

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
13th July 2023

Present:

Councillors:
P Murphy
M John
K Evans
K Swift
P Dalton
J Guscott

Also Present: AM Spooner (Clerk to the Council)

M4161 APOLOGIES:

There were no apologies

M4162 DECLARATION OF INTEREST ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor P Murphy	MCC Planning Committee	Chairperson
Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Historic Trust	Trustee
Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Village Hall	Booking Clerk
Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Community Centre	Booking Clerk
Councillor M John	Standards Committee MCC	Member
Councillor P Dalton	Caerwent Football Club	Football Coach
Councillor P Dalton	Llais (Formerly CHC)	Appointed Auditor

M4163 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8th June 2023

These had been agreed remotely for accuracy and posted on the Council website.

M4164 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

M4165 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

There was no police report.

Councillor Murphy has contacted Inspector Ioan Williams requesting reengagement with the local police.

Councillor Swift wondered if we could liaise with local councils as to creating a drop-in centre with the police.

Councillor Murphy to also contact police regarding perceived drug use in the area.

M4166 UPDATE ON FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS AT CAERWENT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor Murphy explained that the Centre camera is due to be repaired this week.

We should also have a trial evening again with IT equipment before the next meeting.

If this is successful, face to face meetings can resume at the Community Centre in September

M4167 VACANCY DINHAM WARD

Council interviewed the candidate for Dinham ward which was successful.

Clerk to meet with successful candidate to sign declaration of acceptance of office.

M4168 PLANNING

DM/2023/00822

Rear single storey extension and pitched roof over extension and existing single storey kitchen.

**The Laurels
Caerwent Road
Caerwent
Caldicot
Monmouthshire
NP26 5AY**

The Council recommends approval.

To consider any planning applications received after despatch of the Agenda

DM/2023/00885

Overhang to existing shed

**1, Five Lanes Cottages,
A48 Tabernacle Church to Crick
Caerwent
NP26 5PD**

The Council recommends approval.

DM/2023/00860

Mod or Removal of Condition

Renewal of previous approved application of 20th November 2020. No changes to plans just an extension of time for extension works. Work to demolish existing glass conservatory. Construction of rear single storey pitched roof extension, and first floor pitched roof extension over existing garage. rendering to upper part of elevations.

3 Canon Lane

**Caerwent
Caldicot
Monmouthshire
NP26 4QQ**

The Council recommends approval.

DM/2023/00902

Planning Permission

Changing the existing usage of the old Parlour Barn at Lower House Farm via agricultural diversification to a community shop (old bulk tank room) and a community studio (main parlour building). No extension is proposed with the physical works consisting of making good and altering the fenestration of the building.

**Lower House Farm
Road From Dovecote Barn To A48
Llanfair Discoed
Monmouthshire
NP16 6LX**

The Council recommends approval in principle.
Would like to see more detailed plans and description of materials of external finishes as to whether they are in keeping with the local area.

M4169 TO NOTE AND DISCUSS RESIDENTS' CONCERNS OF TRAFFIC SPEEDING THROUGH CAERWENT

These were noted.

Councillor Murphy has been in contact with MCC officers who are drawing up plans for a "build out/priority lane arrangement "on the road at East gate.

Clerk to investigate further the Community Speed watch programme with other community councils and Chepstow police.

M4170 TO AGREE AND ADOPT A VISION AND PURPOSE STATEMENT FOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Council agreed on the proposed statement with some minor alterations to the wording.

M4171 TO DISCUSS REQUEST FOR CHARITY DOG SHOW AT CAERWENT PLAYING FIELDS

Council agreed to it in principle but would like further assurances from CPFA that the event would not compromise rules regarding dogs on the playing fields.

M4172 TO FURTHER REVIEW UPKEEP OF TRAIL AND BORDERING EDGES OF CAERWENT PLAYING FIELDS

Councillor Guscott has been in discussions with Alan Stealey of Caerwent Meadows with a view to planting Heliotrope in October. Also, Lavender and Rosemary cuttings could be planted in the island beds.

There have been a few complaints from residents about hanging boughs from trees bordering the fences. Owners are allowed to prune overhanging branches, but it maybe the canopies on some trees need attention. Council will look at the most recent tree survey and this will be an agenda item for the September meeting.

M4173 TO NOTE RESULTS OF PARTICIPATORY VOTE FOR COMMUNITY FUND AT LAWRENCE CRESCENT

There have been no further updates.

**M4174. UPDATE ON INSURANCE COVER FOR VILLAGE HALL AT CAERWENT
To discuss recent insurance documents forwarded by Caerwent Playing Fields Association**

Council noted contents.

M4175 TO REVIEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR HANDYMAN

Council agreed to consider an increase in hourly rate of pay.

M4176 TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Council discussed our current use of the Facebook page.

It was agreed that any comments from the council be agreed and posted via the clerk to the council.

