

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
14th DECEMBER 2023

Present: Councillor P Murphy (by video conferencing)
Councillor M John
Councillor K Swift
Councillor J Guscott
Councillor E Sherwood

Also Present Mrs Anne-Marie Spooner (Clerk to the Community Council)

Three Members of the Public

M4328 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Evans and Dalton

M4329 CHAIRPERSON

It was agreed that Councillor John would chair for the purposes of the meeting.

M4330 15 MINUTES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was discussion about enforcement notices. In the past Council received confidential notice via email from MCC of proposed or concluded enforcement issues.

This procedure has been stopped.

Clerk to email MCC enforcement officer to enquire on progress in receiving notices again.

There were also further discussions about whether members of the public could speak at the next Planning Meeting.

M4331 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 9TH NOVEMBER 2023

Council noted that these have been approved remotely and posted on the website.

M4332 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor P Murphy	MCC Planning Committee	Chairperson
Councillor M John	Standards Committee MCC	Member
Councillor K Swift	Crick Community Group	Member

M4333 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

Council agreed that the content of the report had improved.

It was noted that crime reports were relatively low in the ward area. There had been a theft of a motor vehicle for which there had been an arrest. There was also one drug offence in which a small quantity of cannabis had been found on a person.

Clerk to email officers informing them of visits in the New Year by “Safer Neighbourhoods” and the Deputy Crime Commissioner.

Clerk will also clarify that the Police Reports cover Crick and Llanvair Discoed

M4334 PLANNING

DM/2023/01551

**Householder
Granny Annex
Lingfield Cottage
Road From A48 To Dewstow Road
Fives Lanes
Caerwent
Monmouthshire
NP26 5PQ**

Council recommends Refusal

Proposed building too large and being a double storey thought to be not in keeping with the local area.

DM/2023/01042

Change of use from agriculture to land for the keeping of horses (retrospective) proposed erection of stable block for 5 horses, erection of ancillary storage building, construction of manege.

**Land North West Of Holly Lodge
Road From A48 To Dewstow Road
Fives Lanes
Caerwent
Monmouthshire**

Council Recommends Refusal

All previous comments still stand including disposal of horse waste

DM/2023/01655 27

Fast Track Listed Building Consent

Phase 1: Urgently remove remaining roof tiles and store safely,

Phase II: Repair and restore roof construction and walls.

Phase III: Replace tiles, supplementing as necessary.

**Penhein House
Llanvair Discoed To Cwm Mill
Llanfair Discoed
Monmouthshire
NP16 6RB**

Council Recommends Approval

To consider any planning applications received after despatch of agenda

DM/2023/01584

Planning Permission

Demolition of existing 3 bedroom bungalow, and the erection of a new 4 bedroom house with detached garage and stable (only for temporary use for hospitalisation)

Lleoliad/Location: Oakdene

Road From A48 To Dewstow Road

Fives Lanes

Caerwent

Monmouthshire

NP26 5PG

Council to request an extension as have had insufficient time to consider.

M4335 TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES FOR ROMAN ROAD AT EAST GATE.

A site meeting was held with Phaedra Cleary Engineer MCC and it was decided that two new electronic signs be sited on Roman Road at the East Gate end. The signs have been ordered and work is likely to in March 2024. Council have requested that the electronic sign on the East Gate entrance to Caerwent be removed or “toned down.” It was also suggested that the electronic sign at Canon Way be replaced and weight limit restrictions be placed on Roman Road through Caerwent due to heavy Lorries and volume of traffic.

The council have also been informed that the proposed alterations to the East Gate bus stop have been agreed and should also be completed by March 2024

M4336 TO DISCUSS DONATIONS GIVEN TO LOCAL GROUPS BY THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

It was agreed that donations to groups should be more fairly distributed and amounts would be discussed in the next precept meeting and to be noted by council.

M4337 TO SET UP A TASK AND FINISH GROUP WHO WILL COMPLETE THE SELF ASSESSMENT OF THE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL TOOLKIT

Councillor K Swift and Councillor E Sherwood agreed to form the group with the Clerk. Meeting to be arranged in the New Year.

M4338 TO REVIEW PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS IN RELATION TO OUR INSURANCE POLICY

It was agreed for the clerk to contact the Operations Manager for Grounds and Cleansing as to the regularity of inspections and who should be performing the annual inspection which is different to the operational inspections.

Council also asked whether MCC inspections could be carried out quarterly as opposed to monthly which would still be in line with the insurance policy.

M4339 TO CONSIDER PLANTING A LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE AT CAERWENT CROSSROADS

This had been suggested by a member of the public, but it would not be possible at the current site as the land belongs to CADW.

