

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 11TH DECEMBER 2014

Present: B Counsell (Chairman)
G Cousins
K Evans
P Murphy
E Saville
K Stock
R Trayler-Smith

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

M4167 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillors Haddow, Lewis and Swift.

M4168 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman wished to thank publically the MoD for the supper they put on recently for our community groups. Council agreed that this was a very useful and enjoyable event which forges positive links between all organisations.

M4169 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Councillor K Evans	Caerwent Historic Trust	Trustee
Councillor B Counsell	Mons County CAB	Trustee
Councillor P Murphy	Mons County CAB	MCC Delegate
Councillor P Murphy	Caerwent Community Centre	Trustee
Councillor P Murphy	Planning Application 2014/01384	Planning Cttee Member
Councillor B Counsell	Planning Application 2014/01384	Family connection
Councillor K Stock	Caerwent Playing Fields Association	Committee Member

M4170 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Spooner queried any progress on the rear access to Block 1 on Ash Tree Road as brought up at the meeting last month. Councillor Murphy had been in discussions with Monmouthshire Housing who believed that the land will not be transferred to them. This is a contrary view shared by MCC but the problem lies in the fact that permission is required from the new owners for any required works. Councillor Murphy is still progressing this issue. Mr Spooner was disappointed that Barratts had only completed some of the accesses but had left the rest.

M4171 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD 13TH NOVEMBER 2014

These were agreed as a true record.

M4172 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

The Chairman welcomed the new Inspector David Morgan to the meeting. The Inspector outlined his role and emphasised that he is very keen to engage positively

with all of the Community Councils in south Monmouthshire. He will aim to visit us once a quarter, PCSOs will still attend council meetings but will not do so every month. We will still receive monthly reports but the format will change to cover dwelling and non-dwelling burglaries, criminal damage, theft of and from motor vehicles, anti social behaviour and any proactive work undertaken by his Officers. The Inspector will issue a blog every two weeks.

He was pleased to confirm that two people had been arrested in relation to the recent numerous car thefts in our area, three vehicles had been recovered and he is hoping that they will be charged very soon.

The Chairman queried if when he reports that lamping is taking place in fields at Five Lanes at 10.00/11.00 p.m. will the police attend. The Inspector stated that there should be a response but obviously calls have to be prioritised and it could be that the lampers do have permission.

The Inspector confirmed that his force are looking into the parking problems at Merton Green.

Regarding alleged drug abuse the Inspector stated that they have a very close working relationship with registered social landlords and have monthly meetings with them to build intelligence bases. The landlord has a statutory obligation to investigate any anti-social behaviour which could then lead to warnings, sanctions or eviction.

M4173 PLANNING

(Councillor Evans took the Chair in dealing with this planning application as the Chairman had declared an interest)

2014/01384 Myrtle Cottage, The Cross, Caerwent

Variation of Condition 3: 'The foundations of the building shall be constructed in accordance with the submitted foundation drawings, received 8th March 2013, which indicate there will be no ground disturbance beyond 150mm' from planning permission DC/2013/01039, in order to change foundations detail as approved and excavate the ground deeper than 150mm.

This Council recommends Refusal

A full investigative survey of the land would be required to determine if there are any archaeological remains.

(Councillor Counsell resumed Chairmanship)

2014/01403 25 Ash Tree Road, Caerwent

Non-Material Amendment from previous application 2009/00725, Relocation of Parking Area for Plot 84 as shown on planning layout.

This Council recommends Refusal

Original plan not adhered to. Spaces taken had already been allocated to existing residents.

Council noted MCC Local Development Plan 2011-2021 – Consultation on Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance.

M4174 WELCOME TO CAERWENT COMMUNITY BOOKLET

Agreed to defer to next month's meeting.

M4175 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO ROGIET PRIMARY SCHOOL

As Councillors had difficulty with the start time of these meetings it was agreed to seek advice from MCC as to whether this Council could nominate a resident for this role.

M4176 CAERWENT TOILETS

Awaiting quote.

M4177 DOG WASTE BIN

Council considered and agreed on the provision of an extra bin at Merton Green. Clerk to liaise with MCC and Councillor Cousins on exact location.

M4178 WESTGATE BARNS MEETING ROOM

Council considered and agreed that it would be useful for a key and booking service to be provided locally. The Clerk reported that Cadw had previously mentioned providing a key unit outside the building and they are again looking into this.

