

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD
12TH OCTOBER 2017

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

L McKeon, Clerk to the Council
3 members of the public

M4652 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillors Cousins, Lewis and Swift.

M4653 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

M4654 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman was very pleased to report that Llanfair Discoed had won Best Kept Village and The Woodlands Tavern Best Kept Pub. Council congratulated villagers on all their efforts and it was agreed to include this in the next newsletter.

M4655 15 MINUTES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Cory thanked the Community Council for their support in recommending refusal for the Barrier Services retrospective application. He was however disappointed to have learnt that Councillor Murphy as a member of the MCC Planning Committee had voted for approval at the Planning Committee. The Chairman explained that the Planning Committee members had a quasi-judicial function in that they had to decide if Barrier Services had been operating within their operator licence and if at the time they would have been granted planning permission. All tests showed that they have been and it would have been granted, there was therefore no reason in law to vote against. The Chairman advised that the intention in the future is to re-site the yard to the other side of the land but they would have to apply for planning permission for that. The owner of the business had subsequently visited Mr Cory at the Chairman's request to talk it through and has now sent out instructions to all staff that they drive at 20 m.p.h and there will be no night driving or night working on the site unless in emergency. Mr Cory pointed out that it is the ancillary vehicles that are the problem and the owner had informed him that they will be requesting smaller vehicles. He was disappointed that Highways had no problem with the application but he will be monitoring the situation. Mr Cory was pleased to note that signage had appeared at the end of the lane today but queried why it said Barrier Services on it – the Chairman advised that it should not say this and he will raise this with Highways.

Councillors Dawson and Counsell had also attended the Planning Committee site meeting and advised that it was clear that there was no lawful reason to refuse the application.

M4656 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14th SEPTEMBER 2017

These were agreed as a true record.

M4657 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

There was no police report.

M4658 PLANNING

To consider:

2017/01107 23 Merton Green - Conversion of Existing Gym into a gym, store, media and office space with added roof lights and bi-fold doors
This Council recommends **Approval**

2017/01090 2 Cadoc Close, Caerwent - 2 Storey Side Extension and Loft Extension
This Council recommends **Approval**

2017/01128 8 Cadoc Close, Caerwent – 2 Storey Extension to Side and Front
This Council recommends **Approval**

2017/01124 Merrils Bungalow, Carrow Hill – Porch to Front Door Entrance
This Council recommends **Approval**

To consider any planning applications received after despatch of agenda
There were no other planning applications

M4659 CAERWENT PLAYING FIELDS TRAIL/WILDFLOWER GARDEN **To consider quotes received for maintenance contract**

Agreed to accept a quote from Ecovigour for herbicide spraying - to carry this work out twice per year, timed appropriately to commence in the Spring.

M4660 OAK TREE, LABURNAM STEPS, LLANFAIR DISCOED
To consider trimming branches overhanging neighbouring house
The Chair agreed to check with Estates re ownership.

M4661 STREET LIGHTING

To consider recommending any street lights which should stay on when MCC turn off lights from midnight to 0600 hours

Following consultation Council agreed to recommend the following locations where lights should stay on:

Post Office, Old Roman Road
Public Toilet Area, Old Roman Road
Crossroads, Old Roman Road
Coach & Horses Public House, Old Roman Road
Highfield bungalows

Burton Villas complex, Caerwent
A48 junctions into Llanfair Discoed
A48 at pedestrian crossing
Caldicot Road at St Tathans

M4662 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 12th NOVEMBER

To note arrangements made

Noted that bugler booked, road closure ordered, wreaths ordered, police contacted. Following notification that the police are not able to assist re road closures agreed that we contact the Highways Manager to seek precise advice on how many cones are required, who can legally put them out and should the closure areas be manned on the day. The Chairman agreed to collect the cones if necessary.

To consider the reading of the names

Agreed that Councillor Counsell read the names

M4663 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

CLERK'S REPORT

Dates for Diaries

Remembrance Service – Sunday 12th November, 10.55 a.m. (Caerwent church)
MoD Meeting/ Supper – Thursday 30th November, 6.00 p.m. (Shirenewton Church Hall)

St Brides Flooding

No further progress. Council will monitor it through winter.

