

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 14th JULY 2011

Present: P Murphy (Chairman) D Hedley
B Counsell P Kidger
G Cousins P Lewis
K Evans

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council

Members of

Public: Mr/Mrs Meredith, Old Roman Road, Caerwent
Mr/Mrs Edwards, Old Roman Road, Caerwent
Mr W Edwards, Yew Tree Farm, Llanfair Discoed

M3602 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillors Swift and Vosloo.

M3603 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr P Edwards queried again the presence of boulders outside of Green Lane House. The Clerk had written to Highways but had received no reply as yet.

Mrs Edwards reported that a car had been parked all day at the bus stop at the toilets on Friday 8th July. It was agreed that this was a matter for the police.

Mrs Edwards was concerned that visitors to the village are constantly parking outside the post office and causing traffic jams. She had written to Highways suggesting that no parking signs be erected during certain hours. The Clerk reminded the meeting that Cadw were due to erect signage in the village regarding their car park – she was asked to check.

M3604 CONFIRMATION of MINUTES of MEETING HELD on 9TH JUNE 2011 and MoD MEETING HELD 14TH JUNE 2011

9th June 2011 – these were agreed as a true record with the following amendments:

Page 1 Councillor K Swift was in attendance
Page 4 **Street Lighting, Crick**
Should read “Councillor Swift had received notification

14th June 2011 – these were agreed as a true record with the following amendments:

Page 3 **Wormtech**
Should read “They have been fined £41,000 for wrongful disposal”

M3605 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor P Murphy	Caerwent Community Centre (Old Gym) Committee
Councillor G Cousins	Merton Green Action Group
Councillor P Kidger	Caerwent Playing Fields Association

M3606 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

There was no police report. It was agreed to write to Pc Underhill to ask if she would attend future meetings.

M3607 MATTERS ARISING

Merton Green

The Chairman and Councillor Cousins reported on their latest meeting with the Site Manager of Barratts. Councillor Cousins had reported the bad language being used by the workforce and the inadequacy of the road sweeper.

The Chairman had reported to MCC Legal Department the fact that Barratts are not informing prospective purchasers of the MoD activities. He had been asked to provide evidence. It was agreed that he and Councillor Cousins mention this at their next meeting with Barratts. Councillor Evans advised that by not informing purchasers of activity on the Base this is a misrepresentation and a misleading omission under the Consumer Protection Regulations. It was agreed to write to Trading Standards.

Proposed Closure of School Lane

The Chairman reported that there had been a delay re the proposed public enquiry. A meeting had been held at MCC this week with a view to moving this forward. MCC are awaiting leading counsel's advice on procedure. The Chairman informed the meeting that a public enquiry would cost £20,000 and if it is possible to go through the procedure with full public participation without this expenditure this would be preferable.

Section 106

Barratts had written to MCC requesting that the Section 106 monies be released when 85% of properties are occupied.

Old Gym

Clerk had reminded the MoD at the meeting with them that no communication had been received from their Solicitor. She had received an email from the MoD the very next day informing us that they will chase their Solicitor – still no progress.

Bradbury Farm, Crick (Play Area/Allotments)

The Chairman reported that this is likely to be sold within the next six months. He had spoken to Asset Management regarding a piece of land and they had noted this request.

Provision of Allotments

Councillors Counsell and Cousins had visited the proposed A48 site today. They reported that the area will not be too difficult to clear and the soil appears suitable.

Three or four trees would require removal but one very attractive beech tree should remain. It was agreed to contact the Tree Officer at the appropriate time. Fencing and water would need to be put in. It was agreed to remind Christian Lowe in Highways about the results of his deliberations and mention that if the speed on the A48 is reduced to 30 this would be preferable. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain a copy of the MCC Allotment Policy.

Circular Walk

Councillor Counsell will be contacting Kellie Beirne, Chief Officer.

Caerwent House

An update had been received from the Conservation Manager of MCC.

Footpath/Land Attached to Great House Farm

No progress.

Cwrt Morgan Adoption

Councillor Evans reported that the developer cannot be traced. The Chairman enquired of Councillor Evans the date of the lorry accident re the damaged light and whether it was a recycling or refuse vehicle – Councillor Evans agreed to inform him.

Caerwent Public Toilets

There had been a complaint that there was no toilet paper for a few days. The reason was that MCC had still not supplied the key for the roll and soap dispensers - our cleaners were therefore putting individual rolls in which were going missing - MCC have now supplied keys. Mr P Edwards had offered to provide lagging for the pipework – it was agreed to consider this at the end of the summer. The Clerk was asked to provide a breakdown of costs so far.

Dog Waste Bins (Roman Wall)

A couple of complaints that Tump bin was overfull – Clerk asked contractor to empty one extra time that week. It was agreed to keep a watching brief on this.

