the Clerk’s use, at a cost of £20.00.

13.3.The Chairman asked if the Council wished to keep its meetings on a Monday night, as opposed to Tuesday night as it had been in the past. There were no objections to keeping it on a Monday night.

13.4.Cllr Jean Williams brought to the Chairman’s attention that the hedge pletching promised to Mrs Rogers last year had not as yet taken place and time was running out as it had to be done by the end of March.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Martin Watkins, College Farm to ask when the pletching will be done.

14.0.Date of next meeting – Monday, 25th March, 2013.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.

K. Wigley
Clerk/y cleric
February, 2013

