

## **MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 11<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2018**

Present: Councillors  
B Counsell (Chair)  
S George  
K Haddow  
P Lewis  
K Swift

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council  
4 members of the public

### **M4588 APOLOGIES**

Received from Councillors Murphy, Cousins, Evans and Dawson.

As the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had sent their apologies the Clerk called for nominations for the Chair for this meeting. Councillor Counsell was nominated by Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor Haddow. There being no further nominations Councillor Counsell took the Chair.

### **M4589 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillor Swift	Ballan Cottage	CWEP Committee Member
Councillor Counsell	Mons Citizen Advice Bureau	Trustee

### **M4590 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### **M4591 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A resident queried the Minnetts Lane consultation and advised that it only affects routes A to C and not C southwards. He will write further to this Council before the closing date.

He also queried progress on the Upper Severn Acres Wood planning application. The Clerk informed him that it will probably go to Planning Committee in February and our previous recommendations of refusal will be considered then.

It was reported that MCC signage had still not appeared on Sandy Lane.

Street lights do not appear to be replaced as they used to be.

### **M4592 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

These were agreed with the following amendment:

#### **M4886 Representatives Report p.6: Should read:**

Crick Wildlife and Environment Project request help re ragwort pulling on MoD land inside the base.

## **M4593 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

No police report. Clerk reported that the local police team had requested a list of our meeting dates. Agreed to check with Councillor Dawson on any contact he had made with the Inspector.

## **M4594 PLANNING**

### **2016/00784 Caerwent Quarry, Dewstow, Caerwent**

Land reclamation scheme including the import of (23,000m<sup>3</sup>) inert materials to create soil forming base to quarry for future after use as agriculture.

This Council recommends **Refusal**

Concern about the impact on the local infrastructure.

Additional traffic generated by the development.

Future maintenance will be required on the lanes due to increased traffic movements.

Size of vehicles on very narrow lanes which are currently used by pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.

Lanes not suitable for extra heavy traffic – no passing places.

Safety of lane surface with possible mud on the road.

Noise and dust pollution.

Impact on residents' privacy and disturbance.

This site should be designated an SSSI by virtue of the special interest of the plants and in order to protect the flora and fauna.

### **2017/01403 Giggleswick, 1 School Court, Llanvair Discoed**

Proposed replacement of existing single storey sun room with new oak framed sun room and dining area to rear of existing dwelling.

This Council recommends **Approval**

### **2017/01392 2 Rock Cottages, Sandy Lane, Caerwent**

Timber garage for domestic use on land opposite house within same ownership.

This Council recommends **Approval**

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

### **Environmental Permit application from DPS Process Solutions Limited to operate a small scale waste gasification/pyrolysis/oxidation plant at Unit 4, Severn Bridge Industrial Estate, Caldicot**

Our comments had been sent in previously stating that we are unable to make an informed decision due to lack of understandable information. Planning Officer had enquired if we wish to ask the company to re-write their info. Agreed to reply that we are very concerned as to what will be emitting from this plant and the affects on the local area in terms of health. Concerned that this is experimental which implies an element of risk. Close to community buildings, residential areas and schools. Goes against the Local Plan in protecting the local environment.

### **Pre-Application Community Consultation by Developers**

#### **To consider information/advice from Planning Department, MCC**

Council noted and agreed to inform MCC of the Village Hall venue for any consultations.

## **M4595 WORLD WAR I CENTENARY COMMEMORATIONS**

### **To consider any progress made re school contact**

Councillor George had spoken with the Headteacher at Rogiet Primary School who had indicated that she would need much more detailed information to proceed. Councillor George advised that a creative practitioner could be employed to work with the school children on a poppy design competition but this would cost around £200 per day. Agreed that this was too expensive.

Councillor Swift proposed that poppy seeds be planted by children with the press involved.

Agreed to defer until next meeting to discuss with the original proposer, Councillor Evans. access

## **War Memorial**

### **To consider any further progress made**

Councillor Swift had obtained samples. She will contact the contractor to hopefully arrange a day time site meeting at the Memorial.

Quote received of £280 for painting – agreed.

## **M4596 MCC CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL CHOSEN CHARITIES**

### **To consider proposing to MCC that in the future any chosen charities be local ones.**

Agreed to write to the Leader of the Council stating that although we support the choice of the Chairman's prominent chosen charities, we would welcome in future the consideration of local charities.