Welcome to Caerwent booklet

Councillor Lewis reported on progress. A letter had been received from Caldicot Musical Theatre Society enquiring if they can advertise in the booklet - Clerk to reply positively and refer them to Councillor Lewis. He had received a quote of £250 for 250 with coloured front and black/white inside – it was agreed that we may require more. Councillor Cousins offered to post them at the appropriate time. It was agreed to accept local advertising. The Clerk was asked to remind the MoD about their insertion. Councillor Counsell agreed to advise Councillor Lewis of font size.

Crick Village Enhancement Scheme

Councillor Cousins had arranged for soil from the Barratts site to be delivered to the Crick project.

Village Signs

Email from Tourism Officer re funding available from Rural Development Plan for signage. It was agreed that we would require “Caerwent Roman Town (Venta Silura)” probably in latin font on the A48 and a tourist sign in the centre of village at crossroads.

Recognition of Councillor Nettleship

Councillors agreed that location of bench suggested by Mrs Nettleship was appropriate.

Lawrence Crescent Play Area

New swing seats, bench and litter bin installed.

Councillor Vacancy – St Brides Ward

Interview took place 7th July – offer letter sent out.

No Dogs Signage – Play Areas

Larger sign now in place on Playing Fields.

Boulders, Green Lane House

Queried boundary with Highways – no reply as yet.

Traffic Survey, A48

This was commissioned by the Safety Camera Partnership, not Highways. Councillor Evans suggested that it would be appropriate to obtain a copy of this for our allotment project. The Chairman agreed to enquire.

Communal Areas - Flats, Merton Green

Chairman had sought advice and had been informed that communal areas are No Smoking and signs to this effect will be erected.

Historic Walk at MoD Base

Organised by Cadw for 31st July - email invitation sent out.

Tour of Caerwent Training Area for Caerwent/Shirenewton Councillors

Will take place on Saturday 17th September 12 noon.

M3608 PLANNING

2011/00515 Amendment to Plot 36, Merton Green

This Council recommends Approval

2011/00510 The Merrils, Carrow Hill, Extension to Rear and Erection of Building to Accommodate Pumping Unit

This Council recommends Approval

2011/00509 4 Cadoc Close, Caerwent Second Storey Extension and Conservatory at Rear

This Council recommends Approval

A letter had been received regarding an occupied caravan on the Brockwells land on Five Lanes near the entry to Brockwell Meadows. Clerk to report to Planning Enforcement.

Council agreed that any planning applications received during August be delegated to two Councillors and the Clerk

M3609 PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORTS

Council noted Inspection Reports for the Llanfair and Trewen Play areas. The Clerk had requested a quote from MCC for required works.

Councillor Kidger proposed that the administration of the Play Area inspections for the Caerwent Playing Fields be transferred to the Community Council. It was agreed to agenda this for the September meeting.

M3610 RISK ASSESSMENT INSPECTION

Council agreed inspection duties.

M3611 FINANCE

Council noted and agreed the following payments and income as per Finance scheduled dated July 2011.

Expenditure	£13,362.85
Income	£7546.10

M3612 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Simon Staton, Garden Games, Oxfordshire
If we agree to put a link to their company on our website they will provide £40 worth of free outdoor toy equipment. This was agreed

with a 12 month time limit and that the piece of toy equipment be donated to the Daisychains nursery in Caerwent.

2. Dr Stephanie Taylor, Chairman, Monmouthshire Meadows Group
Safeguarding roadside verges
3. Gemma Bode, Conservation Manager, Gwent Wildlife Trust
Safeguarding roadside verges

It was agreed to reply to 2 and 3 above stating that our investigations have not identified that such activities are taking place and the areas are trimmed at the appropriate time for safety reasons. We will however keep a watching brief. The Chairman agreed to instruct Mr Downes to not tidy the brambles behind the bus shelter.

4. OMBUDSMAN
Annual Report 2010/11
5. MINUTES/PUBLICATIONS
One Voice Wales Area Committee Minutes

M3613 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Email received re speed of traffic on Lawrence Crescent – reply that this is a police matter and that Pc Turner dealing with it.

Dinham Road – no disabled ramp.

Large pothole – Dewstow Road + also near motorway bridge.

St Brides – meadowsweet plant profusely growing in stream.

Caerwent Gardens - no white line at junction.

Surveying work on A48 this week measuring with wheel and then onto Highmoor Hill. Also two MCC officials visited a piece of land on Lawrence Crescent. Chairman agreed to enquire about both.

M3614 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Councillor Counsell reported that he had represented the Community Council at the funeral of ex Councillor Dennis Harper.

The Chairman informed the meeting that there are some monies available for capital equipment through the Area committee and any group should apply to Alan Browne, Area Officer.

Chairman Date