

Report to Meeting of Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council
Meeting- on Wednesday 11th June 2008.

From Cllr.Wynne Jones Elected Member Powys County Council.
Dolforwyn Ward.

Planning.

1. LDP Community Meetings (Draft Delivery Agreement)

The LDP Draft Delivery Agreement is currently out for consultation until mid-July. This sets out how we are going to prepare the new Local Development Plan and whom will involve in the process. In accordance with current regulations we are currently holding a round of Community Meetings on the LDP process. We have already visited Llandrindod, Brecon and Welshpool. The final meeting is in Newtown tomorrow night (19th) at Elephant & Castle Hotel 7.00pm. All are welcome.

We cannot start compilation of the LDP until we finish work on the current UDP and whether adopted or not, that is not expected until late in 2008, making it most likely that we shall begin work on LDP in January 2009.

2. New Community Centre at Abermule.

I have been contacted by the Evangelical Church regarding the intention to build a new Community Centre in Abermule (on the Kerry Road). Contact has also been made with Planning & Highways Dept at PCC. The proposed site is outside the Development Boundary of Abermule; I have informed the prospective applicants that I am opposed to the, development due to siting, highways and the fact that Abermule already has good Community facilities. I have suggested that they may wish to invest in the current facilities and enjoy use of them accordingly. No formal Planning Application has been submitted although I understand it is on the way.

Highways

1. Traffic Calming -Abermule.

I have not dates for the consultation at this time. However I can now present the draft proposals to the Community Council. There is no need to respond until the consultation period begins.

2. Railway Crossing at Abermule.

I still await a date for the site meeting from Network Rail.

3. Llandyssil Chapel Crossroads.

In spite of the work done there which has improved the junction considerably, there still in my opinion remains a problem with the hedge belonging to the adjacent property. Under the Highways Act the Council has limited powers to do anything about this and in my opinion the only way to finish this job off properly is to change priority at the junction. Officers have previously told us that they would be against this due to safety concerns. However, I have met with Officers over this recently and they are now prepared to re-consider their position. I therefore need the support of the Community Council on this and together I feel we stand a chance of getting this option considered.

4. Old Salt Dump

Powys County Council are considering possible future use of this piece of land, currently surplus to requirements. At present there is interest from the Montgomeryshire Canal Trust who are interested in developing it into a 'landing/launch' area for boats (with subsequent parking). I am greatly interested in this

development. However we must first of all consult with WAG Highways who may well object to the entrance. This item is therefore for information only.

General

1. Council Make-up.

Following the May 1st Elections we have seen many changes to Council representation. The makeup of Council is Powys independent Alliance 31, Lib Dems 15, Montgomeryshire Independents 13, Conservative 9 Labour 4. Therefore the Independents remain In control of the Council. The new Powys Independent Alliance was formed to create a new group that would host all Independent Members and it was hoped that by itself that group would have overall control, thus facilitating strong leadership of the Council. However this did not quite get there (need 37 for overall singular control). I have changed my membership from the Montgomeryshire Independents to the new Independent Alliance as I felt it was in the interest of the Council and my constituents for the Council to have form leadership and direction. This was a major political risk for me to take, but I am pleased to report that despite changing groups, I have been able to retain my position on the Board taking the enlarged portfolio of Development & Regeneration.

2. Llandyssil Village Hall.

As a result of my re-election back onto the Board, which again places me with responsibility for Grants, was to recommend the aware of £18,000 to Llandyssil Community Hall for Phase 1 of the Hall Improvement Plans. There will be a further award of £500 from the Montgomeryshire Trust Fund is due course. This is matching the fund raising done by the good people of Llandyssil to fund works to the value of £35,000 on the Hall.

It is hoped that the Management Trustees of the Hall will be in a position to make a further application for Phase 2 works early in 2009 ready for the first round awards in April 2009.

3. School re-inspection. Abermule School.

Last week the school hosted an Inspection Team from HM Inspectorate. This was a follow up to previous Inspection which had suggested that the school had weaknesses that needed to be addressed. I am delighted to inform you *that* the Inspectors were very pleased with what they found at Abermule School and were very complimentary of the school, its quality of teaching and learning and the entire ethos of *the school*.

4. Rights of Way.

Powys CC have received some grant funding from WAG towards work on the RofW improvement Plan in particular to joining up paths with road networks and other RofW. A consultant has been engaged to do this work and work on this was in fact started in Llandyssil area yesterday. This will tie In with the more extensive work we are hoping to have done late 2008/early 2009.

5. Post Office.

I will give an update on the situation relating to our Post Office in Abermule at the meeting. However the front page article in the County Times was misleading to say the least, and our Post office has not yet been saved.

Wynne Jones