

MINUTES OF CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD 10TH JULY 2014

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

In attendance: L McKeon, Clerk to the Council
 3 members of the public
 P Inskip, Severn Tunnel Action Group

M4107 APOLOGIES

Received from Councillors Haddow and Lewis.

M4108 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

M4109 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Evans	Historic Trust	Committee Member
Councillor Counsell	Planning Application M2014/ 00113 Myrtle Cottage	Related to Applicant
Councillor Murphy	Caerwent Community Centre	Trustee/CCC Appointee
Councillor Swift	Crick Wildlife Group	Volunteer

M4110 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr P Inskip informed the Council of the new bus timetable from Newport Bus following the withdrawal of Stagecoach commercial services.

Mr Inskip informed the Council that due to the main line electrification project by Network Rail there are plans to demolish every bridge within the area, ie Station Road, Rogiet Road, Church Road (Roberts Road) and Parson's Footbridge. The proposal is to shut them all at the same time and works are due to start in October. Mr Inskip has requested a meeting with Network Rail to discuss the implications.

Mr Inskip informed the Council of a document "Development Plans for the Railways of Wales and the Borders" (produced every 4/8 years) whereby stations have been proposed for Portskewett, Caldicot Castle, Crick and Caerwent. Realistically if this does go ahead it would be circa 2025/30.

Mr P Edwards was concerned that Councillor Vosloo had not attended any meetings recently and felt that this was a missed opportunity for anyone else wishing to stand as a Councillor. The Clerk informed Mr Edwards that the rules are that you cannot be removed from post due to lack of attendance until six consecutive meetings have been missed and she had in fact attended a meeting within the last three months. The Clerk did announce however that Councillor Vosloo had indeed very recently resigned.

Mr Harris wished to thank ex Councillor Vosloo for the work she had completed in relation to the flowers in Llanfair Discoed and the Best Kept Village competition.

Mr Harris was concerned about the workmanship of the flat roof at the toilets - he was thanked for his comments.

Mrs P Edwards expressed concern about the lack of grasscutting in the area. She was informed that this was completed very recently but that there is now a reduced cutting regime.

M4111 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12th JUNE 2014

These were agreed as a true record.

M4112 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT

There was no police report.

Council considered an initiative by Usk Prison/Lower Wye Valley Neighbourhood Watch Scheme to create house and property signs in order to increase visibility in times of emergency. The signs not only help provide an easy-to-read attractive sign but also enable prisoners to learn a new skill in the workshops helping rehabilitation. The signs, which cost £6 each, cover the cost of the materials in the workshop. All administration is dealt with by Lower Wye Valley Neighbourhood Watch meaning that the prison have no access to confidential information about residents. Anyone interested should contact the Lower Wye Neighbourhood Policing Team on 01633 642068 or email louise.thorpe@gwent.pnn.police.uk. Agreed to place this information on noticeboards and in the next newsletter.

M4113 PLANNING

Councillor Murphy announced that he would not be voting on any planning applications in the event that they appeared on the Planning Committee agenda.

(Due to the Chairman's declaration of interest regarding the following planning application the Chair was hand over to Councillor Evans, Vice Chairman.)

2014/00113 Myrtle Cottage, The Cross, Caerwent

Outline Application for Dwelling at the Rear

*This Council recommends **Refusal***

Against Policy HE4 of the Local Development Plan (development within Caerwent Roman Town)

Not in keeping with surroundings

Could open the floodgates for further development

Concern regarding parking as there are already numerous cars parked around the area

Too close to the boundary wall with Briardene.

(The Chairman resumed Chairmanship.)

2014/00622 Proposed Conversion of Redundant Agricultural Building into a Dwelling, Carrow Hill Farm, Carrow Hall

Proposed Conversion of Redundant Agricultural Building into a dwelling

*This Council recommends **Approval***

Retain existing broken roof line.

Velux windows to be moved to rear of the property to retain the integrity of the building (as described in Section 4 of the Design & Access Statement)

Query if Environment Agency has been consulted re the sewerage system planned, especially in view of the aquifer present in the area.

