

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 14TH APRIL 2016

Present: Councillors:
K Evans
B Counsell
G Cousins
K Hadow
P Lewis
P Murphy
K Stock
K Swift

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

M4393 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillors Saville and Trayler-Smith.

M4394 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Councillor K Evans | Caerwent Historic Trust | Trustee |
| Councillor K Stock | Caerwent Playing Fields Assoc | Committee Member |
| Councillor P Murphy | Caerwent Community Centre | Trustee |

M4395 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair wished to add onto the agenda that the Council consider a donation for plants for Llanfair Discoed towards the Best Kept Village Competition. This will be discussed under Finance.

M4396 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident from Llanfair Discoed wished to raise various concerns:

The road in Llanfair at the Woodlands Tavern is very narrow, there are no give way signs, cars are mounting the pavement putting pedestrians at risk and last year a couple of cars ended up in the brook. He suggested a visit from Highways and possibly some signage and road marking before a serious accident occurs.

Opposite Lower Farm there are new walls, the brook is the containing wall for the road. Part of the wall has moved and he fears that this will go into the brook and the road will then become flooded. If flooded the road will become damaged and will need repair.

Footways around Courthouse Road have many potholes. The elderly and disabled are having to go onto the road to avoid them. North side very bad, south side lifted and covered with moss.

The grass at the junction of the A48 and the Cas Troggy Road is only cut by MCC once per year and often visibility is very poor. Could this be cut more in line with other entrances in Caerwent.

Councillor Murphy advised that all of these issues are difficult to address due to budget cuts but he had already raised them with MCC. He announced that the old “School” signs in Llanfair will be replaced with “narrow road” signs and are on schedule for this year.

The Highways Manager has requested an Engineer’s Report on the slipping bank.

The footways were on schedule for repair six years ago but disappeared from the list due to the backlog which has now topped £81m. Extremely difficult to address in present financial climate.

Councillor Murphy confirmed that the junction at Cas Troggy is cut once per year. Agreed that the Community Council contact MCC to enquire if there are any restrictions re cutting at this area and if not to request quotes to cut 3 times per year from May – September.

M4397 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 10TH MARCH 2016

These were agreed as a true record.

M4398 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

There was no police report.

Pcso Norville had asked for priorities for the area. Agreed that speeding be the main focus.

Councillor Lewis raised a concern that the police occasionally have difficulty in locating individual houses, ie on the lanes. Queried if a map should be provided. Agreed to ask Pcso Norville what they use to locate properties. Councillor Swift advised that this is also a problem in Crick – she had previously contacted Ordnance Survey who had advised that commercial vehicles should carry business satnavs but they invariably do not. Agreed to contact Highways to enquire if a satnav sign could be placed at the end of Bradbury Farm lane as this area is a particular problem.

M4399 PLANNING

To note Conservation Area Appraisal amendments to 18 areas within Monmouthshire

Noted.

There were no planning applications to consider.

Old Welfare Centre land (now owned by Baileys) – fence had been taken down and correct one erected as per Enforcement who regularly visit. They will not be allowed to put in a planning application until the next LDP in 2021.

M4400 PROVISION OF DEFIBRILLATOR

To consider any further information received and whether to provide a defibrillator within the community

Councillor Haddow had been in discussions with the Chairman of The Lions. He had suggested that the phone box could be a good location for a defibrillator. Councillor Haddow had contacted BT who had advised that planning permission is

required but that we would lose the phone service – not able to establish usage figures. Other locations were discussed – Village Hall, Post Office, Toilets, Coach & Horses. We should know about the funding situation by the end of April. They cost £900 but any extras can be purchased for £400. The battery is serviced and lasts for two years. Letters of support will be required. The ambulance service will train users.

Councillor Swift had sought information from an Advanced Life Support Instructor. The ambulance service should be able to give us figures from their records of the number of events in Caerwent to get an idea of potential need. They can also advise on the time it takes to get to the patient too - if it is more than 9 mins the potential value of a defibrillator increases. She was also aware of an excellent system within Devauden where a number of villagers are trained as first responders and can use a defibrillator. When the ambulance service receives a 999 call for a suspected cardiac arrest in the village they then send a text message out to all the 'first responders' so that whoever is available can respond to the casualty and they know the keypad code to get the defibrillator out of the locked box.

Councillor Haddow will continue to progress this proposed project.

M4401 NOTICEBOARDS

To consider future provision and maintenance of our nine noticeboards within the community

The Clerk reported that they all now need varying degrees of maintenance/repair apart from the Llanfair board. One board has been taken away due to its condition and one has a door missing. Other neighbouring Community Councils have an average of three boards for their areas. The Clerk has been posting in just three boards as a test for three months and has received no comments on this so far. Council queried whether most residents actually use the boards as opposed to accessing information online. We now have a Facebook page and information is posted on here. Agreed to seek views in the newsletter and on Facebook.

M4402 DRAFT MCC PARKING PLACES ORDER 2016

To consider consultation document

Noted

M4403 CONSULTATION ON COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY: DRAFT CHARGING SCHEDULE

To consider consultation document

Councillor Murphy advised that CIL is negotiated as Section 106 is, it changes from town to town, not allocated to immediate area – spent within the county. 15% goes to the Community Council. Either CIL or Section 106 could be awarded, or a combination of both depending on the type of development.

