

Felinfach Community Council
Minutes of Annual Regular meeting held at Llanfilo Old School
Tuesday 20th October 2015

**G.Jones(Chairwomen),S.Brown,W.Thornton,,G.Price,
D. Rowlands(Clerk)**

**Apologies - Ron Carrotte, J .Owen Lowe, C. Morgan, I Robinson,
J. Pryce**

Declaration of interest -None

Minutes of last meeting were signed and dated as a true account.

Matters Arising

G.P.Biotec - Clerk asked if anyone required a copy of the minutes from the Community Liaison Meeting with GP Biotec, which took place on 30th September 2015 , the members that are not on the web, will be issued with a copy, Cllr Brown explained that it is important that the Community Council is represented ,as the general public is in the minority. _____

Three Weekly Collections - Clerk received an e-mail from Waste & Recycling Services, explaining that the three weekly collections would be rolled out from 2nd November, Food waste & recycling collections will continue to be collected on a weekly basis. more information on weekly kerbside recycling & rubbish collections is available at www.powys.gov.uk/recycle . The consultation period ended on the 31st August 2015 for the general public to have their say, and the final decision has been made by the Cabinet on 6th October 2015. _____

Zurich Insurance - advised that during the summer Budget the Chancellor has increased the insurance premium tax from 6% to 9.5% with effect from 1st November 2015. This will effect ongoing premiums. _____

Planning

P/2015/0909 - Erection of a 2 storey extension to include an annex at Pendre, Trefeitha - There was no objections by the Council _____

.Correspondence

Citizen Advice Bureau - Clerk received a letter requesting financial assistance , it was agreed by the Council that a donation would not be given. _____

External Audit Arrangements - Clerk received a letter to advise that the external audit would no longer be carried out by the BDO. The Audit General for Wales will become the statutory Auditor. The new arrangements will have a greater focus on governance with an extended Annual Governance Statement having a new section highlighting areas for review, , these themes will vary year to year, and will address concerns arising from audit findings. Cllr Thornton raised the issue of fees for the Council, it was advised that there would be changes to the audit fees, and an explanation could be found by logging on to the Wales Audit Office website. Clerk to find out more information. _____

Concurrent Functions and Village Hall Grants - Future funding - Clerk received a letter from Paul Griffiths, Strategic Director of Powys County Council, explaining that the Council is continuing to face extreme difficult financial challenges, both now and in the future, As we are facing ongoing pressures on the Council's budget, the Cabinet have concluded that the current Concurrent Function Scheme needs to be phased out over the next few years. The intention is to replace this with a different scheme which provides opportunities for all Town and Community Councils across the Country to access funding. Such funding will be subject to a growth bid that will be considered by the Council in time for financial year 2017-2018, in the meantime the scheme will remain the same, i.e. Councils will be able to apply for up to 50% funding , however the budget will be reduced by 50%. The Council propose to withdraw the grant for Village Halls through a damping down scheme which will conclude in the year 2017-2018, The Current grant will be reduced by 50% in 2016-2017, with the remaining 50%

grant being provided for 2017-2018, this will mean that the grant will cease to exist altogether from 2018-2019.

Once the Council has concluded discussions relating to Village Hall grants they will confirm their decision.

Clerk to Clarify the amount of funding that was received last year. _____

Powys Health & Well Being Action Group - Clerk received an update of the August /September meeting, Copies to be circulated to Cllr's not on the internet, email sent to others, FCC website has a page for the above group, which is updated when meetings occur .

Finance

Balance of Current Account :

Current £8096.54

Reserve £ 346.80

Income £ 475.00 _____

A.O.B

Chairwoman Cllr Jones express the concern of Miss Sian Phillips from the Old Post Office Felinfach, that the river gets its yearly dredging before the onset of winter, Clerk to contact the NRW .

Chairwoman's Business

Date for the next meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 18th November at Llandefalle Hall. 6.30pm

Signed.....Date.....