

**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024. At Penybont Community Hall and online at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs D.Turner (Chair);D.Lyall (D.Chair); Cllr D.Bayliss: R.Bufton:R.Duggan:R.Watkins:J.Lawrence

**Apologies:**

**Absent:** Nil

**Others:** County Councillor G.Morgan

**Declarations of Interest:**

*Reminder to members. A personal Interest is also a Prejudicial Interest because under the objective, public perception test (Para 12(1) of the Members' Code of Conduct) where you have a personal interest in any business of your authority you also have a prejudicial interest in that business if the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest. Forms available from the Clerk*

The above information was augmented by the Clerk with the General Dispensation on energy parks dated 9/12/2022.

- DOI: Cllrs Bufton; Watkins; Duggan, item PD/0032/24 and PD/0026/24 (iii) Financial Interests.

**PD/0023/24 Minutes**

To authorise the Chairman to sign minutes of the previous meetings of the Council held on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Proposed Cllr Lyall Unanimous

**PD/0024/24 Clerk's update:**

Traffic signs at Llandegley A44, indicating either a right or left turn have been reported and visited by PCC.

**PD/0025/24 County Councillors Report**

Apologies received for late attendance working on PCC budget items, details at this stage confidential.

- Updated council on vacant properties in Powys, an agenda item. PCC currently employ one person to deal with all notifications, currently running at 1700. This has resulted in strict order of actions. For this community, the 3-address put forward are subject to 'Probate'. These notifications will not be dealt with until ownership has been resolved. Others with

priority would be, dangerous condition with a threat to safety. Semi-detached premises interfering with the safety of other users. Other buildings which are nuisance to the public, e.g. used by others to the detriment of local residence and where the police are involved. However, this would only amount to boarding up.

- Following public representations would examine the need to street cleaning at Llandegley. (Mr Hulse)
- Potholes particularly o/s 'Pound House, Llandegley. (Mr Hulse)

### **PD/0026/24 Planning:**

#### **Planning:**

##### **24/0697/FUL**

Erection of oak frame seating area (including some demolition works)

Site Address: Severn Arms Hotel,  
Penybont, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5UA

##### **24/0652/REM**

Section 73 application to remove condition 4 of planning permission R1057 in relation to occupancy restrictions

Ashlea , Llandegley,  
Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5UD

**Noted**

### **PD/0027/24 Community Projects/Issues:**

- **Climate Change**

The Chair informed the council that he will be holding a discussion group on this and other related subjects, at **The Pales, 13<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm**, and requested that this be circulated as wide as possible on the local networks.

- **Llandegley Road Signs** (Clerks report)

- **Public Consultation: Nant Mithil Energy Park**

**Windfarm.** Cllr Lyall...\*\*\*\*\* to be heard as last item on agenda.

- **Vacant Properties** (Raised during public questions The issue was presented by Mr McIntosh a local resident, over his concerns that these types of properties attract undesirables, vandalism, and shows our villages in a poor light to the visitors.

Following a discussion of views and information, the Chair reminded the public of the easy accessibility to the complaint

from within Powys web site. The Chair asked councillors to see where these issues may arise in their areas and bring the facts to council attention.

**PD/0028/24 One Voice Wales**

Councillors discussion the entries for the past minutes and found no issues applicable within this community council.

**PD/0029/24 Finance**

- Expenditure to authorise.

1/4/24	Membership to One Voice Wales	£82
31/5/24	Welsh Audit fee for 2022/23	£260.00
13/05/2024	Refund adjustment	+£3.96

**Proposed to pay Cllr Lyall Unanimous**

- Bank reconciliation, supplied to Council 1/6/24-9/7/24

**PD/0030/24 Correspondence.**

- Letter of complaint from Bute Energy
- Letter of response from Chair of Community Council
- Response to above from Re-Think.  
*Above noted, any questions to be received at the last item.*

- PAVO Numeracy 2, grants available.  
The council agreed that such an openness of the issues involved would be extremely difficult for the council to approach in individuals. The council will undertake media and posters to indication help is available to all adults.

