

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 10TH
FEBRUARY 2011

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

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council
Pc A Turner

Members of Mr/Mrs Edwards, New Cottages, Caerwent
Public: Mrs A M Spooner, Centurions Court, Caerwent
Mr W Belsten, Yew Tree Farm, Llanfair Discoed

M3536 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillors Nettleship and Lewis.

M3537 15 MINUTES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Belsten reported slurry on the lane from Five Lanes coming from Lower House Farm. He stated that the lane is in an appalling state and is a traffic hazard. He had recommended that a lagoon be installed in the field but apparently this suggestion was turned down by County Farms. The Chairman had been in contact with the County Farms Manager about this but will report it again. Mr Belsten informed the Council that if no action is taken he will report this to Environmental Health.

Mrs Spooner referred to the minutes of the last meeting and queried that they stated that the matter of Merton Green would go to the Licencing Committee in February. The Chairman confirmed that this had in fact been adjourned awaiting a response from the High Court.

M3538 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13TH JANUARY 2011

These were confirmed as a true record.

M3539 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Councillors Cousins/Counsell | Merton Green Action Group |
| Councillor Kidger | Caerwent Playing Fields Association |
| Councillor Murphy | Caerwent Community Centre Cttee (Old Gym) |

M3540 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

Pc Turner reported on crime this month. He had carried out some speed monitoring on the Old Roman Road where the highest speed recorded was 50 mph but most were within the limit. The main offenders were contractors from Redrow – Pc Turner had visited them and the situation had then improved. Speed monitoring will shortly be carried out on Dewstow Hill to the village by a motorcycle camera. Currently he is only giving out warnings but within a couple of months he will prosecute.

A new "Farm Watch" scheme will be introduced shortly in conjunction with the National Farmers and the Welsh Farmers Union.

Pc Turner outlined a new scheme re crime prevention alarms and requested funding to purchase alarms to sell to the local community at cost price when they have been victims of crime. This money would then be used to purchase more alarms. It was agreed to discuss this under Finance.

M3541 MATTERS ARISING

Bicca Common

No progress.

Merton Green

Pending – awaiting result of court hearing.

Proposed Closure of School Lane

Consultation period closed 31st January. Response from Traffic & Development Manager re consultation procedures - they have followed the statutory consultation process insofar as they have advertised the notice of intention in the local press and displayed the notice on site. Additionally the proposal was exhibited at the Merton Green exhibition on 21st April 2010 and questionnaires completed by a number of those who attended, he has spoken to this Council and has written to the residents of both School Lane and Pound Lane as it was felt appropriate to do so as they were the residents directly affected by the proposal. This is generally over and above what they would consider appropriate for a simple traffic order but in this case what they have done is in his opinion reasonable. Objection letter received from Mr Meredith of 2 New Cottages (circulated).

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Traffic & Development Manager is now considering the responses but it does seem likely that a Public Enquiry will have to be held.

Section 106

Pending – awaiting result of hearing.

Old Gym

MCC are currently in process of carrying out survey on building. The Clerk confirmed that we have the funds to pay for the building. Councillor Hedley expressed concern that we may have to pay back this amount to MCC should Section 106 monies not become available.

Bradbury Farm, Crick (Play Area/Allotments)

The Chairman advised that the tenant has now agreed terms re his tenancy. When the property goes on the market we can at that point talk to the County Farms Manager about any schemes we have in mind.

Provision of Allotments

Clerk had confirmed to MoD our interest in the site on the A48. Clerk currently in correspondence with Highways re access of site onto A48. Councillor Swift felt that this site was not really suitable for allotments due to the amount of tree and root removal required and suggested it would be more suited to a Wildlife Site. Councillor Counsell suggested that a JCB could easily carry this work out.

Councillor Swift suggested another area of MoD land on the A48 where there is currently a stone building. Councillor Counsell reported that the MoD are not in favour of approaching the tenant.

Caerwent House

The Chairman informed the Council that a report has been written and this will go back to court shortly.

Steps Cottage

No progress.

Footpath/Land Attached to Great House Farm

The Chairman reported that a report will soon be received. There will be a bat survey in May and then the house will go up for sale.

Cwrt Morgan Adoption

The Clerk had searched the internet for any new legislation on unadopted roads but had found none. Councillor Evans informed the Chairman that he required a specification and the Chairman agreed to remind Wendy Mustoe in Highways again. Councillor Evans informed the meeting that the residents may put a claim in against MCC due to a refuse vehicle knocking over a street light.

Proposed Bridleway around MoD Site

Councillor Counsell had not arranged to meet up with Kellie Beirne as yet. The Chairman agreed to arrange a half day visit to our area.

The Clerk had written expressing our interest in land at Cas Troggy and Cwm corner. Councillor Counsell felt that it would also be useful to convey interest in the Crick Railway Line as this could be incorporated in a walk to Caldicot Castle and Crick -this was agreed.

