

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 12TH JUNE 2014

Present: B Counsell (Chairman) P Lewis
 G Cousins P Murphy
 K Evans K Stock
 K Haddow

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council
 2 Members of the Public

M4086 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillors Swift, Trayler-Smith and Vosloo.

M4087 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

M4088 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor K Evans	Historic Trust	Committee Member
Councillor P Lewis	Historic Trust	Committee Member
Councillor Stock	CPFA	Committee Member
Councillor Murphy	Community Centre	Trustee

M4089 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Edwards was concerned that in the latest newsletter he was quoted as mentioning asbestos within the Caerwent Community Centre when he had only referred to the roof. The Chairman informed him that we took the complaint as referring to the whole site.

The Chairman informed Mr Edwards that we had contacted the Health & Safety Executive to enquire if they could carry out a survey for us. They had advised us that they are not permitted to offer a health & safety consultancy service. They advised that MCC are our enforcement authority, not the H & S Executive.

MCC had previously recommended to us a company called Santia (H & S Executive approved) for advice and annual inspections and they had in fact been contracted by the Community Centre Committee to carry out said inspections. Santia advice is that we should have annual inspections, good practice would be to apply warning labels and a management plan and policy should be in place. The Chairman confirmed that all of these guidelines are being adhered to. Santia advice was also that most buildings from 1940-90 have asbestos but most of it is low risk.

Mr Edwards was still concerned about the 1938 asbestos which he felt should be sealed as it was liable to break down. The Chairman advised Mr Edwards that, as this Council and the Caerwent Community Centre Committee are adhering to all required guidelines, he contact the consultants Santia direct. The Clerk will provide contact details to Mr Edwards.

Mrs Edwards was concerned about the recent bridge collapse at Caerwent Brook. Councillor Murphy advised that the bridge had been undermined by water both behind and underneath. A temporary repair will be carried out and traffic lights will probably be in situ for around three months.

Mrs Edwards reported that the extra traffic on the Old Roman Road had meant that cracks are now appearing in her wall and she called for a weight restriction to be applied. The Chairman advised that at a Public Meeting held a few years ago MCC had proposed a no turn left at the crossroads but villagers had turned it down.

M4090 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 8TH MAY 2014

These were agreed with the following amendment:

p.2 **M4069 Public Participation**, 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence

Should read:

“He informed the meeting that he had made it very clear on numerous occasions that he does sit on the Section 106 Working Group but has not attended any meetings where the allocation of funding from Merton Green development has been discussed.”

M4091 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

Pcso Norville was not present but had reported to the Clerk that he will be carrying out speed tests in Crick this week. He also reported on numerous shed break-ins in the Five Lanes area – patrols have been increased in this area when possible, and all victims have been visited and crime prevention advice has been given along with the issue of shed alarms.

The Clerk reported the theft of one of our benches on the A48 – this had been reported to the police and to our insurance company.

Councillor Murphy reported that a NATO summit will be held on 4/5 September in the Celtic Manor and at Cardiff Bay.

M4092 PLANNING

2014/00350 Cedar Lodge, Crick

Building Plot for 1 House

*This Council recommends **Refusal***

Inappropriate infill

Increased traffic on a lane where there is no pavement

No indication on plans as to where the proposed septic tanks are to be sited

Destruction of an ancient wall

Loss of mature trees

2013/01065 Brook House Cottage, Crick (re-submission)

Proposed New Stone Boundary Walls & Timber Personnel Gates Providing

Improved Security Adjacent to Public Highway.

*This Council recommends **Approval***

2014/00505 7 Kilpale Close, Caerwent

Rear Single Storey Kitchen Extension

*This Council recommends **Approval***

M4093 WELCOME TO CAERWENT COMMUNITY BOOKLET

Councillor Lewis is still working on this. Councillor Swift will be providing information on the village of Crick.

M4094 PROVISION OF ALLOTMENTS

Councillor Swift had reported to the Clerk that she had written to City Farms Cardiff and is hoping that she and Councillor Haddow can meet up with them soon.

M4095 REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CAERWENT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Council considered requests for information received by Councillor Stock. Agreed to delegate this to the FOI Working Group and that any future request for information be directed to the Clerk.

M4096 DRAFT MINUTES

Council considered information received from the Society of Local Council Clerks and One Voice Wales regarding placing draft minutes on the website. A proposal was put that we do not place draft minutes on the website. A vote was taken with the result 5/2 in favour.

M4097 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS

Council considered sample agreements and agreed to await the result of the formal transfer of ownership of the Village Hall. To be kept on the agenda.

M4098 TIME TEAM FIELD

Councillors Swift and Haddow had seeded the area and will continue to do so.

Neighbouring property had reported that a part of the hedge is overgrown. Councillor Haddow will speak with the neighbour.

Councillor Cousins agreed to query the provision of wooden boxes as promised by Barratts.

Councillor Evans will put a piece on the website regarding the poppy display. The Clerk will supply a Royal British Legion collection pot to the Post Office.

Councillor Murphy reported that he is awaiting a date for a meeting with MCC and Operation Nightingale.

M4099 CAERWENT TOILETS

Awaiting quotes re replacement of windows to the rear, installation of a ceiling, insulation in the back room and painting of metal window to the front.

M4100 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT FROM THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

Council noted and were interested to learn of the Public Health White Paper regarding the placing of a duty on each local authority to develop a strategy on the provision of and access to toilets for public use in their area.

M4101 OMBUDSMAN

Council noted and were pleased to learn that all of the complaints received recently by the Ombudsman from a resident will not be investigated. Council also noted that we

had deemed the considerable amount of requests for information from said resident as vexatious as they had placed a significant strain on the Council's resources and had imposed a disproportionate and unjustified level of cost, disruption, irritation and distress.

M4102 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Clerk's Report.

M4103 FINANCE

Council agreed payment of finance schedule dated June 2014.

Council approved pre external audit Annual Return 2013/14.

Council approved effectiveness of internal control for period 2013/14.

Council considered a donation towards the Caerwent Playing Fields Association Caerwent Show and agreed the amount of £100.

M4104 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Numerous walkways from the Merton Green development to the A48 are being established by residents. It was agreed that planting could prevent this. Councillor Cousins will report this to Barratts.

The Chairman had recently seen signs in other areas "narrow lane with single passing bays" which he felt would be useful for our area, ie two lanes off A48, Broadwell Lane at Crick, lane to the Cwm and also to Blackpool Hall.

Potholes at Dewstow golf bridge, Merrils Cottage, Carrow Hill next to The Merrils.

Tracks at Five Lanes to be cut all the way up to provide access to walkers/horses.

M4105 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports.

M4106 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Service Level Agreements
Caerwent Community Booklet

Chairman Date