M4404 COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE

To consider the inclusion of Councillor profiles

Councillors agreed to send profiles to the Chair.

M4405 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

Clerk's Report

Dates for Diaries

Meeting with MoD postponed at suggestion of Shirenewton Community Council.

Community Asset Transfer

Asset Transfer Consultant had met with Estate in MCC. They are in the process of setting up a Community Asset Transfer Working Group whose remit will be to evaluate and approve Expressions of Interest for transfers and to evaluate business cases. Our Expression of Interest will be evaluated at their first meeting and they will consider our Business Case shortly after that. There are some issues about who owns what and who leases to whom but these seem to be minor details that can be resolved quite easily.

Speedwatch

Councillor Haddow has recruited more villagers to be involved. The Clerk reported that the Sgt who was running the Speedwatch meetings has now left and they are seeking a replacement. Further meetings will be arranged once his replacement is in post.

St Brides Flooding

Reply received from MCC regarding the removal of bricks at Lower Rock Cottage on St Brides Road that they would find it difficult to prove that the bricks were removed, or indeed that flooding is increased due to the removal. St Brides Road acts as a 'flood plain' for the brook, where during downpours it comes onto the road at several locations. Therefore, they do not consider there to be any further action from MCC.

Councillor Counsell had met with a Welsh Water Engineer on site to point out the issues. Welsh Water will update us on any progress by 16 May.

No 75 Bus Service

Will be serviced by the grassroutes mini bus. Councillor Murphy will enquire if the timetable is the same.

Caerwent Toilets

Graffiti in toilets (twice) – contractor painted over.

Crossroads signage at Carrow Hill

The remaining offending sign will be removed resulting in the current giveway markings being legal and sufficient. Councillor Murphy will ask for the two uprights to be removed, along with another one further up the road.

Ruts in road, Carrow Hill

Reply from MCC that these are on the database to be done. Owing to the ongoing

financial constraints put upon local authorities and other more high priority works, they cannot give a timescale as to when. Agreed to raise serious health and safety situation here and to remind that Mr Hoggins of MCC agreed to remedy this situation.

Flood sign at entrance to Storefields

As there has been no flooding in the last two years at this location MCC will remove the sign and posts.

Village Hall Project

Will commence 18th April – should be completed in 20 weeks. Total cost £193,736.00 + VAT. Payments to be made monthly. MCC will transfer from the Section 106 monies £147,394 immediately and £22,024 on completion. Shortfall of £24,318.00 will be met by the CPFA. The main hall will remain open throughout so that bookings can continue. Councillor Stock was asked to inform the CPFA that they should apply to the Lower Wye Area Committee for a grant.

Caerwent Community Centre Project

They will be commencing their works in July – they have applied for many grants and have almost got all of their funding.

Blown over Tree – Playing Fields

Has been removed and neighbour's fence will be repaired via CPFA.

Five Lanes Recycling Site

Reply from MCC re the lack of nets on vehicles that they have asked Virador to ensure theirs and other contracted commercial waste operators are netting every load. It is considerably more difficult with domestic trailers and SMEs who use the site but they could potentially put up some signage. If people are travelling into site and waste is blowing off the back of the vehicles this is a police matter as it is an unsafe load. The Clerk will request that signage be put up.

Social Media Report

162 members

Query re defibrillator - this had already been addressed in the Chair's newsletter.

M4406 CORRESPONDENCE

Mons Meadows Newsletter

MCC – Suspension of Programme Boards

Trading Standards – Wales Against Scams Partnership

Little Gem TV Production Company – Family Documentary Series – seeking families to appear in their programme. Agreed to place in newsletter/Facebook.

M4407 FINANCE

To consider payment and approval as per finance schedule

Council agreed.

To approve payment of ongoing finance bills from Maison Design re

Village Hall project as per contract

Agreed that in view of the fact that these invoices have to be paid within seven days that delegated powers for payment are given to the Clerk and Chair.

To consider purchasing plants for Llanfair village re Best Kept Village Competition

Agreed that £150 be allocated towards this.

M4408 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY**To report any highways/rights of way issues**

Speed signs in Caerwent village still not working. A contractor has now been given the job.

Bus stop Five Lanes east, kerb broken.

Road between Golf Club entrance and Little Dewstow is sinking.

Street lights permanently on at Roundbush Crescent, Kilpale Close, Ash Tree Road, Merton Green.

Dinham Road nr A48 – potholes.

Brockwells Farm – extremely large pothole (1ft across).

Old Roman Road west – Welsh Water had been in attendance but now the edge of drive has been worn away.

Cas Troggy Road, Llanfair Discoed – potholes outside Bryn Gwyn.

Situation re rear accesses of some flats on Ash Tree Road – a meeting will take place on 15th April with MCC and Monmouthshire Housing Association.

M4409 EXTENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Agreed to extend by 15 minutes.

M4410 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Chair advised that the Caerwent Historic Trust have taken an interest in re-visiting the project of having pumps re-instated into the village. They had met with the Heritage Lottery Fund who are looking for projects to commemorate the First World War and are interested in our project. The Historic Trust will have to show the uniqueness of the re-instatement of the pumps.

M4410 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Outgoing Chair's Report.

Chair Date