M4179 CAERWENT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Council received update on current works: Asbestos in the outside Boiler Room and internal wall has now been removed. This was carried out by a registered asbestos removal company who had sent a 29 page document outlining their procedures. Health & Safety and Environmental Health had been kept informed at all stages and they had visited the site. Before works commenced a notice was placed on the front door informing residents/visitors of the current works and no access was allowed beyond the front entrance. Nine windows have been replaced in the main Gymnasium. The wall dividing the two community rooms has been removed completely. The remainder of the grant money will be spent immediately on removing the stage area and replacing the stud wall with double doors to connect both rooms. The removal of the stage will make both rooms on one level, and will then allow wheelchair access possible throughout the Centre. They have another application in for a grant from the M.o.D. Covenant fund and are hopeful of success as every grant they are able to gain means that they will be less reliant on any S106 money they might receive next year.

Regarding 106 money Councillor Murphy advised the meeting that Barratts are very soon to pay the last instalment. This will then be listed for the Cabinet meeting in February/March and will be issued after that.

Council considered and agreed to obtain a valuation on the building.

Council considered tree works required at the Community Centre and agreed to pay the amount of £550.00.

M4180 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

CLERK'S REPORT

Dates for Diaries

MoD Historic Booklet meeting – 10th February, 10.30 a.m., MoD Headquarters.
Joint Community Councils Meeting with MoD – 29TH April, 2.00 p.m., Shirenewton.

Caerwent Playing Fields Lease

No further progress.

School Lane, 18 Month Trial Period 'Review

Statement from Highways: The experimental order has been in place for greater than 18 months and given that the proposals were supported at the public exhibition and that the post monitoring data shows no adverse impact on road users or the community then a Cabinet report has been presented confirming the permanent order. This process allows any objections to be considered before a decision on the permanent order is made.

Proposed Planning Application for a 5mw Solar Farm at Oak Grove Farm

Public consultation held on 28th November. This will remain agricultural land and will continue to be grazed. The Chairman was concerned that this does not eventually turn into a brownfield site.

Parking on Pavements, Merton Green

Clerk had reported this to the police. Pcs Norville will patrol the area.

Dog Fouling, Lawrence Crescent/Dinham Road

Councillor Cousins had visited the area on a number of occasions and had not witnessed any owner allowing their dog to foul.

Barrier, A48

Councillor Saville inspected the site and the barriers appear to be as per highways regulations. However considering the proximity of the playground to the road he can see a case for a gate, ie a kissing gate or similar. Agreed to contact Highways to query the legality of the barrier.

Cadw Garden

Specific information received from MCC re tree works but suggested that a full survey be taken.

MEETING WITH MoD

Minutes had been circulated.

Councillor Evans had discovered further information re the Poor Wood. The MoD had

agreed to seek further information. Agreed to await this prior to sending letter to MP.

They will be producing a booklet on the History of the Caerwent site and a meeting will be held in February.

M4181 CORRESPONDENCE

Buckingham Palace Garden Parties – invitation to outgoing Chair.

“Inspired by Wales” Workshop invitation.

MCC – Monmouthshire Engages, Budget Events January 2015.

MCC – broadband vouchers for businesses.

Caldicot Town Council – invitation to join a Cluster Group to work together for the good of our communities – agreed to accept. Councillor Murphy reported that County Councillor Eason from Caldicot would be happy to attend a future meeting.

M4182 FINANCE

Council considered and approved payment of Finance schedule dated December 2014.

Council noted and agreed NALC pay recommendations.

Council considered recommendations of Finance Committee and agreed to precept for £42,000 for 2015/16.

M4183 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Barratts advertising signage on A48 should now be removed.

Removal of trees at Welfare Centre. Agreed to check with Tree Officer and NRW.

Wall at Time Team Field needs re-pointing.

M4184 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Community Led Plan

It is believed that Deserie Mansfield who was leading this project on behalf of MCC has now left. There is therefore a query on funding the questionnaire and report. The members of the Committee will be meeting to discuss the way forward and will report back to us.

M4185 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

End of WWI Centenary Plans, ie planting ceremonial trees at Playing Fields
Cadw Garden - Future Plans for Land.

Chairman

Date