

## **MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2013**

Present: P Murphy (Chairman) K Haddow  
B Counsell K Swift  
G Cousins R Trayler-Smith  
K Evans

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council  
Sgt R Giles  
Pcso T Norville

5 members of the public

### **M3819 APOLOGIES**

Received from Councillors Lewis and Vosloo. Councillor Hedley had indicated that he may be late in arriving.

### **M3820 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr Harris, Myrtle Cottage, Caerwent, was concerned about the current works being carried out around the cenotaph with two different surfaces, no delineation and the potential of a tripping hazard. He queried if the tactile pavement is DDA compliant. He stated that although the work is of a good standard it is not as good a quality as in some other villages, ie Magor. Mr Harris informed the Council that the commemorative bench for Councillor Nettleship, although not fixed as yet, is now facing the church. The Chairman agreed to raise all of these points with the Highways Manager.

### **M3821 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2013**

It was agreed that these were a true record.

### **M3822 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor P Murphy – Caerwent Community Centre (Committee Member)  
Councillor B Counsell – Planning Application 2012/01039 Myrtle Cottage, Caerwent (family connection)

### **M3823 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

Pcso Norville reported that there had been no anti-social behaviour or public safety calls reported this month. Metal theft is still taking place and there had been 9 road traffic accidents. He had pursued the dog fouling issue at Canon Lane and 1 villager had been cautioned.

He outlined the new Action Fraud initiative which is a central point of contact for information about fraud and financially motivated internet crime – telephone 0300 123 2040. The Chairman advised that in a recent case of fraud at a local business the incident was reported to 101 but the victim was informed that this was not a police matter. Pcso Norville stated that banks have their own investigation service and matters such as this should now be reported to the new Action Fraud telephone number. It was agreed to mention this new initiative in the next newsletter. Councillor Haddow queried response times following reporting – Inspector Giles will

inform us when any statistics are published.

Inspector Giles informed the meeting that police patrols are currently covering remote villages at 3 - 4 in the morning.

### **M3824 MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Merton Green**

The Chairman reported that he had sent a query regarding the parking issue and is awaiting a reply.

#### **Caerwent Village Enhancement Scheme**

Old Roman Road (from crossroads to Pound Lane) will be closed from 18<sup>th</sup> March until no later than 7<sup>th</sup> April to facilitate carriageway resurfacing works.

Councillor Counsell had raised with Highways the provision of a disabled access at the bus stop at the War Memorial. Councillor Swift advised that modern buses do lower as required.

#### **Circular Walk**

Councillor Counsell stated that he is still having difficulty getting a response from MCC. The Chairman agreed to chase this up.

Councillor Counsell advised that a grant of £25,000 (to be spent before October 2013) had been awarded via Councillor Pauline Watts for a walk from Caldicot to Caerwent. The Chairman agreed to enquire about this.

#### **Caerwent Playing Fields Trees**

These works started this week.

#### **Time Team Field**

The Historic Trust had contacted Cadw who had requested a written plan. They are now working on this. Councillor Counsell proposed that when this is all finally agreed Terms of Reference are put in place.

#### **Cwrt Morgan Adoption**

No progress.

#### **Provision of Allotments**

Mr Davies of the MoD is in correspondence with Sennybridge re this issue. Major Mahony has requested a detailed plan, ie location/costs and will discuss this with the Community Council at our next meeting with them in April (23<sup>rd</sup>). Councillor Swift suggested that we enquire again about a site at the west gate entrance.

#### **Provision of Dog Friendly Stiles**

Councillor Lewis had informed the Clerk that he now has a copy of the up-to-date

Definitive Map and will liaise with Councillor Counsell.

### **Dog Waste Bins**

It was agreed that four further bins be financed and provided for the community – Canon Lane (Caerwent), Llanfair Discoed, Ash Tree Road (Dinham) and Llanfair Road (Dinham). Councillor Cousins is still in discussions with Barratts regarding whether they will finance any of the bins allocated for Merton Green.

*Councillor Hedley joined the meeting.*

### **Proposed re-instatement of Village Pumps**

Councillor Counsell is in the process of acquiring quotes to re-instate Pumps at School Lane and Green Lane, to also include improving the wall at Bumble Bee Cottage.

### **Best Kept Village Signage, Llanfair Discoed**

Councillor Vosloo had reported that she is still awaiting a drawing.

### **Code of Conduct Training**

Councillors had attended a training session on 27<sup>th</sup> February run by Mr Murray Andrews of MCC.

