

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 11TH JULY 2013

Present: D Hedley (Chairman) P Murphy
B Counsell K Swift
K Evans R Trayler-Smith
K Haddow D Vosloo
P Leiws

In attendance: M Moran, Community Infrastructure Co-ordinator, MCC
L McKeon, Clerk to the Council

2 Members of the Public

M3880 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillor Cousins

M3881 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor B Counsell	Citizens Advice Bureaux	Committee Member
Councillor D Hedley	Citizens Advice Bureaux	Trustee

M3882 15 MINUTES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The new owner of the The Glen in St Brides Netherwent informed the Council that an amended plan (2012/737) has now been submitted. He stated that the original architect was no longer employed by him, hence the amendment and revised design. He felt that the new design is very green and passive and the footprint is the same with a slight increase in volume. Due to trees coming through the floor, tree had to be removed on orders of Tree Officer.

M3883 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13TH JUNE 2013

The minutes were confirmed with the following amendment:

p.3 Proposed Re-Instatement of Village Pumps

should read: "There had been no response from the newsletter re the location of the missing **troughs**".

M3884 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

Pcso Norville reported on crime during the past two months. The police had been called again to Well Lane in Llanfair Discoed regarding altercations between builders and residents regarding parking of vehicles on the lane. Councillor Murphy advised that the building company do not anticipate any vehicles parking on the lane but if this changes the residents will be informed and it would only be for about 20 minutes. The building company's traffic management plan has been approved by the Highways Department. Councillor Murphy had advised the builders that a medical emergency could occur at Over the Stream so access is imperative. Pcso Norville confirmed that no bats are present in the roof of the development.

Pcso Norville advised residents that scrap metal merchants do require registration. If any resident is concerned about suspicious activity they should telephone 101.

He reported on a successful cycle marking day in June when 25 cycles were marked and 9 personal alarms issued. Could we let him know of any vulnerable people requiring an alarm. He wished to thank the Coach & Horses for the use of their car park during this event.

A police surgery will be held on 30th July in the Coach & Horses car park.

He advised that Sgt Roland Giles is now working in Chepstow – our new Sgt will be Phil Persil.

Council advised PcsO Norville of speeding traffic on Caldicot Road. He will carry out more speed checks in the area. Council informed him of the confusing signage on Caldicot Road where it states 20 and 30 mph within a few metres of each other.

Councillor Evans reported syringes found on layby in dualcarriage. Any syringes should be reported to the police.

M3885 MIKE MORAN, COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE CO-ORDINATOR, MCC
Merton Green Section 106 Off Site Recreation Funding

An update on the current situation had been circulated to all Councillors. 84 houses are now occupied - 6 short of receiving the Section 106 money. All affordables are occupied. 85% agreement needs to be signed by the developer. 5 years time limit to spend the funds. Mr Moran wants to try to get a more strategic process to allocate the money to ensure it makes a real difference.

Councillor Counsell queried if any of the money will be spent outside the area – Mr Moran informed the Council that the agreement states within five miles and it will probably all be spent within our area. Mr Moran explained the new Infrastructure Levy (a contribution made by the landowner which can be spent outside the area). Some projects could be directed to this fund instead.

Council queried if play areas could be upgraded with the funds. Mr Moran advised that it would be unusual to fund this as the play needs have already been met within the actual development.

Nothing less than £5000 should be used under Section 106. Any projects under this amount should be referred to the Welsh Church Fund or the New Growth Fund.

The Chairman queried if we could request a sum of money to donate to local groups. Mr Moran felt that this would not be possible as there does need to be an audit trail.

It was agreed to inform residents of the Section 106 funding in the next newsletter and invite applications to be sent to Mr Moran. He agreed to provide up to date information before we go to print. Criteria must be mentioned and future management responsibilities must be considered. Organisations need to prepare, ie seek planning permissions/building regulations.

M3886 MATTERS ARISING

Circular Walk

Written to MCC and MoD – no reply.

Mr Moran advised that the MoD have some reservations re the circular walk, ie not keen on establishing new permissive footpaths on boggy land, capital costs involved and increase of people around the Base. They spent a lot of money developing a walk around Sennybridge – it is little used and there are longterm maintenance issues. They would be happy to talk to us to develop a walk which links to Llanmelin Hill Fort. Councillor Counsell was disappointed with this u turn. He informed the Council that Mr J Berry of Cadw will be contacting the MoD.

It was agreed to re-establish contact with Mr C Thomas at the MoD to enquire under what circumstances would the walk be acceptable.

Mr Moran suggested an alternative link at the back of the Base be developed by the Footpaths Section.

Time Team Field

Requested clarification from MCC Legal re signature sheet on lease – they will send correct document. Agreed that if this arrives over the summer period that it be signed. Councillor Evans reported that the Historic Trust are still very keen to have a community archaeology project in this field. Councillor Counsell had mentioned this project to Cadw who advised that the field is scheduled and Cadw is the consenting authority. Cadw further explained that archaeology is very expensive because of specialist finds, the potential for conservation of artefacts, publication of an archive to required standards and all work would require scheduled monument consent. Councillor Counsell had mentioned to Cadw an alternative ‘Jardin de Ville’ open to residents and visitors – Cadw confirmed that this type of proposal would be ideal as it would conserve the archaeology. It was agreed to invite the Regional Inspector of Cadw to our September meeting to discuss this further.

