

**Minutes of a Meeting of Dissert & Trecoed Community Council on 12th March 2013
commencing at 7.00pm in Iron Room**

Present: Cllr G Evans, C Myhill, G Price, S Richardson,
D Morgan, P Deakin, V Norris, J Griffiths,

Apologies: J Dalley, G Morris

DT 20/13

Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 12th February 2013 were approved and signed.

DT 21/13

Information from Minutes

a) Streetlight HY144, Goylands Close

This light is now working at full night.

DT 22/13

Planning Applications:

- a) **P2013 0036** – Householder: Erection of two storey extension to existing property (part retrospective) at Cae Derw, Dalmore, Howey for C Drew – Cllr G Price declared and interest in this application and left the room whilst discussions took place. No objection
- b) **P2013 0178** – Full: Erection of single storey toilet/kitchen extension to north side of church at St David's Church, Howey for Rev Ian Rees Cllr J Griffiths declared an interest in this application and left the room whilst discussions took place. No objection.

DT 23/13

Correspondence:

a) Steve McAllen – Ash Trees, A470

Confirmation that the seeds (origin area 304, Cert 20090417 UK) were germinated and grown at Holly Bank Nurseries of Montgomery. This was noted.

b) Powys County Council – Election Statistics

The requested statistics were:

Total electorate	1027
Iron Room attendance	49
Howey Hall attendance	91
Postal Votes	85

This information was requested for future reference in case there is a requirement for an election and when a decision has to be made about the number of Polling Stations.

c) Red Cross – Thanks

Letter of thanks for grant.

d) Powys County Council – Recycling Scheme

Letter to inform members that the new Recycling Scheme will commence operation within Builth Road and Cwmbach this will commence on 18th March 2013. No changes will be made to collections in other parts of the community.

e) Cllr S Richardson – Caerwnon Bus Service

Cllr Richardson reported that the meeting with Cty Cllr Barrie Thomas was well attended with approximately 25 there. The petition contained 120 signatures.

John Forsey compromised on the 9.04 bus and it will now go directly to the Doctors' surgery in Builth Wells instead of all around the area first which will enable patients to get there in time for morning surgery, the actual timing could not be altered because it would then deliver the schoolchildren to Howey too early. The bus will now also be in time to connect to the Newtown service which is good because the new timetable did not accommodate this.

The service to Llandrindod will have to be in abeyance for a short while but John Forsey has assured us that he will look into a way if at all possible of providing at least one bus a week by re-jigging another service that serves Howey at the moment, or by looking into some sort of Community funded scheme.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Richardson, Cty Cllr Williams and the residents of Caerwnon for acting on this matter and for the successful outcome.

DT 24/13

Finances

- a) Travel Expenses – Cllr G Evans - £39.60 - **approved**
- b) Clerk's Expenses – £130.78 (Sep – Mar) - **approved**

DT 25/13

Grant/Donation Applications

None received.

DT 26/13

Grant Aid Policy

The Chairman and Clerk had prepared a Draft Grant Aid Policy for members discussion. The Donation limit was set at a maximum of £100. This policy was adopted and it was agreed to review this annually in March.

DT 27/13

Members Training

The Clerk had circulated a list of training opportunities which will take place during the forthcoming months at the Strand Hall in Builth Wells. The following members requested to attend:

The Councillor	Weds 5 th June	JG, DM,SR
Council as an Employer	Weds 12 th June	GE
The Council Meeting	Thurs 2 nd May	VN, PD
Local Govt Finance	Mon 25 th March	
Community Engagement	Weds 10 th July	JG,DM
Code of Conduct	Weds 24 th July 6.15pm	

DT 28/13

School Bell

Cllr Price reported that he had spoken to a contractor regarding this. The Bell remains with Mike Evans and it was agreed to write a letter to Mr Evans when he relinquishes the bell. Members would move this matter forward prior to the next meeting.

DT 29/13

County Councillor's Report

Cty Cllr Williams read out the following report:

I would like to thank all the people that helped and voted for me in the May Election of 2012.

The first 6 weeks were spent in training to enable me to sit on Committees within the County Council, these are Regulatory (Planning), Standards, Employment Appeals, Rights of Way and Licencing.

Planning Committee takes place every 2 weeks, Employment Appeals every month, Rights of Way and Licensing every 2 weeks. I also sit on the Committee of Llandrindod Wells Sport Centre and Rhayader Sports Centre, Care and Repair, also I am a Governor of Garth Primary School.

I list below some of the things I have undertaken on behalf of my constituents and for the benefit of Disserth & Trecoed

The first thing I achieved was to get a seat put in the bus Shelter at Sunnyhaven.

After many emails to Network Rail I have now had trees planted around the Railway Communications Mast in Howey to act as screening.

I am still trying to get parking restrictions by A483 over Dolberthog Bridge. I have met with Kirsty Williams on site to try and help, she was going to contact the Minister and I am still awaiting a response. I have also contacted Powys CC to have double yellow lines put down. The reason for my request for parking restrictions is because vehicles have been parking on the slip road before the entrance to the bridge. Sometime ago an Ambulance was called but failed to get over the bridge because of vehicles being parked, subsequently the lady passed away. I do not want a situation like this to ever happen again. I will not give up until I have succeeded in obtaining parking restrictions.

