

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 14TH FEBRUARY 2019

Present: Councillors:
K Evans (Chair)
M Beattie
S George
K Haddow
B Harris
P Lewis
P Murphy
K Swift

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council

M4773 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillor Counsell

M4774 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor Evans	Caerwent Historic Trust	Trustee
Councillor Murphy	Caerwent Community Centre	Trustee
Councillor Murphy	All planning applications	Member of MCC Planning Committee

M4775 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public present.

M4776 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

M4777 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10th JANUARY 2019

These were agreed with the following amendment:

p. 5 M4770 Highways
To consider report from Councillor Swift regarding speed of traffic in Crick

Third sentence should read:

"There is a possibility of a Vehicle Activated Speed sign being installed, as per Welsh Government guidance,"

M4778 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

There was no police report.

M4779 LONELINESS AND SOCIAL ISOLATION PRESENTATION

Rachel Rawlings/Joe Skidmore, Community & Partnership Development Team, MCC

The Chair welcomed Rachel and Joe to our meeting. Joe stated that MCC is the only Council in Wales to have a Cabinet Member for Social Justice. Loneliness and Social Isolation is an issue that can affect anyone at any age or stage of their lives. Feelings of loneliness have been shown to have wide-ranging consequences for those affected and have been shown to lead to depression across all ages.

They are developing a social justice plan where everyone has the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships regardless of age, status, circumstance or identity. It will seek to articulate a vision of the kind of Monmouthshire where community connections are increased and no one is excluded from participating in society for any reason. Whilst the local authority has an important role to play in creating the conditions for change to happen, everyone has a responsibility to help tackle loneliness and social isolation. MCC are committed to empowering communities to lead in this area.

Their team are currently in the process of mapping out what provision is currently available and they are looking to us to provide them with this information. Once this has been completed they will target where resources are required. The Clerk will collate a response.

Councillor George suggested that rural transport plays a large part in social exclusion. He also suggested that all schools should be consulted on this plan. Rachel informed the Council that MCC have already put in a bid to Govtech regarding rural transport and digital isolation. Councillor Swift was concerned about the lack of any volunteers and leaders for any projects. Councillors were encouraged to fill in the surveys which were handed out to help to shape the direction that the plan takes in informing local policy and partnership delivery.

M4780 PLANNING

2019/00104 Manor Farm, St Brides Netherwent

Redesign of the extension granted under application DC/2007/01159

This Council recommends ***Approval***

2019/00075 Civic Amenity Site, Fives Lanes

Addition of two extensions to existing waste transfer building to facilitate the storage of separately collected materials from household collections.

Development of two covered bays in waste transfer area for tipping and storage of glass and plasterboard.

This Council recommends ***Approval***

2019/00103 Blackthorn House, Burton Villas, Caerwent

Alterations and Extension

This application had been withdrawn.

To consider any planning applications received after despatch of agenda

There were no further planning applications

It was reported that the tarpaulin had been replaced on Caerwent House. Contractors will be on site next week.

To note monthly enforcement lists

Council noted that there was no mention of the fence at 3 Canon Lane although we and the County Councillor had reported it. This had been chased.

M4781 CAERWENT PLAYING FIELDS PLAY AREA**To consider quotes received regarding equipment/surfacing**

Council considered and agreed that these were too expensive.

To consider request from the Caerwent Playing Fields Association that the Basket Swing with Surfacing be installed at a cost of £3990.00 with the funding supplied by the CPFA

Council agreed

M4782 TRANSFER/LEASE OF VILLAGE HALL**To consider Asbestos Survey**

Council noted that there was no immediate action to be taken.

To consider Drainage Survey

Council agreed that it was not very clear what the recommendations were. Agreed that we write back asking them to clarify and also to give us an idea of possible costs.

The Condition Survey had been sent by Councillor Murphy to an Officer in MCC to seek their views but he had received no response as yet. He agreed to chase this.

Clerk was asked to re-instate contact with Solicitor now.

M4783 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTHSHIRE**To note report and recommendations from the Boundary Commission for Wales**

Council noted that The Commission has proposed amendments to our proposal based upon the existing electorate levels rather than projected increases. The Caerwent Community Council electoral arrangements will therefore be:

Caerwent	3 Councillors
Crick	1 Councillor
Dinham	1 Councillor
Llanfair Discoed	1 Councillor
St Brides Netherwent	1 Councillor

Our proposal that the ward name for Dinham be retained was approved.

M4784 RECYCLING CHANGES IN MONMOUTHSHIRE**To consider queries received**

Numerous queries had been received. They had been answered by Officers at MCC.

M4785 PROVISION OF DEFIBRILLATOR AT CAERWENT VILLAGE HALL**To consider provision**

Council agreed to seek advice from The Lions as to whether funding will be available for an external defibrillator at the Village Hall and if so to go ahead with the installation. Council agreed to fund the cost of a cabinet. Councillor Haddow will progress this.

Queries had been received regarding the internal siting of the defibrillator at the Coach & Horses pub. Agreed that it would be preferable for it to be placed externally

with 24 hour access. Councillor Haddow will contact the pub Landlords to discuss this.

