

## **MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016**

Present: Councillors:  
K Haddow (Chair)  
B Counsell  
G Cousins  
K Evans  
P Lewis  
K Swift  
R Trayler-Smith

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council

### **M4417 APOLOGIES**

Received from Councillors Murphy, Saville and Stock.

### **M4418 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Historic Trust	Trustee
Councillor P Lewis	Planning Application 2016/00446	Applicant

### **M4419 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### **M4420 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

### **M4421 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016**

These were agreed as a true record.

### **M4422 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

Pcso Norville advised that he had received a complaint regarding the cesspit emptying vehicle obstructing the highway on Well Lane in Llanvair Discoed. He will establish how often and for how long this obstruction is taking place but in view of lack of resources he sees this as a low priority.

A new Inspector and Sergeant had been appointed for our area.  
There had been five crimes reported this month – all thefts.  
Animals and offroad bikes had been reported present on the A48.

He had met with MCC regarding the speeding problems on the 30 mph zone on the A48. They agreed to look at the signage and also to cut back any vegetation.  
He had completed a speed check on the A48 on 25<sup>th</sup> June commencing 1645 hours – 100 vehicles were checked and the average speed was 31.7 mph. The highest speed was 47 mph.

He had completed all training re the speed guns and will contact us again to confirm when the Speed Watch scheme can get up and running.

Councillor Cousins reported an abandoned car on Ash Tree Road parked on the pavement. Pcso Norville advised that he send the registration number to him.

#### **M4423 PLANNING**

(Councillor Lewis had declared an interest in this application and left the room)

##### **2016/00446 Cobbler's Pitch, Highmoor Hill**

Change of use from holiday let cottage to ancillary use

*This Council recommends **Approval***

(Councillor Lewis rejoined the meeting.)

##### **2016/00357 The Old Forge, Llanfair Discoed**

Extension with external and internal alternations

*This Council recommends **Approval***

##### **2016/00627 Ty Melys, Five Lanes South**

Change of use from domestic garage to ancillary living accommodation

A vote was taken with the result being 5 for Approval/ 1 against/ 1 abstention

*This Council recommends **Approval***

#### **M4424 PROVISION OF DEFIBRILLATOR**

##### **To consider any further information received**

The Chair advised that our application for funding had been received by The Lions. We had received one expression of interest re First Responders. A request had been received via Facebook for defibrillators to be provided in other villages. Agreed to review following the approval of funds for the initial one.

#### **M4425 TO RECEIVE REPORTS**

##### **Clerk's Report**

###### Dates for Diaries

Clerk had reminded the MoD twice about our proposed meeting with them.

###### Community Asset Transfer

Written to Consultant who is now checking progress with MCC.

###### Speedwatch

No further progress – awaiting Sgt replacement.

###### St Brides Flooding

Update from Welsh Water that they had attended the site again on 20 May 2016 to investigate further. Evidence of ground water entering the sewer was identified but at the time they were unable to pinpoint where. Further investigations will now be carried out within the next 6 months during wet weather which should enable them to identify the source of infiltration into the system. Investigations will also be undertaken at the Pumping Station at Castle Coch to ensure that the station is running as designed. They will update us by 1 November 2016.

Council agreed to contact National Resources Wales to test the outlet of the pump as sewage is pumping into the brook every day in all weathers – need a definitive decision.

#### Noticeboards

Clerk continuing to post on just three boards (Caerwent church, Llanfair Discoed and Crick). No further comments received re the provision of boards.

#### Verge Cutting A48/Cas Troggy Junction

Will be cut four times per year (three paid for by us) as opposed to once.

#### Strip of Land to Rear of 40 Merton Green

Councillor Murphy progressing – not resolved yet.

#### Ruts on Track, Caerwent Playing Fields

CPFA have arranged for these to be repaired.

#### Area Capital Grants

Reminded Community Centre and CPFA about this grant – applications now sent in.

#### Internal Auditor Appointment Letter

Letter sent and copy received back signed.

#### Dog Fouling – Roman Wall

Cadw agreed that we could put up signage re dog fouling on their land. Councillor Cousins had placed two signs near the roman wall as well as one at the Cadw barns and two on the Caerwent Playing Fields. He reported that two signs had been removed which is somewhat disappointing.

#### Burger Van, A48

David Atwell, City Councillor (Newport) investigating.

