

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 8TH FEBRUARY 2018

Present: Councillors:
P Murphy (Chairman)
B Counsell
G Cousins
B Dawson
K Evans
S George
K Haddow
P Lewis

M4603 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillor Swift.

M4604 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor P Murphy	All planning applications	Member of Planning Cttee
Councillor P Murphy	Caerwent Community Centre	Trustee
Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Historic Trust	Trustee

M4605 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

M4606 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

M4607 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 11th JANUARY 2018

These were approved as a true record.

M4608 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

There was no police report.

Councillor Dawson had written to Inspector N Jones to give him a history of our lack of police contact and also to enquire what he could deliver in view of the fact that we are part of the key individual network. He is awaiting a reply.

M4609 PLANNING

To consider any planning applications received after despatch of agenda

There were no planning applications to consider.

Council noted that the Planning IT system is to be updated from 16th February and 6th March and during this time they will be unable to issue consultations.

The Upper Seven Acres Wood planning application had been considered by MCC Planning Committee and was approved but with substantial conditions re restoration and planting. Jim Keech of MCC will be overseeing this.

The Chairman, Councillor Counsell and the Chief Executive of MCC had visited Caerwent House. Delays on commencing work are due to the fact that Spitalfields have not finished their current project in London.

M4610 WORLD WAR I CENTENARY COMMEMORATIONS

To consider any progress

Councillor George advised that the schools require more information. It was agreed that we ask the two schools to undertake a competition for all years to create a symbol, no larger than A4, to commemorate the World War I Centenary, to be completed by Easter.

It was agreed that we involve the schools in placing time capsules underneath the new slabs, set into the floor, at the War Memorial, to be opened 100 years later. Request ideas from the schools re what should be inside the shoe box size container - audio, literary or visual.

Councillor Swift had sent details of commemorative benches. It was agreed that we do not require any more benches in our area and there would be maintenance issues. We could however possibly consider these if a Remembrance Garden is developed.

War Memorial

To consider arranging a site meeting regarding replacement slabs

Councillor Swift is arranging this.

Agreed that when meeting the contractor we discuss the time capsule proposal with him.

M4611 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES AND ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Council agreed to respond that the Dinham ward name should not be changed to Merton Green. Merton Green is one small part of the Dinham ward, previously a hamlet and has historical connections, ie Dinham Castle. No justification to change it.

Council agreed to object to the proposed changes within the St Brides ward to encompass some Undy, Magor and Penhow properties. There is no physical or cultural connection to the Caerwent ward. This will not lead to effective and convenient local government.

Council agreed to seek clarification re point 5.5 where in the penultimate sentence the A40 is mentioned.

Agreed that this was an unnecessary expensive exercise particularly in view of Mark Drakeford's (AM) comments in 2016 that there should be a ten year period of stability.

M4612 CAERWENT VILLAGE HALL

To consider Caerwent Village Hall Committee correspondence regarding toilets and drainage

Councillor Cousins agreed to visit the disabled toilets and report back to the Clerk. Agreed if required to call out a plumber.

Agreed to initially contact Welsh Water to ascertain if the drainage problem is from the Village Hall or the Pumping Station. If not Welsh Water responsibility call out a drainage company.

M4613 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

CLERK'S REPORT

Dates for Diaries

GDPR Awareness for Town/Community Councils – Tuesday 27th February, 6.00 p.m.,
Usk - Clerk and Councillors Counsell/Cousins/Swift attending.
MoD meeting – Thursday 5th April, 11.00 a.m., Caerwent Training Area

Transfer of Village Hall

The CPFA should receive the transfer documents by the end of this week.
Clerk to check that this Council will also be sent the required documentation.

Defibrillator

Councillor Haddow has arranged training at the Woodlands Tavern in Llanfair Discoed for Tuesday 27th February at 6.30 p.m. She has advertised this on Facebook.

She is seeking the code for the box.

Toilets

Councillor Swift liaising with contractors. £50 more for black paint on the back of the internal doors to deter graffiti. Councillor Swift will be providing a colour chart re the paint.

Agreed that the Chairman seek advice from an asbestos contractor re drawing up an appropriate form for contractors.

Councillor Haddow will contact the leaseholders of the field behind to ask them to remove the vegetation from the rear of the toilets building.

The roofing contractor had agreed to also clean the light fittings which are only accessible from the roof.