Poor Wood – Commoners Rights

Official Copy received from Land Registry. Noted that the Rights of Commoners to Collect Firewood has now been omitted. Agreed not to pursue this any further regarding trying to re-instate due to possible high costs. Agreed to express our disappointment at our next Mod meeting.

Transfer of Village Hall

Our Solicitor has requested a Land Registry compliant map. Estates will be providing this.

Time Team Field Wall

Reported that the wall is unsafe and queried when works would be carried out. Councillor Haddow will be raising this with the owner.

Toilets/War Memorial Repairs

Councillor Swift had met with four contractors. A Toilets Working Group will be arranged.

Llanfair Discoed – Councillor Vacancy

No applications.

Dog Fouling

Councillor Swift is liaising with MCC re installation of new bin for Crick.

Bag holders and bags had been received. Councillor Dawson had volunteered to place the majority of these. Agreed to ask villagers to take only what they need.

Wind Turbine, Rogiet School

Information from MCC re power consumption before it broke down and now had been circulated. Councillor Counsell was concerned that this unit cost, he believed, was £90,000 at the time and would be interested in information on how many kilowatts per hour were recorded when the wind was blowing and was the meter actually working. The Chairman will talk to MCC again and Councillor George will discuss this with the Headteacher.

Crick Sign

Still awaiting details of specification/prices. Reminded again.

Xmas Lighting

We have to send numerous pieces of information to MCC, Clerk liaising MCC/contractor.

Internet Access

Meeting held 5th October in Raglan.

Play Equipment

No legal obligation to install equipment for disabled used.

Little Ballan Cottage, Crick

Environmental Health liaising with owners.

Barrier Services

A copy of their licence with DVSA had been received which stated 8 vehicles and 4 trailers were allowed. They in fact only use 7 vehicles.

Defibrillator

Cabinet/batteries on order, should arrive next week, being delivered to The Woodlands Tavern. Batteries unopened last for 5 years. Zoll Medical do not sell signage any longer, Councillor Haddow will investigate other sources.

Assets Inspection

Clerk will compile report and remind anyone who has not reported.

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

316 members.

Apart from issues already reported a lot of concern regarding the safety at the crossroads junction, agreed to request again that the white lining be re-painted.

MONTHLY PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT

Caerwent - Wooden beam requires replacement

Llanfair Discoed – surfacing requires attention

Agreed to accept quote from MCC Inspector

Inspector also reported corrosion on slide on Caerwent and rot on multiplay unit at Llanfair Discoed – quote been requested.

M4664 CORRESPONDENCE

Welsh Government - Independent Review Panel set up to consider the future role of Community and Town Councils

Noted

One Voice Wales – Consultation – Guidance for Principal Councils on the Review of Communities

Agreed to await consultation from MCC

M4665 FINANCE

To consider balances/payment and approval as per finance schedule dated September 2017:

Balances as at 30th September:

Moneymaster Account	£15,868.55
Community Account	£8,529.47
Petty Cash	£87.54

1. Clerk's Salary, Allowances, Mileage (30)	as per NALC scales
2. Inland Revenue	£55.71
3. Torfaen Pension Fund	(employee) £49.27
	(employer) £179.18
4. Merlin Waste	£135.60
5. Petty Cash	£162.00
6. Go Daddy (website)	£15.72

Council approved.

To consider quarterly figures

Council noted and agreed that the budget was to plan.

Annual Return 2016/17

Council noted that the Annual Return 2016/17 had been approved by external audit with no matters requiring an Issues Arising Report.

M4666 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

To report any highways/rights of way issues

Five Lanes to Carrow Hill on right – trench alongside road hazardous.
Cycle path to Crick nr Welfare Centre – branch requires removal.
Cycle path opposite Trewen nr bus shelter - oak tree branches hanging onto the path.
All cycle paths – weeds coming through.
A48 all white lines require renewal.
Caldicot Town Team event – signs still in situ on A48.
Roads from farms – very muddy and hazardous.
Lots of litter on verges and lanes.
Five Lanes, nr Dewtow Road cut branches left.
Highways sign/post at crossroads in Caerwent bent and box unlockable.
Caldicot Road/crossroads, Caerwent, STOP lettering and white lining require renewal.

M4667 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports.

M4668 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Councillors to inform Clerk.

Chairman Date