M4177 TO NOTE AND DISCUSS RECENT VANDALISM AT CAERWENT PUBLIC TOILETS

There was a discussion about the security at the toilets, but that nothing new could be put in place. The police have been informed. However, it was felt that when the houses opposite are occupied it may improve matters.

M4178 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Clerk's Report
Social Media Report
Play Areas Inspection Report

Clerks Report July 2023

Time Capsule plaques, War Memorial

No further updates

Community Survey

No further progress

Highmoor Hill Phone Box

No further updates. Email sent regarding any progress.

Police Report

Clerk attended Clerk Quarterly meeting held in Usk.

A report on the work of Gwent Police was given by the Police Commissioner for Gwent and the Chief Superintendent for Gwent Police.
The lack of Police Reporting for Caerwent was reported and it was promised it would be investigated.

Community Grant Agenda Item

Caerwent Playing Fields Agenda Item

Defibrillators

Checks have been completed at Caerwent Playing Fields Village Hall and Community Centre as per the Circuit.
Residents who live in the Cwm near Shirenewton would like to have a defibrillator in their area. Clerk to research how we can assist them with this.

Ladies Toilets

Clerk has completed annual check of ceiling for asbestos which appears to be intact, and no action required.

Mens Toilets

Clerk has contacted Insurance Company with quote for toilet damage.

Handyman Report

Visual Inspections Carried out on the 19th 25th June and 1st and 8th July
No issues apart from Adventure Trail
Some painting jobs required. Clerk to approach Handyman.

Meetings with William Pike Training Officer at Dinham

Shirenewton Community Council have forwarded some dates for July.
Meeting arranged for July 28th at 10.am

Litter Champions

Group have decided to hold a litter picking focus day to maximise impact.
Litter picking efforts are being recorded on Keep Wales Tidy Epicollect.

Highways

Clerk has contacted Gwent Police regarding the setting up of a Community Speedwatch group.
Overgrowth of verge at field next to Eastgate has been reported

Noise Notice

For the period Monday 03rd July 2023 to Sunday 30th July 2023.

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

Monday 03rd July 2023 to Sunday 09th July 2023. Low.
Monday 10th July to Sunday 16th July 2023. Low.
Monday 17th July to Sunday 23rd July 2023. Medium
Monday 24th July to Sunday 30th July 2023. Medium

There will be Helicopter use throughout the whole month.

Social Media Report

Traffic In Caerwent
 Caerwent Meadows Event
 Summer Fayre
 Article in Wales Online
 Dog Poo signs
 Crane Visit to Caerwent
 Trees at Caerwent Playing Fields
 Lack of police presence
 Church and Chapel notices
 Vandalism at Caerwent Toilets
 Firework Display at Caerwent Playing Fields
 General concerns of overgrown verges

M4179 Finance

**To consider balances/payments and approval as per finance schedule
 Dated June 2023**

FINANCE/INVOICES TO BE PAID JULY 2023

Balances as at 30TH June 2023

Charitable Account	£ 19,948.57
Business Account	£ 7,503.49
Clerks Salary	as per NACL scales
National Insurance	£10.27
HMRC	£226.80
Merlin Environmental	£ 588.00
Handyman maintenance of benches	£205.56
Handyman tree sapling work	£13.36
Handyman general maintenance	£67.74
Welsh Water	£562.69
Aardvark	
£218.00	
Bank Charges	£5.00
Llanvair Landscapes	£768.00

To receive and note quarterly budget figures

Council noted and approved

M4180 CORRESPONDENCE

MCC Roadworks Report
Notification of Road Closure at Crick
Churchwarden regarding reinstallation of Porch trusses
Ramblers Cymru
Events from Planning Aid Wales
MCC Monthly Playground Report
RBL Councillor Network
Gwent Police response to vandalism report
One Voice Wales Invitation to Annual Meeting
Sustainable Drainage Feasibility Grant.

M4181 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Councillor Swift attended the Monmouth/Newport Area committee meeting for One Voice Wales on the 6th of July 2023

Topics for discussion included: -

Public Service Boards

Future Generation Surveys

Defibrillators

Areas of Natural Outstanding Beauty

Councillor Murphy discussed the trial of a “Patching Pro” vehicle in the area which hopes to improve the repair of potholes.

M4182 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Councillors to report any issues.

The speed sign at Caerwent Brook has not been replaced. Clerk to enquire.

Hemlock has been identified at CADW barns.

Lorries continue to drive through Village.

The Fly tipping at Crick has increased. Clerk to report.

Concerns about pathway from Playing Fields to Caldicot Road.

Possible danger to young children running through onto the road.

Clerk to enquire about a possible gate/barrier.

There is still tarmac on the side of the road near the Burton Homes. Clerk to report again.

M4183 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Christmas Tree

Community Grant

Tree Survey

Discussions at MOD meeting
Community Speed Watch Information