Councillor Swift had researched complete units (wash/dry) at £1581.33 plus vat. Agreed that this was too costly and that we will consider providing new stainless steel driers at a cost of approximately £150 when the improvements had all been completed.

For info – the cleanliness of our toilets was commended at a Caldicot Town Council meeting recently by one of their Councillors.

Councillor Counsell reported that 4 cubic metres of water had been used since 9th January.

Collapsed Drain, Ballan Cottage, Crick

Council confirmed that the Clerk should provide contact details of CWEP to the insurance company and suggest that they liaise with the group re the stipulations we had previously sent.

Caerwent Community Council Education Award

Chairman has carried out judging. Presenting of prizes will take place on 15th February. Councillors George/Haddow will take photos to put on our website and the Chairman will liaise with Communications at MCC.

Definitive Map Modification Order to record routes A and B as public byways open to all traffic, Minnets Lane

Sent further comments into MCC. Some of these will be included in the final reports that are programmed to be set before committee on 13th March 2018. From about the 27th February we will be able to view those reports and the recommendations which will be posted on MCC website.

When the Definitive Map Modification Order is made and advertised in a local paper and posted on site (we as a consultee will also be sent one) and we will be able to make a formal objection to that Order.

The Chairman will be contacting the Definitive Map Officer at MCC to enquire what the MCC plans would be if this does become a BOAT.

White Lining, A48

Will be carried out this month.

Pyrolysis Plant Permit Application

An Environmental Permit can only be refused if it can be shown that the applicant will not meet the Permit Conditions that will be imposed on them.

The Planning Process will determine if the location is suitable for a particular use, the Permit application will determine if the process can operate within the legal framework to prevent or limit emissions.

There are issues with the current application that need explanation and clarification by the applicant. If they are granted an Environmental Permit to operate the Pyrolysis process, they would have to meet the Permit Conditions, and they will be regularly inspected by Environmental Health. In addition they will need Planning Permission from the Planning Authority, and they will need an Environmental Permit from Natural Resources Wales, to operate a waste facility.

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

348 members

Queries regarding noticeboard provision

Queries regarding speed of traffic on A48 - agreed to pass these concerns over to the police and to discuss with them when they attend

Planning development proposal at Caldicot

MONTHLY PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT

Not yet received.

M4614 CORRESPONDENCE

Monmouthshire Meadows – notice of meetings

Welsh Government – Bee Friendly Scheme

MCC - Update on alternative delivery models for Tourism, Leisure, Culture and Youth Services

One Voice Wales – newsletter

One Voice Wales – Land Drainage Penny Rate

Mons CAB – revised opening times

Councillor George expressed concern that there are no evening sessions for people who work. Councillor Counsell advised that they would like to do this but are running on a £20,000 deficit with finite reserves and MCC has cut funding by £35,000 over six years. Councillor George suggested flexible hours – Councillor Counsell advised that this is difficult as they are run by volunteers.

M4615 FINANCE

To consider balances/payment and approval as per finance schedule dated February 2018.

Balances as at 31st January:

Moneymaster Account	£13,182.13
Community Account	£13,070.06
Petty Cash	£52.88

Clerk's Salary, Allowances and mileage (18)	as per NALC scales
Inland Revenue	£55.71
Torfaen Pension Fund	(employee) £49.27
	(employer) £179.18
Aardvarc Cleaning	£246.00
Merlin Waste	£135.60

To consider quarterly budget September – December 2017

Noted and approved.

To consider information from One Voice Wales regarding member allowances

Agreed to check if Councillors are obliged to sign a document if they propose to opt out.

M4616 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

To report any highways/rights of way issues

Junction sign A48 west entrance – placed inappropriately or hedge needs cutting – Chairman will report this.

A48 east entrance – drain blocked.

Telephone pole leaning brow of hill outside Dewstow Farm wall.

Verges littered Dewstow Road

Query when Merton Green will be adopted and also the triangle – Chairman will chase.

Keep left bollard still not lit up at Crick.

Linda Tawton, thank her again publicly for regularly litter picking along the A48.

M4617 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Following the Cluster Group meeting the Chief Executive of MCC had agreed to a visit to Caerwent with the Chairman and Councillor Counsell to show him areas of concern – this took place on Thursday 8th February.

M4618 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Health & Safety policy.

Manhole cover middle of Playing Fields.