Provision of Public Conveniences in Monmouthshire

Clerk had spoken to Roger Hoggins reminding him that we did not agree to pay legal costs. He stated that other Community Councils had agreed to pay and that the sum would probably be in the region of £200. He had agreed to find out exact sums and get back to us.

Clerk had been approached by electrical contractor re required works – asked him to send quote in.

Dog Waste Bins (Roman Wall)

Contractor not happy with size of bin suggested by Cadw. He recommended an alternative company which is used by many local councils – Clerk sent details to Cadw.

Welcome to Caerwent booklet

No progress.

Village Enhancement Scheme

Councillor Swift reported that this is ongoing and she has been trying to seek permission to tidy up the brook but this has proved somewhat difficult due to all the various departments and organisations involved. The Chairman asked her to send details to him and he will then speak to Kellie Beirne.

Crick east Bus Stop

No plans by Welsh Office or MCC to improve bus shelter - unable to obtain grants for improvements to land. It was agreed that some form of planting should probably take place here and Councillor Swift was asked to come up with a scheme.

Crick lighting

Councillor Swift reported that this was still ongoing.

West Entrance into Caerwent (lack of lighting)

Written to Highways Manager – awaiting reply.

Severn View Rubbish Collection

Clerk written to MCC who subsequently contacted Councillor Cousins. It was agreed that the Chairman and Councillor Cousins contact MCC again.

Planning Training

Councillor Swift and Hedley handed out Planning Aid booklets provided at their seminar.

Councillor Murphy declared an interest in the following item and left the room.

Expenditure of “Frostbite” Donation of £2,000

Various suggestions had been received – donations to Playing Fields Committee/Old Gym Committee, bench for Play Area, quality village signs, speed equipment, legal costs for Merton Green Action Group, public toilets. The Clerk pointed out that the speed equipment is no longer required as Pc Turner now has a speed gun and there is no direct

statutory power in the Local Government Act which would allow us to donate towards legal expenses of other community organisations.

It was agreed that a bench be purchased for the Lawrence Crescent Play Area as suggested by Councillor Cousins. Also it was agreed to look into providing quality village signs as suggested by Councillor Counsell.

Councillor Murphy re-joined the meeting.

M3542 PLANNING

2011/00016 1 Brooklyn Cottages, Shirenewton Road, Crick

Two Storey Side Extension

*This Council recommends **Approval***

Recommend that the front should be stone clad and that the porch should also be brought into line with the rest of the development.

2010/00907 The Old School, School Lane, Caerwent

Retrospective planning application for installation of an LPG tank

*This Council recommends **Approval***

M3543 FINANCE

Council agreed the following payments as per Finance Schedule for February 2011:

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Payments | £1888.85 |
|----------|----------|

Annual Return 2009/10 reapproved to now include VAT. Internal Auditor informed.

The request for funding for crime prevention alarms as suggested by Pc Turner was discussed and it was agreed to make a grant of up to £400 with a stipulation that at the end of the scheme monies be returned to this Council.

Quote received from MCC for grass cutting Llanfair Discoed, Trewen and Caerwent Playing Fields at a cost of £651.78 + VAT – an increase of 2% to cover increased fuel and vehicle costs – this was agreed.

M3544 CORRESPONDENCE

1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE, ONE VOICE WALES
Invitation to put our Chairman (and guest) forward for Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 12th July. This was agreed.
2. LOCAL DEMOCRACY MANAGER, MCC
Notice of Referendum (enclosed and placed on boards). The Clerk was asked to check how much Cadw are charging for the hire of their room.
3. JENNY LEWIS, CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT MANAGER, MCC
Invitation to signing of the Charter “A Shared Community” on 23rd March. It was agreed that the Chairman attend.

4. MONMOUTHSHIRE YOUTH SERVICE, MCC
Invitation to Dance Competition 2011 25th February. Clerk agreed to email this information to Councillor Vosloo.
5. MINUTES/PUBLICATIONS
Severnside Area Committee Mins
Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council Mins
Play for Wales newsletter

M3545 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Wall next to our bus shelter is cracked.

Dinham Road sewage – being dealt with already.

Triangle field – tests done – not leaking.

Lampost on Dinham Road not required and not on plan, will probably be removed.

Highways have witnessed lorries using Dinham Road to access MoD site - they will ask police to alter sat navs. Lorries also travelling incorrect route in the Five Lanes area – sat nav systems require updating.

Five Lanes culvert under A48 needs clearing out.

Five Lanes to Carrow Hill (10 yds along) verge is collapsing – needs gabions.

Moss on Caerwent Gardens pavement again.

Potholes on lane to Llanfair.

Inadequate parking Ash Tree Road – Chairman agreed to arrange another site visit.

M3546 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Councillor Lewis had advised the Clerk that he no longer is able to represent the Community Council on Rogiet School governors.

The Chairman informed the meeting that IT hubs will be installed in all secondary schools by March and all other schools by May.

Councillor Evans reported that at a local School Inspection Rogiet was granted “exceptionally good”.

Councillor Kidger reported that approval has now been received from the insurance loss adjusters to carry out the required works at the Village Hall.

Chairman Date