**PD/0031/24 Public Questions**

- Mr Hulse informed the council that their bus shelters at Penybont and Llandegely require weather proofing. Clerk to make enquiries.
- Fran Silvers a local resident excelled the significant benefits on using solar panels in the home environment. Ms Silvers felt that this was a worthwhile undertaking, in an exploratory function for the villages as a whole.

The Chair and council supported such a suggestion and will have the matter on the next agenda with a view to establishing a working group, to include members of the community to undertake a feasibility study.

**PD/0032//24** Cllrs Watkins;Duggan;Bufton leftb the meeting 2020

- **Nant Mithil Energy Park Windfarm.**

The Chair updated the meeting relating to public meeting and the concerns raised. The Clerk will attach the letter from the council to the ‘project team, Nant Mithil, this will be attached to the rear of minutes.

The public consultation concluded on the 24<sup>th</sup> June (council response sent prior) and the council have been informed that the official planning application will be lodged by the end of summer. The Chair stated that when such a date is known, a meeting will be arranged to seek the opinions of the community for any representations to be made to the office for Developments of National Significance

**PD/0033/24 Date of Next Meeting and format**

**10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm Hybrid available.**

## Penybont & District Community Council

---

Geraint Evans CiLCA(Wales) 01982551825  
Clerk To Penybont & District Community Council 07814424402  
Bryn Haul  
Cwmbach Llechrhyd  
Builth Wells  
LD23RP  
July 2024

Dear Nant Mithil Energy Park project team.

### **Bute Energy Penybont Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Following your presentation and meeting with members of our community, the Chairperson held a meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June, for residents to voice any concerns or support for the project.

Many of the comments raised, eminent from the Bute Energy representatives, other than two (land agent & environmental representative) being unable to answer the questions raised and to one resident who has lost the sale of his property having declared the proposed planning application, his questions to your staff as being superfluous to their function.

I hope that during the remaining period of consultation you can in some way cover the issues raised.

- While there was acceptance of the Climate Emergency it was not felt that the potential impact of the community, the economy of the area, and the environment was not justified when there are better alternatives to address Climate Change. *What was the persuading factor not to use offshore windfarms and move so far inland.*
- This size of turbine is untested in the UK and, while they might be very efficient in 'offshore' systems their impact on the land and communities nearby is unrecoverable. *Why has it been found necessary to have the size of the turbines, double of that compared to Hendy project.*
- Maintenance of the blades and repair has caused anxiety particularly within the farming community. It is reported that such maintenance

## Penybont & District Community Council

---

requires the use of harmful chemicals and the particles created does effect open water sources and land. ***Can this issue be covered in your reply.***

- Many of the residents raised the issues of 'Flicker', 'Noise' and 'interruption of sound waves and regular pulses. ***Would you explain the studies on the above concerns on the 'flicker' effect to light and over what distance. Would you explain the effect of turbine noise, particularly at night when all other environmental sounds have stopped. Many residents have properties close to the planning area. Have any studies been assessed in relation to 'ground' vibration and the distance it may travel.***
- Whilst I accept your environmental officer was present, the issue of 'air impact and pressure on birds and bats, was raised. ***Are there any studies available to answer these issues.***
- Much has been heralded relating to financial benefits to communities stemming from the energy generated. However very little has been published on the divisibility of the annual funds. The community would enquire:
  - (i) Who and the makeup of the committee will be in charge with the dispersal of the funds.
  - (ii) What will be criteria be.
  - (iii) Are the funds only available to the communities directly bordering the project.
  - (iv) Will long term compensation be taken from this fund, for example to landowners having pylons erected on their land.
  - (v) Will any consideration be given as compensation on the devaluation of properties.

I appreciate the shortness of time to the cutoff date for consultation, but I hope your staff will manage to cover many [points from the documents available to you.

Regards

Geraint Evans  
Clerk and RFO