

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2024

Present: Councillors P Murphy
M John (Chair)
K Evans
P Dalton

Also Present: Three Members Of The Public
Mrs AM Spooner (Clerk)

M4126 APOLOGIES
Councillor K Swift Illness
Councillor E Sherwood Other Commitment
Councillor J Guscott Injury

M4127 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor P Murphy	Caerwent Community Centre	Trustee
Councillor P Murphy	MCC Planning Committee	Chairperson
Councillor M John	Standards Committee MCC	Member
Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Historic Trust	Trustee
Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Village Hall	Booking Clerk

M4128 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor John expressed his concerns on behalf of the Community Council for Councillor K Swift in her illness and wished her a speedy recovery.

Councillor John explained that he had attended the RLDP online meeting for Community and Town Councils.

During the meeting he raised concerns about traffic, in particular, the effect of the proposed developments on roads at Crick and Caerwent which already have issues.

He also expressed concerns over the proposed development off St Lawrence Road, Chepstow, which will impact roads around which are already heavily congested.

Councillor John was also able to comment on the positive aspect of affordable homes being provided in the local area under the proposed RLDP.

M4129 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10TH OCTOBER 2024

These had been approved remotely and will be published on the Website.

M4130 POLICE REPORT

Council noted the improved content of the latest Police Report.

There were eight reported incidents. These included:-

Violence Without Injury 3
Violence With Injury 2
Criminal Damage and Arson 1
Public Order Offences 1
Vehicle Crime 1

The reports of Violence with Injury were relatively minor where a victim had been shot with a BB gun. The gun had been seized and destroyed and there was no further action.

The Public Order Offence involved “low level” verbal threats person to person.

The vehicle incident involved a driver failing to stop. The driver was later arrested.

M4131 15 MINUTES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Three members of the public joined the meeting to discuss their disappointment and concerns with the appeal result of the planning application DM/2023/01042 and previous enforcements at the land which have not been adhered to.

Action: Councillor M John agree to contact the Planning Department of Monmouthshire County Council.

M4132 PLANNING

DM/2024/01183

Dormer to Garage roof

31 Merton Green

Caerwent

Monmouthshire

NP26 5AT

This was a reconsultation and the council have already recommended approval.

DM/2024/01327

Proposed earth banked slurry store to comply with The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021, Slough Farm,

Caerwent,

Caldicot,

Monmouthshire

NP26 5NW

The council recommends approval

**DM/2024/01257
Ifton Crest
Quarry Road
Dewstow
Caerwent
Monmouthshire
NP26 5AH**

The council recommends approval

M4133 FINANCE

i) To consider balances/payments approval as per financial schedule dated NOVEMBER 2024

These were approved and will be minuted.

Bills November 2024

Balances at 31 st October	
Charitable	£15,807.90
Business	£7,687.97
Petty Cash	£112.76
Clerk Salary	As per NACL SCALES
HMRC	£226.40
MCC (grass cutting and inspections) (Grass cutting £1212.45 +VAT) (Play ground Inspections £934.14 +VAT)	£2575.91
Aardvarc	£300.00
Merlin Environmental	£483.84
Handyman	£73.44
British Gas	£19.43
Remembrance Wreath (petty cash)	£20.00
Bills Received After The Agenda:	
Bank Charges	£5.00

Bills Received After The Agenda

Defibrillator Batteries £55.00

ii)To note CADW grant for £1869.50 has been paid to Caerwent Meadows

Council noted

iii)To agree purchase of RIALTAS software to enable more efficiency in the preparation of accounts and documentation for the purposes of scrutiny and audit

This was agreed in principle.

Action: Clerk to update council on training received at next month's meeting

iv)To agree Budget Setting and Precept for 2025/2026

Further work required and this will be on the agenda at next meeting in December.

v)To discuss and decide to adopt model financial regulations from One Voice Wales.

Action: Clerk to annotate and amend regulations according to our Standing Orders and that reflect our particular situation. This will be presented at next month's Finance meeting and Community Council meeting.

M4144

i)Clerks Report

Social Media

Play Inspections

Visual Inspections

Carried out on 20TH 27TH October,3rd 10th November

Last one to be carried out by Handyman will be the 17th November 2024

Police

Police surgery dates for the coach and horses

- Wednesday16thOctober 2024
- Monday 4th November 2024
- Monday 2nd December 2024
- Thursday 2ndJanuary 2025
- Monday 3rd February 2025
- Monday 3rd March 2025

All Police surgeries will be held between 4-5pm

These have been put on our FB page

Community Centre

Clerk received email of complaint about excessive noise coming from the centre in particular on Saturday Mornings. Complaint forwarded to Mark Lewis and committee.

We have had a request for some financial support for the pruning of the Willow Tree branches that are scraping tops of cars at the centre.

MOD

NOTICE TO LOCAL COMMUNITY COUNCILS-Activity on Caerwent Training Area
For the period Monday 4th Nov 2024 to Sunday 01st Dec 2024.

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

Monday 4th Nov 2024 to Sunday 10th Nov 2024. Medium

Monday 11th Nov to Sunday 17th Nov 2024. Low.

Monday 18th Nov to Sunday 24th Nov 2024. Medium

Monday 25th Nov to Sunday 1st Dec 2024. Medium

There will be Helicopter use throughout the whole month.