2014/00712 Plot 51, Ash Tree Road, Caerwent

Proposed Alteration of Approved Dwelling to Include Rear Conservatory Extension

*This Council recommends **Approval***

M4114 WELCOME TO CAERWENT COMMUNITY BOOKLET

Councillor Swift will be providing information on Crick to Councillor Lewis. She also suggested that information regarding modern history of the area should be included, ie Dr Who, Torchwood, Captain America, Top Gear in the MoD article. She agreed to contact the MoD regarding this. She also queried if local playgroups were listed and suggested that the Community Directory also be listed. She suggested that other villages also put in information.

M4115 PROVISION OF ALLOTMENTS

Councillor Swift had been in discussions with the Community Land Advisory Service who had queried conditions etc.

M4116 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS

Councillor Murphy informed the Council that the proposed transfer of the Village Hall to the Community Council will be listed at the next Scrutiny Committee to take place in September. Councillor Swift suggested that Councillors attend a Devolution of Services training course available. She also suggested that any transfer should be part of the Community Plan.

M4117 TIME TEAM FIELD

Councillor Swift reported that poppy seeding had continued and Councillor Cousins had strimmed 1 metre around the poppies. A notice will be placed at the Field.

There was no progress regarding Operation Nightingale.

M4118 LLANFAIR/TREWEN PLAY AREAS

Council considered repairs required as per inspection report and quote from MCC and agreed on works to be carried out.

Council considered the provision of a litter bin in the Trewen Play Area – the Clerk was awaiting the cost details.

M4119 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council reported on meeting held with Adventa and arrangements for public meetings arranged for Friday 11th and Sunday 13th July.

M4120 ANNUAL ASSETS INSPECTION

Council agreed duties.

M4121 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

CLERK'S REPORT:

Dates for Diaries

Community Led Planning Public Meetings:

Friday 11th July, 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m., Village Hall

Sunday 13th July, 2.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m., Caerwent Community Centre

MoD Meeting/Community Groups Supper – Thursday 27th November 2014, 6.00 p.m.

Poetry/Literary Competition

This can be funded under the Power of Well-Being. Clerk will write to Heads of Rogiet and Shirenewton for their views before we make any decision.

Unofficial Walkways – A48, Merton Green

Enforcement are now dealing with this.

Planters for War Memorial

Will be in place shortly and planted up in time to mark the commencement of the Centenary of WWI. Clerk has placed a collection box at Caerwent Post Office.

Council expressed disappointment about a letter from a resident in the local newspaper indicating that no floral displays marked Armed Forces Day at our War Memorial. Council agreed that Armed Forces Day is focussed very much on our active service personnel. The day has never been marked by floral tributes at the War Memorial. Our Memorial is for the fallen, hence the new planters and indeed the Poppy Circle in the Time Team Field.

Toilets

Chairman had met with Health & Safety Manager of MCC and had been advised to ensure that the ceiling and the soffit board is painted. He also advised that we photograph the areas twice a year and file this. Councillor Evans will add this onto our Risk Assessment document.

Still awaiting quotes for works required.

Meeting held with Cadw 25

Agreed to seek information on how the MoD claimed ownership of the Poor Wood in 1938/39 and information relating to the transfer to Cadw.

The Cadw Garden – agreed at meeting in June that it was very dark and uninviting. Clerk had been asked to seek advice from the Tree Officer.

The Post Mistress had queried the situation re her windows. The Community Council had raised this with Cadw and was informed that this was the remit of MCC.

M4122 IT WAS AGREED TO EXTEND STANDING ORDERS FOR 30 MINUTES

M4123 CORRESPONDENCE

One Voice Wales – Guidance Topic Notes Data Protection Act
One Voice Wales – training courses available
One Voice Wales – South Wales police newsletter
The Welsh Government – Websites & Access to Information
Home Start Monmouthshire AGM – 15
Cadw newsletter

M4124 FINANCE

Council agreed approval and payment of Finance Schedule dated July 2014.

Council agreed a donation of £100 to Crick Wildlife & Environment Project.

M4125 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY

Council considered litter problem in Llanfair Discoed and overgrown verges/hedges.

Agreed to request a bin and seek emptying costs. Noted that verges have very recently been cut although the new cutting regime is less than previously.

Green Lane needs strimming and a lamp post light out.

Agreed to compliment MCC on their wild flower displays this year.

Traffic lights at Caerwent Brook keep failing.

St Brides Road A48 junction – no right turn into public house (advisory only) unsafe.

M4126 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no representative reports.

M4127 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Councillors to inform Clerk of any items.