Cwrt Morgan Adoption

Awaiting a quote for required works.

Provision of Allotments

Written again to Bailey Homes – no reply as yet.

Written to Chief Executive of MCC re short term leases.

Provision of Dog Friendly Stiles

No progress.

Caerwent Play Area Equipment

MCC carry out monthly inspections but only contact organisations if any works are required – always send an annual report. A site meeting with Tim O'Donovan of MCC had taken place on 8th July. Report had been received – this will be discussed with the Caerwent Playing Fields Association on 16th July.

Caerwent Village Hall/Playing Fields Rent Increase

Meeting arranged with CPFA for Tuesday 16th July.

It was agreed to consider at a later date future funding of the CPFA and the newsletter.

Caerwent Toilets

Any DDA compliancy grants available:

Lottery funding not available as it would be deemed to be inappropriate use of this funding.

Contacted Community Development Officer at GAVO but most grants are available to third sector organisations.

Contacted Mike Moran re the Village Community Facilities Capital Investment Programme – not the right vehicle to provide funding.

Mike Moran did refer to our Time Team field project for use as a picnic site and as the toilets are located close there could be an argument for using some S106 funding to improve the toilets for use in connection with the picnic site.

Councillor Counsell had asked Cadw about extending the opening hours of their toilets.

Bradbury Farm Proposed Play Area

It was agreed to canvas residents in our respective communities to find out what they would want to see in their area. Feedback in September. In particular to find out what the residents of Crick want.

Westgate Cottage area, Caerwent (Highways concerns)

Reply from Highways that they have inspected site and at present can see no reason to carry out any surfacing/repair work of the carriageway at this location. There is some crazing of the antiskid screed, but this is only superficial, and the carriageway is useable and fit for purpose, and no hazards are present. The carriageway is part of our routine inspection regime and any future defects will be highlighted and addressed periodically.

In regard to the section of verge which may or may not have been a footway previously, they can see no purpose that this section as a footway would serve. The footway coming from the village direction runs to the gate of West Gate Cottage, and does not carry on past the house so in effect having the verge area as footway will serve no benefit to anyone.

Green Lane House area, Caerwent (lack of Footpath)

Councillor Murphy will be meeting with Paul Keeble to discuss this and other issues.

Caerwent Community Centre

Councillor Swift will provide a lease document.

Speed Limit, Crick

Councillor Swift will be contacting Mathern Community Council with a view to sending a petition to MCC.

Freedom of Information Requests

Costs December 2012 to current – £476.55. Council were concerned that this is an oppressive strain on the time and resources of the Community Council. It was agreed to insert this information in the newsletter pointing out that a lot of information can be sourced elsewhere.

M3887 PLANNING

2013/00457 Dinwood, Crick

Proposed Single Storey Rear Conservatory Extension

*This Council recommends **Approval***

Concern that this Council had not had sight of the original planning application for this property.

2013/00502 Penhein Cottage, Llanfair Discoed

*This Council recommends **Approval***

Council agreed that any planning applications received during August be delegated to a minimum of three Councillors.

Council noted in the latest LDP information from MCC that there was no proposed development for our area.

M3889 ANNUAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Councillors were given risk assessment duties – to report back to Clerk.

M3890 FINANCE

Council agreed payment and approval as per finance schedule dated July 2013.

M3891 CORRESPONDENCE

1. LEGAL OFFICER, FIELDS IN TRUST, QUEEN ELIZABETH II FIELDS CHALLENGE
Confirmation that the Caerwent Playing Field is now formally a part of The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. Received signed and sealed Deed of Dedication.
2. CALDICOT/CHEPSTOW CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX
Update on latest developments.
3. SEVERNSIDE AREA COMMITTEE
Invitation to Dog Fouling and Littering Working Group – Monday 15th July
Councillors Hedley/Lewis and Vosloo hope to attend.
4. SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY OFFICER, MCC
Information re Tidy Towns grants.
5. NICK JONES, TREASURER, CPFA
They have now purchased indoor bowls equipment for the Village Hall. Enthusiasm for the indoor bowls remains undiminished and they are hoping to join the Monmouthshire League. Sessions are held on Wednesdays at 7.00 p.m. for anyone interested.

6. WELSH LANGUAGE COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE
Invitation to join the Alliance.
7. MINUTES/PUBLICATIONS
Ombudsman Annual Report 2012/13
The Voice, One Voice Wales

M3892 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Council considered the overgrown vegetation within the stream at Llanfair Discoed and the fact that the walls also require shearing up. Councillor Murphy will raise this with MCC. The Clerk to enquire of Probation Services.

Council considered the poor condition of the steps at Laburnum Steps in Llanfair Discoed. Councillor Murphy will raise with MCC.

M3893 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Councillor Evans reported on the Historic Trust and confirmed that they are still very keen to progress the Time Team field proposed project.

Chairman Date