Highways

Potholes along Roman Road near the crossroads have been reported and dealt with.
Large pothole in the lane between Llanvair Discoed and A48 which has been reported

Overgrowth of stinging nettles on Green Lane making it difficult for walkers and pushchairs. This has been reported.

Drains overflowing at Llanvair Discoed in wet weather. Referred to MCC

Financial Software

Clerk has received some training from Rialtas and is booked for another date in November.

Toilets

Aardvarc reported that there were blocked drains affecting the ladies toilet. The tree at the back of the toilets needed to be pruned as it was blocking door to access manhole covers. Aardvarc dealt with this. We may need to consider removing the tree at a later date.

Youth Club

Clerk approached by Youth Club leader. They are having difficulties in drawing young people to the centre for Youth Club. Is there any support we can give in anyway?

Social Media

Reports of smells coming from household drains and bathrooms

Reports of young people walking in an unsafe manner from Caldicot To Caerwent

Report of a resident in Severn View Flats, Lawrence Crescent dumping rubbish outside

Church and Chapel Christmas events

Youth Club Notices

MCC Media notices

Lost cats and dogs

ii) Training reports

There were no training reports

iii) Representative reports

There were no representative reports. Councillor Sherwood in her absence wished it to be noted that the same issues at Dinham ward previously detailed in past meetings are still there.

iv) Receive and note report from Caerwent Community Centre.

There was no report from Caerwent Community Centre other than the request for financial help for the pruning of the Willow Tree at the entrance.

v) Working party reports

There were no working party reports.

Clerk had circulated the revised draft on the community questionnaire

M4145 TO DISCUSS SITING OF VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

There had been a discussion about the siting of the Village Christmas Tree on the green space opposite the Burton Homes.

However there is no power source there to support this. It was agreed to site the tree in its usual place.

Action: Clerk to contact Llanvair Landscapes to order Christmas Tree.

M4146 TO PREPARE QUESTIONS IN REGARD TO THE RUNNING OF THE VILLAGE HALL FOR THE MEETING WITH CPFA IN DECEMBER

Action: It was proposed that as Councillor J Guscott is the representative for the Village Hall, he would submit a 6 monthly report from CPFA on the day to day running and events at the hall. This could include anything they wish to raise with the Community Council

Councillor K Evans also agreed to ask CPFA for:

- *Policies and when they were reviewed
- *Records of PAT testing
- *Safety/Fire inspection records
- *Electrical circuit retesting records

Councillor P Murphy is expecting to meet with a member of the Junior Football Committee soon.

M4147 TO CONSIDER AND AGREE QUOTES FOR THE PURCHASE AND SITING OF A DEFIBRILLATOR AT CRICK

It was agreed in Councillor Swift's absence this would be put on a future agenda as she and the clerk have carried out some research on the purchase of a defibrillator.

Action: In the meantime, the clerk will enquire at Save-A-Life-Cymru To see what they can offer in terms of advice and purchasing a defibrillator.

M4148 TO DISCUSS AND REVISE SCHEDULE OF WORKS PREVIOUSLY CARRIED OUT BY HANDYMAN

Action: Clerk to place a request for any interest in the role of the Handyman on our Face Book Page so that we can move forward.

Visual inspections of Play Areas are now to be carried out by community councillors.

M4149 TO AGREE THE CONTENT OF THE COMMUNITY SURVEY AND HOW IT SHOULD BE DELIVERED INCLUDING TIME SCALE

Due to the absence of councillors working on this, it was proposed that it should remain on the agenda for next time.

M4150 TO RAISE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE REPLACEMENT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

This had already been discussed in agenda item M4128

M4151 CORRESPONDENCE

Monmouthshire Meadows

Quarterly Report from GAVO

Living the Levels Newsletter

Restrictive Covenant

Play Area Report MCC

Model Financial Regulations OVW

Road Reports

Training OVW

Replacement Development Plan

Discretionary Expenditure Limit for 2025-2026 section 137

Warm Hubs Funding News

Digital Assessment One Voice Wales

FOI Request re Christmas Tree

Noise Level Report MOD

Counter Terrorism Security Co-Ordinator Risk Assessment Advice

Observations of One Voice Wales role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector

M4152 HIGHWAYS

To include information on speed data received via illuminated signs at East Gate Caerwent.

Councillor P Dalton had received data in regard to speed and volume of traffic on Roman Road which has a 20mph speed limit.

The volume of traffic in last month's data was 2,600 cars on average travelling daily on Roman Road. This is concerning in regard to air pollution, noise and safety.

There were also two reports of vehicles travelling at speeds over 45miles per hour at a busy time of day.

Councillor P Dalton also queried why speeds over 35 miles per hour were being used in the summary data to analyse speed when the limit is 20 miles per hour?

Action: Clerk to contact Traffic & Road Safety Manager at MCC with these concerns to gain more clarity. Also to ask for speed data at Crick.

Clerk to contact officers at "Go Safe" for any reports of speeding on Roman Road.

M4153 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Defibrillator at Crick

Community Survey

Financial Regulations

Training Plan

Budget and Precept

The meeting ended at 9pm

Clerk to Caerwent Community Council