#### **Social Media Report**

171 members

Concerns re driving on Ash Tree Road/Dinham Road – request for stop/give way signage – Councillor Murphy progressing this.

Request for hedges to be cut back – Councillor Murphy progressing this.

Request for defibrillator in other villages – will review once we have approval of first one.

#### **CPFA Project Report**

The extension is now starting to take shape. All the walls are almost up to wall plate and the roof trusses are on the big room that will become the new bar. In the next

couple of weeks it should be all undercover and in the dry - so on schedule.

There are a few issues that could see the project go over budget. The biggest issue is that the existing flat roof over the committee and store room is in a bad state of disrepair. Ideally it should be ripped off and replaced to match the new flat roof over what will be the changing rooms.

There are a few extras externally that may incur. The first being the finish to the exterior walls of the building. The specification is for it to be finished in Spar to match existing. However there has been some talk of painting the exterior. With this in mind they are looking into changing the finish of the new so it is of smooth render and painted in the hope that one day they will paint the rest to match.

There is also the finish of the grounds around what will one day be the changing rooms (currently tarmac). An allowance has been made to lay a patio with seating off the bar but only a footpath around the changing rooms and back to the rear entrance to the toilets. Now that it has all been dug for foundations you can see that all the levels are not level, with some of the existing being higher than the damp proof course DPC so this needs to be addressed.

Discussions have been held with builder and architect about possible options to all of the above and ways of maybe making some savings to offset the extra costs. Estimates have been promised and will be discussed with the CPFA at their next meeting.

Agreed to seek a meeting with the CPFA to discuss the way forward.

A suggestion had been put forward from the CPFA for a fund raising fun run/cycle around the perimeter of the Base. The Clerk advised that there would be risk assessment and insurance issues to address. Agreed to put them in touch with the MoD.

### **Caerwent Community Centre Project Report**

Works on the centre due to commence 4<sup>th</sup> July and expected to last for about 8 – 10 weeks. During this time the Centre will not be available to users, although they hope to have the Sports Hall back in limited use some time during August. A letter of explanation has been sent to all neighbours. Council agreed that a letter of commendation be sent to the Community Centre for their professionalism and efficiency throughout this whole process.

### **M4426 CORRESPONDENCE**

Notice of Car Rally at Caerwent Training Area – 12<sup>th</sup> June  
Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council Newsletter  
Monmouthshire Meadows newsletter  
GAVO - Third Sector Network Forum Engaging and Working in Partnership  
Severnside Town and Community Councils meeting minutes

### **M4427 FINANCE**

**To consider balances/payment and approval as per finance schedule**  
Council approved.

**To consider and approve Annual Return 2015/16**

Council approved the Annual Return - this was signed by the Chair/Clerk.

**To consider effectiveness of internal control**

Agreed that this was satisfactory and the document dated 9<sup>th</sup> June was adopted.

**To consider an increase in our daily payment limit to cover Village Hall/Community Centre improvements billing**

Agreed to increase our daily payment limit to £50,000 to accommodate invoices relating to the Village Hall and Community Centre projects.

**To note that it is a statutory requirement that all Councils publish and report annually to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales on allowances and expenses payable to community and town councillors by 30 September each year.**

Agreed that the Clerk and Councillor Evans undertake this requirement.

**To note National Pay agreement 2016-2018.**

Noted.

**Appeals for funding:**

Monmouthshire Library Service – The Big Friendly Read/Summer Challenge

CHAD – Independent Living Centre, Bargoed

Agreed not to donate to either of these projects.

VAT refund claim for £11,814 sent in to HMRC re Village Hall project.

**M4428 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY**

**To report any highways/rights of way issues**

Right of way sign by Westage Cottage fallen down.

New road sign “Caerwent Road” at the crossroads – why were we not consulted, confusing as it is signed as “Roman Road” at each end.

Very large potholes Whitehall Farm, Highmoor Hill - 1 metre square.

The grassroutes bus has stopped going through Merton Green – query this decision.

Still a problem on Ash Tree Road where some villagers are not putting rubbish out on correct day even though MCC have advised them correctly. Consider putting a link re information on this in the newsletter/Facebook. Warn that there could be a consideration for prosecution for littering if this continues.

**M4429 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no reports.

**M4430 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Councillors to inform Clerk.

Chair ..... Date .....