

Report to Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council Meeting 22nd
April 2008.

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

1. Highways.

(a) Llandyssil Crossroads.

The work has been completed in this area and in my opinion the works have made a significant difference to the safety of this junction. I am aware that this is now leading to calls for similar improvements to the junction with the B Highway near Court Calmore and I am happy to move this forward accordingly. However there is a danger of raising public expectations here. The work at Chapel Crossroads was done from Highways Repairs Budget at end of year. To make improvements at Court Calmore junction will be much more difficult as the adjoining road is a classified highway and therefore all improvements have to meet regulation standards. This will mean that this will have to come from the Capital Budget and Capital Budget allocations run 3 years ahead.

(b) Street Lighting.

Members will be aware that we were looking at a scheme of partial street lighting achieved by turning off selected lights from 12.30 to 5.30am. However the energy crisis has somewhat overtook that process and with the Council facing a 45% increase in energy charges as from 1st April it is clear that partial night lighting will not achieve the required savings. Instead it is now proposed to turn off every other street light (other than those on major roads and core areas) completely. It was decided at today's Board meeting to carry out urgent consultation with T & Community Councils over the next 6 weeks with a view to then taking that action. The scheme would then be reviewed in a years time. The expected saving is £250,000 approx. I wish to solicit a discussion at tonight's meeting so that this CC can give its response ASAP.

(c) Traffic Calming Abermule.

The proposed scheme received approval at the Montgomeryshire Highways Sub Committee earlier this month and I have attached a diagram giving details of the proposed scheme. Public consultation will now be held here in Abermule in the next couple of months, prior to the scheme being finally approved.

2. Planning.

(a) Extension at Bryn Hafod. Cefycoed.

Unfortunately this application using straw bale technology is having to be withdrawn due to design considerations. However I have been actively involved in this issue and I am pleased to report that a solution has been found that should now allow an amended application to proceed and hopefully be successful. The amended application will come before you for consultation in due course.

(b) Application for Pig Farm at Cefn y Coed.
Nothing further to report at present.

(c) Development at BrynDerwen.

The issue of the new pavement extension has raised its head recently with our Highways Dept insisting on full street lighting to be installed. I have fought this as I do not feel this is required and the impact on the adjacent Dolyfelin properties who would find that they are lit from both sides. I have successfully prevailing in this instance and it has been agreed that the pavement extension will not be lit.

3. General.

(a) Post Office campaign.

The campaign continues and following the great support for the public meeting a similar response has been received in writing. There has been a further meeting with the Post Office, Pauline & Peter and myself when new proposals were offered by Post Office. Unfortunately they were not acceptable. I have formally requested the Post office to halt the consultation process on the basis that it is flawed and have also requested Postwatch to intervene for that same reason. I remain hopeful that we shall be successful in saving Abermule Post Office.

May I conclude by thanking the Members of Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council for their work for the Community and for the excellent working relationship that has been established with my self as your County Councillor. Working together we have come a long way in the last 4 years or so, and I feel that the people of Abermule with Llandyssil are rightly reaping the benefits of that working relationship. May I wish those who are leaving the Council well and say that I hope that the newly elected members will work to maintain and even enhance the work of this excellent Community Council May I conclude by thanking your Chairperson for the huge part she has played in taking the Council forward, in spite of very difficult circumstances that have prevailed. The Community and this Council owe her a debt of gratitude for her unstinting work, her effort and her leadership.

Wynne Jones
Elected Member Powys CC – Dolforwyn Ward.