

**MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MEETING HELD 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019**

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

In attendance: 1 member of the public

**M4794 APOLOGIES**

Received from Councillor Haddow.

**M4795 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Historic Trust	Trustee
Councillor P Murphy	Caerwent Community Centre	Trustee
Councillor P Murphy	All planning applications	Member of MCC Planning Committee
Councillor P Murphy	Mounton House Special School	MCC Cabinet Member

**M4796 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**M4797 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**M4798 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019**

These were agreed as a true record.

**M4799 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

Report received for the months of February/March. Council expressed concern about the lack of any detail, ie addresses where crimes had been committed, follow ups, outcomes, crimes omitted from the report. Would be much more helpful if we had this information which we can then relay to our residents. Councillor Murphy will be having a meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner soon and he will pass on our concerns.

**M4800 PLANNING**

**2019/00333 3 Canon Lane, Caerwent**

Retrospective Application for the erection of a fence  
Amendment to application regarding reduction in height  
This Council recommends **Approval** to the amendment and are pleased that this issue has been resolved in an agreeable manner.

**2019/00359 Penylan Farm, St Brides Road**

Roof eaves extension to each side of existing stock building to give rainwater cover to existing standing yard. Under the Nitrate directive to reduce contamination of rainwater.

This Council recommends **Approval**

**To consider any planning applications received after despatch of agenda:**

**2019/00511 1 Vernon Grove, Caerwent**

Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension

This Council recommends **Approval**

**2019/00260 Ben Brook, A48 Crick**

**Domestic Garage**

This Council recommends **Approval**

Councillor Beattie expressed concern that the development at Glenview Farm does not appear to correlate with what this Council approved. He was advised to seek advice from the Planning Department.

**To note monthly enforcement lists**

Council noted

**MCC Adopted Local Development Plan 2011 – 2020**

**Draft Infill Development Supplementary Guidance Consultation**

Council noted that this was primarily additional guidance notes for Planning Officers and applicants.

The Clerk advised of a new nursery being run from Caerwent soon. No planning application had been received as yet and it was unclear as to the location.

Council noted that Cadw had served a stop notice on clearing vegetation at Caerwent House although no damage had been caused. No digging had taken place, they had just scraped the surface. The Conservation Officer from MCC is meeting with Cadw and Spitalfields to try to get the work re-started.

**M4801 CAERWENT LITTER CHAMPIONS**

**Councillor Harris to report on progress**

Councillor Harris reported that he now has 7 volunteers wishing to join the group. He is hoping to obtain the kit from MCC shortly. The first litter pick will probably take place early June. Long term he hopes to develop this into a community environmental interest group – he was advised to obtain MCC approval regarding any habitat issues. He will now seek to form a Committee from the volunteers. Fundraising will take place and they will probably look to hold a stall at the Caerwent Show. Councillors suggested that he contact the secondary schools re possible volunteers, ie Duke of Edinburgh Award and possibly Caerwent Football Club. He was advised that Keep Wales Tidy will request information on hours worked.

**Council to approve documentation**

All documentation was approved.

Noted that three volunteers have to be present (including Councillor Harris who wrote the Risk Assessment) in order for the insurance to be valid.

Councillor Harris advised to check the height of the Cadw land re insurance validity.

Council noted that the insurance is free until December.

**M4802 INSTITUTE OF WELSH AFFAIRS/ONE VOICE WALES**

**Council to consider providing content for a new website “Understanding Welsh Places”**

The Chairman suggested that we use the piece which was written previously by Councillor Nettleship for the Community Questionnaire. He will liaise with the Clerk re this.

#### **M4803 MEMORIAL BENCH, CAERWENT PLAYING FIELDS**

##### **Council to approve the installation of a Memorial Bench on the field**

Council approved.

#### **M4804 LIME TREES, CENTURION COURT, CAERWENT**

##### **Council to note that permission has been granted by MCC for the residents to have the crowns of the trees reduced in height.**

Council noted.

#### **M4805 WAR MEMORIAL PLANTERS**

##### **Council to consider repair or replacement**

Council agreed to replacement of the planters due to the possible high cost of repair. Councillor Beattie agreed to source replacement planters and keep the Council informed.

#### **M4806 VILLAGE HALL SURVEYS**

##### **To consider response from Drainrod**

Agreed to contact Drainrod again to establish exactly where the blockage is and the cost per metre to replace it if indeed it is our responsibility.

##### **To consider any action to be taken in response to Village Hall Condition Survey**

Councillor Murphy agreed to chase this up with MCC.

#### **M4807 PROPOSED CLOSURE OF MOUNTON HOUSE SPECIAL SCHOOL**

##### **To consider consultation**

Councillors Harris and George expressed concerns about the impact this will have on the comprehensive schools. Agreed that Councillor George obtain views from the local schools/governing bodies regarding future needs and report back before the deadline.

#### **M4808 TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

##### **CLERK'S REPORT**

###### **Dog Fouling**

Bags had arrived and the Clerk had delivered them to Liz Dawson who had agreed again to fill up the containers. In view of the relatively small number allowed free of charge from MCC and the time it takes for them to arrive the Clerk suggested that she research costs of obtaining our own bags.