M4786 CAERWENT LITTER CHAMPIONS

Councillor Harris to report on progress

Councillor Harris reported that he now has 5/6 villagers interested in taking part. He had drawn up a risk assessment document, approved by the Council, which had been sent to Keep Wales Tidy. He is hoping for a Spring/Summer launch. He believes that the insurance costs could be approximately £105 per annum. Council agreed to cover this. Councillor Swift advised that he talk to Keep Wales Tidy as the insurance could be free in the first year and also that he seek advice regarding setting up a constituted group.

M4787 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

CLERK'S REPORT

Dog Fouling

Councillors reported that dog bins are now being regularly emptied. Clerk had requested more dog bags but there could be a delay in supplying these.

War Memorial Improvements

Contractor has confirmed that they will start work in early March (weather permitting). Informed the paving contractor and he will slot in when he can (booked up until May now). Clerk will enquire of the church if our four plant boxes could be stored in their field temporarily whilst works take place.

Grant – Broadband Infrastructure

No further progress.

Wedding Booking – 24th August 2019

This booking is no longer required – they have booked elsewhere.

Defibrillator, Caerwent Community Centre

Daytime training sessions had been held. An evening session has been arranged for Thursday 11th April at 7.00 p.m.

Education Award

Councillors will carry out the judging on Friday 1st March, 7.00 p.m., in the Burton Homes Hall. Councillors George and Haddow will collect the entries. Clerk will contact the schools to query the prizing structure and how many would they want issuing.

1 Trewen

The extension at the moment is in line with the approved drawings. Enforcement have the same concerns as us regarding the potential to expand outside their curtilage but they have been informed by the owner that they will not do so. The temporary fencing will be removed shortly. Enforcement will keep a watching brief.

Dinham Ward Vacancy

Currently no applications. Clerk will contact any previously interested candidates.

Trees – 3 Cadoc Close

MCC again reported that no pruning is required to the tree at the front of the property. Informed the resident.

Barrier Services

Barrier Services have no plans at all to expand. Councillor Murphy had passed this information on to the concerned resident.

Large Poppies

British Legion Chepstow had contacted the Clerk to enquire if we require any poppies for this year. A request for 50 had been made.

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

509 members, large increase from last month.

Issues regarding traffic at Post Office and recycling.

Promotion of the No 75 bus service.

Re-confirmed that new businesses to the area can post once only.

PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT

Still waiting for balance log beam to be replaced.

M4789 CORRESPONDENCE

Living Levels Newsletter

Welsh Assembly – introducing 16 year old voting and change of name to Parliament

M4790 FINANCE

To consider balances/payment and approval as per finance schedule dated February 2019

Balances as at 30th January:

Moneymaster Account	£13,083.80
Community Account	£16,603.91
Petty Cash	£110.86

Clerk's Salary, Allowances, Mileage (16)	as per NALC scales	
Inland Revenue	NI employer/employee	£69.70
Torfaen Pension Fund	employer	£194.43
	employee	£53.46

One Voice Wales (training course)	£40.00
One Voice Wales subscription	£288.00
M Beattie (mileage for out of area travel council business)	£35.55

MCC (Playscheme 18/19)	£540.00
(LG Misc Provisions) Act 1976, s.19)	
Aardvarc Cleaning (toilets)	£290.00
(Public Health Act 1936, s.87)	
Merlin Waste (dog bins)	£150.00
(Litter Act 1983, ss 5.6)	
City Illuminations (Xmas tree lighting)	£840.00
(LGA 1972, S.144)	
Santia (Asbestos Survey)	£479.40
(LGA 1972, s133)	

Claimed VAT refund of £755.92 for 2017/18.

Applied for our annual £1200 grant towards upkeep of the toilets.

Precept of £56,000 for 2019/20 has been confirmed by MCC.

An application form for £250 funding had been received from the Caerwent Historic Trust for a magnetometer survey of field edge at outpost of Llanmelin Hillfort. Intend to use result to build support for a larger community based archaeological study at Llanmelin.

Council agreed, that as this enhances local historical links, to award the £250 requested. Council noted that The Historic Trust have also applied for £400 from the Welsh Church Fund – agreed that if there is a shortfall from the church fund that we would aid them further up to the amount required.

Wales Audit Office

Council to note reports regarding Financial Management/Governance and Internal Audit

Council noted the Auditor General's conclusions.

M4791 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

To consider proposal that Green Lane from the crossroads to Blackthorn House be recommended to Highways as a 20 m.p.h. route.

Motion amended to:

To consider proposal that Caerwent Road, from the crossroads to the A48 west junction, be recommended to Highways as a 20 m.p.h. route.

Council agreed to amendment

Council agreed that Councillor Harris seek a site meeting with either Paul Keeble or Graham Kinsella from Highways.

To report any highways/rights of way issues

St Tathan's road surfacing still not dealt with. Councillor Murphy will check on this.

Pot holes on Carrow Hill, Five Lanes, Old Shirenewton Road and junctions of Crick Road and Shirenewton Road.

Regarding the grass verge at the junction of the A48 and Five Lanes, an Officer of MCC would like to meet a Council member on site who can explain the history and reasoning. Councillor Swift agreed to search out the decision from MCC and then meet up with him.

M4792 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Community Centre had received an application for Magor Scouts to book the Centre for an overnight indoor camp on 23rd February in order to obtain their Silver Dragon's Award. There will be approx 30 people in the group (both scouts and leaders). There will be no outside or late activities. The Chair of the Committee had confirmed that all insurances and safeguarding policies are in place.

M4793 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Councillors to inform Clerk.

Chair Date