M4340 TO DISCUSS THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED TRAVELLER SITES AT CRICK

It was discussed and decided that the council would object to all three sites as they all impinge on our area.

M4341 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Clerk's Report

Social Media Report

Play Area Inspection Report

Clerk's Report December 2023

Time Capsule plaques, War Memorial

No further updates

Community Survey

No further updates

Highmoor Hill Phone Box

Clerk has contacted BT regarding possibly selling the phonebox. A response has been circulated to councillors. Residents to be informed.

Police Report

Clerk has contacted the Police Commissioner for Gwent to arrange a possible meeting with the community council. A number of topic areas have been supplied by councillors and as the Commissioner is on sick leave at present, the Deputy Commissioner will attend our meeting in March.

Clerk has contacted "We Don't Buy Crime" Safer Neighbourhoods Team and they are going to be attending the Community Council meeting in January. Our new PCSO has sent a crime report.

Handyman Report

The small children's climbing frame at Llanvair Discoed has been strengthened at a cost of £25.87

The rotting horizontal beam now has a rusty nail exposed.

Clerk has forwarded report again to MCC who have apologised for the delay as the initial quotes were approved in the Summer.

Beam has now been attended to. Quote requested for torn mat under swing. MCC play area inspection report has been circulated for information.

Speedwatch

There are no further updates on this.

Dog Fouling

Clerk has ordered 50 free dog poo bag dispensers which attach to dog leads. A few will be left at the Post Office after Christmas. New report of serious dog fouling in the corner of the Playing Fields. Clerk to inform Sue Parkinson.

Litter Bins

Clerk has requested a litter bin for Crick

Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree is in place and lights in situ. Very much an improvement on last year.

Wreath placed on cenotaph

Noise Levels MOD

For the period Monday 04 Dec 2023 to Sunday 07 Jan 2024.

The level of Gun fire and Noise Activity will be as follows:

From	To	NOISE LEVEL
Monday 04 Dec 2023	Sunday 10 Dec 2023	Medium
Monday 11 Dec 2023	Sunday 17 Dec 2023	Medium
Monday 18 Dec 2023	Sunday 24 Dec 2023	low
Monday 25 Dec 2023	Sunday 01 Jan 2024	low
Monday 02 Jan 2024	Sunday 07 Jan 2024	Low

There will be Helicopter use throughout the whole month.

Meeting with MOD for the 14th December has been cancelled. To be rearranged for the new year.

Highways

Large pothole on road in front of the Burton Homes. Clerk has reported to Highways and it has been filled in.

Road island sign has come adrift and lying on the green verge next to Dinham Road. Clerk has reported.

Social Media Report

Complaints about speeding through the village and A48

Notification about café closure

Lost property

Issues with delivery of parcels.

Notification of gypsy and traveller consultation

Church and Chapel notifications

M4342 To consider balances/payments approval as per financial schedule dated DECEMBER 2023

FINANCE/INVOICES TO BE PAID – DECEMBER 2023

Balances as at Charitable Bank	£ 8,439.31
Business Money Manager	£ 7,574.36
Clerk's Salary, Allowances HMRC (includes back pay)	As per Clerk Salary scales £353.80
Aardvark	£325.00
Merlin Environmental	£470.40
Handyman	£70.67
Handyman Visual Inspections	£73.44
British Gas	£20.40
Christmas Tree	£1008.00
Christmas Parties CPFA	£400.00
Welsh Water	£514.18
Any invoices received after despatch of agenda:	
.....
Bank Charges	£5.00
.....

It was agreed to pay the above accounts:

M4343 CORRESPONDENCE

- Roadworks Reports**
- Adopt a Kiosk BT**
- Highways re Footpath at Playing Fields**
- Monmouthshire Meadows**
- MCC Play Inspections**
- Local Transport Plan Consultation**
- Section 137 Expenditure Limit 2024/2025#**
- Sevenside Speed/Vol data**

M4344 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Councillor Sherwood reported that there is a sign on the A48 which does not look fully secure and is moving about in the wind. Clerk to report.

Also Clerk to enquire as to the progress of double yellow lines and other traffic management solutions which are needed at Dinham Ward.

There are still some issues at Crick in front of the garage where there is parking of cars causing difficulties in accessing the footpath and cycle track. Clerk to enquire whether there has been any progress since the last site meeting.

Clerk reported there were many complaints from residents about the volume of traffic through Caerwent village. A request has already been made in regard to weight restrictions.

M4345 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

There were no representative reports.

M4346 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Volume of traffic in Caerwent

Grant for Dinham Ward

Safer Neighbourhoods

Crick Road

The meeting finished at 9pm

clerk@caerwentcc.com