###### **Dogs on Leads, Cadw land**

Cadw had confirmed that dogs are allowed on their land but that they should be kept on leads. Clerk to chase again re adequate signage. MCC had provided information on who actually rents out the land.

###### **War Memorial Improvements**

Cleaning finished, just a small amount of inscription work to be completed.

###### **Grant – Broadband Infrastructure**

A meeting had been held recently at MCC with the Welsh Government and broadband companies so hopefully we may see some progress soon.

###### **Defibrillator, Caerwent Village Hall**

Councillor Hadow progressing.

### **Defibrillator, Coach & Horses Public House**

Councillor Hadow progressing. Councillor Lewis reported that the defibrillator is currently available from the hours of 0700 – 2300 hours.

### **Defibrillator Training, Caerwent Community Centre**

To take place Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April, 7.00 p.m., in the Centre. Clerk had reminded residents about this a few times on social media. Currently 16 people on list of attendees.

### **Education Award**

All entries have now been judged. The Chair will visit the schools to hand over the prizes and also take the time capsules with him. Clerk will arrange. Council will review in September when a new Head is in place at Rogiet whether to continue with this or to, for example, award an honorarium to a couple of students.

### **Time Capsules**

Now engraved.

### **Dinham Ward Vacancy**

Advertised in newsletter. 1 enquiry so far – invited to this meeting to observe.

### **Balance Log, Caerwent Playing Fields**

Now installed.

### **Inspections of Trail, Caerwent Playing Fields**

Received response that they will be inspecting and reporting on the Trail from this month onwards.

### **Grass Verge – A48/Five Lanes Junction**

#### **Councillor Swift to report**

Councillors Swift and Murphy confirmed that the current cutting regime had been confirmed as acceptable by Mr Leaworthy of MCC and he will arrange for the posts to be replaced. He will also request that the skip which is present on the verge be removed.

### **New Play Equipment, Caerwent Playing Fields**

Still on order. CPFPA and Football team requested it be installed not pitch side of the field.

### **Audit 2018/19**

Received all audit documentation from external auditor. Clerk had met with internal auditor on 11<sup>th</sup> April and passed over all documentation over to him. Will meet with him again soon.

### **Crick Speeding**

Highways unable to provide a copy of the cabinet report for Pwllmeyric as the current 30 mph speed limit has been provided on an 18-month experimental basis, with a view to be made permanent in June of this year. As part of these proposals, officers are not required to produce a cabinet member report, until such time as the order is made permanent (if this is deemed to be appropriate). They advise that the highway environment through Crick is distinctly different to that of Pwllmeyric, therefore, the A48 through Crick needs to be considered on its own merit and not against what has been done in Pwllmeyric or indeed other parts of Monmouthshire. Hopefully MCC will receive further information regarding their application to Welsh Government towards the end of April.

### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

Sent in end of year information to Greater Gwent Pension Fund.

### **“Crick” Signage**

Councillor Swift currently researching prices. Waiting for a price.

### **Bus Service 75**

MCC have been able to secure some funding from section 106 in Sudbrook but they will have to look at the numbers and do a further consultation re future sustainability.

### **Post Box, Highmoor Hill**

Stolen recently. Had been reported to Royal Mail and the police. Estimated 12 weeks replacement time.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT**

522 members

75 bus service advertised frequently. Agreed to inform of temporary funding for this.

20 mph through village, speeding on Caldicot Road

### **PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT**

All satisfactory. Trail now added onto the report.

### **M4809 CORRESPONDENCE**

MCC Newsletter

One Voice Wales Training Courses Available

### **M4810 FINANCE**

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

Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019:

Moneymaster Account		£13,089.82
Community Account		£11,171.41
Petty Cash		£142.55
Clerk’s Salary, Allowances, Mileage (50)		as per NALC scales
Inland Revenue	NI employer/employee	£76.86
Torfaen Pension Fund	employer	£194.43
	employee	£53.46
Merlin Waste (dog bins)		£187.50
MCC (replace timber balance pole)		£366.00
Aardvarc (toilets)		£219.00
S Roderick (noticeboard)		£406.24

### **To renew the approval of the use of a variable direct debit in relation to the payment of utility supplies (electricity and water) and non-domestic rates in relation to the toilets buildings**

Council approved

Clerk to check when non-domestic rates for toilets are no longer payable.

**To receive approved precept document for 2019/20 which will form the basis of financial control for the ensuing year**  
Council noted

**M4811 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY**

To report any highways/rights of way issues

Pothole by Cadw Barns.

Cycle path to Five Lanes - grass growing on the path and weedkiller required – Councillor Murphy had reported.

Cas Troggy Road potholes - dangerous as cars avoid  
Potholes – Highmoor Hill.

Dewstow Road near Dewstow Gardens – when recently remarked white line edging not marked.

Report again large bough which needs removing from Highmoor Hill land.

Councillor Lewis is now in possession of definitive maps for our area. He confirmed that landowners are responsible for their upkeep and also stiles.

Councillor Swift had a query re a footpath in Crick nr the Neddern – Councillor Lewis will investigate.

**M4812 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

An Open Day will be run by the Historic Trust at the church on 4<sup>th</sup> May. There will be talks on the history of Caerwent and the history of The Court House in Llanfair Discoed. There will also be opportunities for family history searches.

**M4813 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Councillors to inform Clerk.

Chair ..... Date .....