I have been helping Mr Quincey with his fallen wall in Howey, the cost of repair quoted was £30,000 and I felt this was outrageous. I succeeded to get publicity on the television and get the team from the Xray programme down to make a television report. This matter is still ongoing.

I arranged to get Powys to clear snow from the roads and pavements in Howey and the surrounding areas, filling salt bins along the way. I believe that the work force did a good job.

I have assisted 4 residents with medical problems through Social Services.

I instigated the placing of 2 dog litter bins to be put outside Goylands and Llwynbrain Villas and I have received a request for one to be put in Cwmbach.

I received requests for hedges to be cut in 4 places, which has been done.

I had several complaints about blocked drains and potholes, these have been done.

The main A483 by Pencerrig has been the site of several accidents and I have asked for the road surface to be improved, and also at the junction leading to New Mead. This work will now take place in Summer 2013.

I helped to get the Post Office Outreach Service into Howey following the closure of the Post Office. This has not been on time in recent months as it has been run from the Main Post Office in Llandrindod Wells. However this is now under different management and they intend to keep the Outreach Service running to time.

I worked with the residents of Caerwnon regarding the changes to the bus timetables. A petition was handed to Cty Cllr Barry Thomas at County Hall recently and this was covered by the local press with an article and picture being published on the front page of the Mid Wales Journal.

There has been some success with this, namely the bus going to the Doctor's Surgery in Builth is now on time for surgery. I am waiting for a response on the service to Llandrindod Wells with a request to stay longer to allow residents to carry out their shopping. I would like to thank the people for raising the petition and coming to County Hall.

At the end of the Summer I had a meeting in Howey Hall with Park home residents. Andrew Davies the Conservative leader at the Assembly came to talk to residents about Tax banding on Park homes. I have written to Kirsty Williams AM and Carl Sargeant AM and have had responses to my letters but no positive outcome.

I have asked that all retrospective planning that comes before planning, should attract increased fees but I am informed that the fees are determined at the Assembly so I have written to Andrew Davies to see what he can do to help.

I have had problems at Sunnyhaven regarding the lack of salting at the park. I arranged for lorries to attend from PCC to salt this area free of charge, but this was refused by the owner. Hopefully when the new legislation comes forward from Peter Black AM, requiring Park homes to have site licences, PCC will hopefully be able to carry out enforcement on issues such as these. This is a safety issue for residents.

The Conservative Group of PCC, including myself, wanted a 0% increase in tax banding, this was not successful as we were outvoted; there will be a 2.75% increase on tax banding for 2013/14.

There will also be 120 jobs lost from Powys County Council, these will mainly be at a senior level.

There is currently a job evaluation scheme taking place at PCC, many employees will have salary reductions.

I continue to support the Community Council in opposing the Lorry Park by BSW Sawmills and with the help of the Chairman of Disserseth & Trecoed Community Council there will be a site meeting before the final decision is made.

As the Conservative Group are supporting the Shire Independents who are in power, we managed to get free parking for December in Powys.

I donated Christmas Trees to Sunnyhaven and Caerwnon Park in 2012.

I have also promised that any expenses I claim from my home to County Hall will be given back to the community of Disserseth and Trecoed each year.

Finally, may I say that if the Community Council and I work together we can make a difference, this was clearly shown by the number of people who attended at County Hall regarding the changes to the bus timetables. We are likely to be successful.

My responsibilities are to the residents of Disserseth & Trecoed and I work to put them before anything else.

Any Other Business**a) J & G Bailey – Howey Shop**

Mrs Bailey had asked the Clerk to read out the following letter:

“Glyn and I will be closing the village shop in Howey on the 29th March 2013. I have tried everything in my power to make the local people use the shop but they have not done so we are left with no alternative but to close. I feel so sorry for the people who do use the shop and I know that it will be a great loss to them mainly the older customers and the ones who do not have cars, Over the years Glyn and I have tried to give the people of Howey and surrounding area a nice clean well stocked shop and we hoped that the residents would see that it is necessary to support us but was not to be. Glyn and I have been propping up the shop for the last five years out of our private pensions we now want to retire so we can no longer afford to do so. We have had the property and shop up for sale for three years but with no real interest, so we will now try to sell as a family house.”

Resolved: to write a letter to Joan and Glyn Bailey thanking them for their hard work for the community over the past years and wishing them a happy and healthy retirement.

b) Howey Village – Leaves

Cllr Griffiths mentioned that there is still a build-up of leaves at the junction of Howey Village and the A483 and within the layby. This had previously been reported.

Resolved: Clerk to contact PCC regarding this.

c) Planning Application – Fir Tree Garage

The Chairman reported that it has been brought to the Council’s attention that work subject to a change of use at the above site has been we feel, more than preparatory to ground clearance in that tarmac has been laid. Cllr Myhill also said that there are quantities of road planings waiting to be laid.

The Chairman reported that evidence had been given by a Planning Officer to the Planning Committee on 8th February 2013 in Brecon that a proportion of the land at this site is designated as Green Belt and that someone had extended the existing buildings into this Green Belt land.

Resolved: to write to the Planning Officer to seek advice whether any Planning Regulations have been breached and also if any of the current works which have been undertaken compromise the current planning application.

Public Question Time

There were no questions.