

18th April, 2018

Minutes of the Gilfach Iago Working party meeting held at the Council Offices, High Street, Llandybie on Wednesday, 18th April, 2018 at 4.30 p.m.

Present

Councillors	P.H. Roberts	Mrs S. E. Thomas	Mrs K.D. L Davies
	Mrs J.E. Collins	C.J. Harris	

Apologies	N. Evans	A. Davies	I.RH. Llewelyn
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258.

Gilfach Iago OCCS

The meeting was also attended by Steve Murphy and Hugh Towns of Carmarthenshire County Council, together with Will Watson and Rob Thompson of Celtic Energy.

The meeting commenced with a site visit to various locations bordering the Gilfach Iago OCCS and then all parties reconvened at the Chamber.

Mr Watson informed Members that having now seen the site he was of the view that reinstating the roads after 20 years would be difficult and that Celtic Energy currently had no legal right to reinstate as they do not own some of the land involved. Any previous offer made to the Community Council was therefore withdrawn, and he could not confirm that the offer had been discussed by the Board of Directors of Celtic Energy. The representatives of Carmarthenshire County Council reminded Members of the various planning applications submitted by Celtic Energy and their non compliance.

Steve Murphy informed the Members that Carmarthenshire County Council had undertaken two consultation exercises with the land owners asking them to consider diversion orders which could potentially allow reinstatement if all the owners had agreed. On the most recent consultation there had been some dissenting voices and therefore diversion was currently not possible. A further consultation exercise could be considered.

Mr Watson reiterated that he was keen to settle this case, and that his preference would be financial compensation. However, he would only be prepared to start negotiating if Llandybie Community Council withdraw their demands for reinstatement of roads, paths and bridleways. He raised concerns that the Community Council had arranged for legal representation at the meeting, but was reminded that Steve Murphy was not representing the Community Council, but acting as the legal representative of Carmarthenshire County Council. He suggested that in future, Celtic Energy may need to be legally represented at these meetings and that his preference would be to deal with one body in any negotiation exercise.

The representatives from Carmarthenshire County Council agreed to review their file and report back to the Community Council before the next scheduled meeting with Celtic Energy on the 16th May 2018.

259.

As there was nothing further to discuss the meeting closed at 6.50 pm.

Chair