

Brecknock Play Network
Hirnant
Soar
Brecon
Powys
LD3 9LT



Shane Thomas
Member Support Manager
Brecknockshire Committee
Powys County Council
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15/12/2017

Dear Shane,

I write further to e-mail contact from Nick Venti of PAVO (on our behalf) and members of the Shire Committee, concerning potential amendments to the Brecknock Play Network constitution and the representation of Powys County Council on the Executive Committee of the Network.

The Brecknock Play Network is a registered charity (No.1044660) that was set up in 2003 as a representative body for those either active or interested in developing opportunities for children's play in Brecknockshire. The governing document of the charity has a provision for two types of membership within the Network – representative members, sent by organisations, who have full voting rights, and individual members who have no voting rights. In addition, the Executive Committee of the charity has the provision for two members to be nominated by the old Shire District Council, and two from Powys County Council.

Unfortunately, over the years, representation from organisations dried up and both the district and local authority ceased to nominate trustees to the Executive Committee of the charity – which notwithstanding continued to operate. Following recent communications with PAVO, this governance issue was pointed out to us and advice was sought from the Charity Commission concerning how to rectify the situation. At an AGM held on the 6th December, we were able to recruit new representative members to the charity, who have agreed to be members of the Executive Committee of the charity, with a view to changing the constitution to allow all members to have both a vote and to be eligible to sit on the Executive Committee.

I am writing to you now to ask for assistance from the Shire Committee in the form of nominating representatives to our Executive Committee, as per the terms of the present constitution. The first meeting of the new committee will take place on the 6th February at 6.15pm at St John's Family Centre, Pendre Close, Pendre, Brecon, LD3 9EA and will consider the proposed amendments highlighted on the enclosed constitution, ahead of the calling of an EGM of the membership. We are informed by Nick Venti, that in order to be able to change the clause concerning the right to nominate members to the Executive Committee, we will need to obtain a letter of consent from you. This consent will then be sent to the Charity Commission, along with the amended constitution.

We would be very grateful to receive the support of members of the Shire Committee for this transition phase, and ideally would like to retain representation from PCC on the Play Network going forward. We would therefore welcome the thoughts of the Shire Committee on whether councillors wish to maintain the right to nominate one or more of their number, to be either members of the Executive Committee, or simply members of the Network. Just to clarify, members of the Executive Committee would officially be trustees of the charity, and registered as such with the Charity Commission.

I enclose a copy of the latest annual report of the Network produced for the recent AGM, which I hope will give a flavour of the nature of the play activities that the Play Network supports. We are keen to continue our work in the Brecknockshire communities and feel that we provide a much needed service, especially in those communities which struggle with deprivation and social isolation.

Please accept my thanks in advance for your consideration of this matter at your forthcoming meeting in January. I hope that two councillors will be able to join with the other members of the new Executive Committee on the 6th of February.

Best Wishes,

Penny Morgan
Chair
Brecknock Play Network