### **Caerwent Village Hall/Playing Fields Rent Increase**

Copy of deeds received. Offer from MCC to a new rent of £7,900 rather than £8,600 per annum. Nia Gittins of the Caerwent Playing Fields Association had drafted a letter and it was agreed that it be sent to Mr Rob Tranter of Legal with a copy to Estates Department.

The Chairman advised that an evaluation re the grant, ie 90/95%, is underway within MCC. The issue of insurance being duplicated will be looked at on a case by case basis.

### **Training Session by Social Enterprise Development Officer**

Training session given by Deserie Mansfield, Social Enterprise Development Officer on 5<sup>th</sup> March for community groups (Caerwent Playing Fields Association, Caerwent Community Centre Committee and Crick Wildlife Group present) re their status and correct procedures. She explained that all charities must be run under charitable law and all groups should regularly re-visit their constitutions. Groups should have a Service Level Agreement (verbal or written) and she is happy to advise on this separately. She advised groups to look widely for grants as they all have different criteria.

### **Dewstow Road Condition – Brockwells Area**

Enforcement action in process.

### **Caerwent Toilets**

Councillor Counsell had received a report from Property Services which had been

circulated. Clerk had received 3<sup>rd</sup> Electrician quote. Councillor Hedley advised that European Funding may be available for any DDA compliant works. It was agreed to arrange a meeting of the Sub-Committee following receipt of a further condition report.

### **Website Funding from Welsh Government**

Email received from Digital Communities Co-ordinator, MCC proposing an overarching website/platform. Councillor Evans had some reservations about this and the possibility of losing control of our site. It was agreed that more detail is required on the proposals and that Councillor Evans would attend if a meeting is called.

### **Bradbury Farm Proposed Play Area**

It was agreed that the only land available now is behind the farm house. Councillor Swift queried if this would actually have to be a traditional play area, given that there are only a very small number of children in the village. It was agreed that it did not necessarily have to be traditional, just a protected field, but Councillor Counsell felt that we must be mindful of the longterm future of the area and plan for any future generations.

### **M3825 PLANNING**

#### **2012/01039 Myrtle Cottage, Caerwent**

Proposed Double Garage with Attached Store

*This Council recommends **Approval***

Positioning of garage should be at end of garden

Current height of wall would cause visibility issues

Wall should be brought up to a safe standard similar to next door

Needs watching brief from Cadw

Query if plans meet planning criteria for development within town walls

Pleased to note that this will hopefully alleviate illegal parking at the cenotaph

### **M3826 FINANCE**

It was agreed to pay accounts re Finance Schedule dated March 2013.

### **M3827 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. ONE VOICE WALES  
They have been approached by the General Manager of the Caldicot and Wentlooge Levels Internal Drainage Board who considers that it may be beneficial if a meeting were to be arranged between representatives of the Board and Community and Town Councils located in or near the area covered by the Board. The meeting would be held in mid May at the offices of the Board at Nash, Newport.
2. MARK YOUNGMAN, TRANSPORT POLICY & COMPLIANCE MANAGER, MCC  
Exhibitions will be held Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March and on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March in Rogiet to present proposals for a range of improvements at Severn Tunnel Junction station.

3. GWENT ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS  
 “Info” Day – Little Mill Village Hall 21<sup>st</sup> March  
 A day to exchange/collect information. Presentations will be held on Single Integrated Plan, 2013 Volunteering Achievement Awards, launch of “Monmouthshire Minibus”.
4. MR J HARRIS, MYRTLE COTTAGE, CAERWENT  
 4 Freedom of Information Requests
5. MINUTES/PUBLICATIONS  
 Ombudsman for Wales leaflets

### **M3828 STANDING ORDERS**

Council agreed to review current Standing Orders. A Sub-Committee of all Councillors was agreed. Clerk to arrange meeting.

### **M3829 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY**

NY627 and NY386 lights not working.

Exposed BT Cables at crossroads in Caerwent.

Dinham Road potholes.

Old Roman Road west – one of the new bollards damaged already.

62 Bus doing a u turn on A48 – not going through Merton Green estate.

St Brides Road bollards still in place

Verge collapse – Salisbury Farm

Five Lanes to Carrow Hill edge gone, verge collapse

Manor Farm now has new postcode. Councillor Swift will contact Highways regarding obtaining a new postcode for the Bradbury Farm area.

### **M3830 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

Councillor Swift reported that the current Postmistress at Caerwent Post Office will be retiring in April. It was agreed to mention this in the newsletter.

Chairman ..... Date .....