## **M4597 TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

#### **Dates for Diaries**

Cluster Meeting – 24<sup>th</sup> January, 6.00 p.m., Caldicot Hub

MoD meeting – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 11.00 a.m., Caerwent Training Area

#### **Transfer of Village Hall**

Requested progress report from Solicitor. Reminded again. Councillor Lewis will contact Mr Prigg's Legal Assistant to check on progress.

#### **Time Team Field Wall**

Councillor Hadow reported that the current lease holders do not plan to carry out any repairs.

#### **Dog Fouling**

Merlin Waste empty our bins weekly on a Tuesday.

## **Defibrillator**

Councillor Haddow liaising re training for defibrillator at Llanfair.

Clerk had received signage – passed to Councillor Lewis for Coach & Horses in Caerwent.

Councillor Haddow had requested the code for the unit at the Woodlands Tavern in Llanfair Discoed.

## **Toilets**

Steve England of Site Response Services will be carrying out an Electrical Inspection and replacing the faulty light.

Councillor Counsell reported on water consumption which had now decreased and recommended that toilets repair works now go ahead. Agreed. He will continue to take meter readings to monitor the situation.

Councillor Swift had produced an Asbestos Log and agreed to take photographs in both ladies/gents on a six monthly basis once the repairs had been completed.

Agreed to have roofing done first, then windows, then painting. Agreed that we only require two openers, not three. Councillor Swift will obtain colour chart for door colour. The Clerk advised that the internal doors currently have anti-graffitti paint on.

## **Collapsed Drain, Ballan Cottage, Crick**

Written to insurance company – awaiting response.

## **Caerwent Community Council Education Award**

Chairman will carry out judging this month. Agreed to ask him to request that we receive copies of the winning entries so we can put it on our website.

## **Upper Seven Acres Wood Planning Application**

This will be determined by the Planning Committee probably in February. We did comment on this back in October 2015:

### **2015/00936 Land at Carrow Hill Farm, Carrow Hill, St Brides Netherwent Widening of Existing Track for Agricultural Use**

This Council recommends Refusal

Local information indicates that there is no long term existing track which could be widened. There are other options to access the area of land. Felling of trees is unnecessary and we suggest that the Tree Officer be consulted. This would result in an unnecessary scar on the landscape and be ecologically disadvantageous – suggest a wildlife survey be carried out. This application should be referred to Planning Committee as the applicant is a relative of a County Councillor.

This came to our attention again in December 2015 when neighbours complained that works had already started before permission was granted.

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

Reply from MCC that our request for gates can not considered during this consultation as they are only seeking evidence as to the status of the route.

Further correspondence received from a resident – she has sent her objections to MCC.

**SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT**

343 members

Agreed that new businesses to the area allowed to post just once.

**MONTHLY PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT**

Wooden beam at Caerwent Playing Fields will be replaced within the next month.

**M4598 CORRESPONDENCE**

**Older Persons Mental Health Consultations**

Agreed to object to the closure of the dementia ward at Cheptow. This would not support the residents of the local area, ie pressure on families, travel etc.

**MCC Chairman's New Year Message  
MCC Wellbeing Plan consultation**

**M4599 FINANCE**

**To consider balances/payment and approval as per finance schedule dated January 2018**

Balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December:

Moneymaster Account	£13,070.06
Community Account	£16,520.98
Petty Cash	£52.88

Clerk's Salary, Allowances and mileage (18)	as per NALC scales
Inland Revenue	£49.23
Torfaen Pension Fund	(employee) £47.89
	(employer) £174.16
Merlin Waste (dog bins)	£169.50
Wales Audit Office	£242.85
Information Commissioner's Office	£35.00
Plants War Memorial	£48.86
MCC (Community Council Elections 2017)	£293.59
Dark Electrical (defibrillator installation)	£245.00
City Illuminations	£700.00
Lasting Impression (defib signage)	£17.68
Society of Local Council Clerks	£147.00

**M4600 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY**

**To report any highways/rights of way issues**

Bollard east junction Caerwent knocked over

Bollard A48 Crick not lit

Roman sign bent over

Whitehall Farm lane, Highmoor Hill – numerous potholes

Drain bottom Five Lanes nr Post Box and laybye needs clearing out

Speed camera required in 30 mph A48 – agreed to speak to police when they next attend.

**M4601 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

No reports.

**M4602 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Councillors to report to Clerk.

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