

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

Present:        B Counsell (Chairman)                      D Hedley  
                     G Cousins                                        P Lewis  
                     K Evans     R Trayler Smith

In attendance:        L McKeon, Clerk to the Council  
                             Sgt P Pursell  
                             3 Members of the Public

### **M3931 APOLOGIES**

Received from Councillors Haddow, Murphy, Swift and Vosloo.

### **M3932 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Hedley due to illness felt unable to take the Chair. He nominated Councillor Counsell, seconded by Councillor Lewis. There being no other nominations Councillor Counsell took the Chair.

### **M3933 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillor D Hedley                      Monmouthshire CAB                      Trustee

### **M3934 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chairman advised that as there had been a complaint recently regarding our Standing Orders he would be adhering to them strictly in respect of Public Participation – an excerpt from our Standing Orders regarding this had been circulated to members of the public.

Mr Clift queried why a village the size of Caerwent finances two Village Halls. The Chairman explained that the buildings have different uses. The Caerwent Community Centre has been in community use one way or another for over 70 years. It has a particular use for youth activities and is large enough for robust activities. Both buildings are regularly used. Councillor Trayler Smith stated that if there is demand for the two facilities, as there clearly is, then we should be meeting that demand.

Mrs Edwards was very concerned about speeding on the Old Roman Road. Sgt Pursell advised that the police had recently been carrying out speeding enforcement in Caerwent and had in fact given out two speeding tickets for offences on the A48 to local people. He agreed to look in particular at the Old Roman Road.

### **M3935 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

These were agreed as a true record.

### **M3936 MONTHLY POLICE REPORT**

The Chairman welcomed Sgt Pursell to the meeting. Sgt Pursell had been updated by PCSO Norville on the current situation in Caerwent and was very happy to report that there had been no calls over the Halloween/Bonfire period mainly due

to community work carried out by the police. He reported that Caerwent is currently quiet in terms of crime. There is an increase in bike thefts in the Caldicot area.

Councillor Lewis reported the very poor state of the road with excessive mud at Brockwells Hill. Constant lorries entering the site. Sgt Pursell advised that we contact Highways unless we deem the area dangerous then contact the police.

Councillor Cousins reported parking on the pavement on Ash Tree Road. Sgt Pursell advised that in cases such as this warning leaflets can be sent to all properties although this area is difficult to enforce as the roads are not adopted as yet. Sgt Pursell agreed to send a copy of the leaflet for insertion in a future newsletter.

Sgt Pursell commended us for supporting community initiatives which provide facilities for youngsters, thus deterring them from being on the street which can occasionally lead to crime and anti-social behaviour.

### **M3937 STANDING ORDERS**

Council considered addition circulated with agenda re Chairing of Meetings. Agreed to amend current Standing Orders.

Council considered amending time period for Public Participation. Resolved to not amend the 15 minutes allocated. Agreed to adhere strictly to the Order and provide the public with a copy of the Public Participation Standing Order at each meeting.

### **M3938 MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Circular Walk**

Deserie Mansfield of Adventa had advised to start this project on a piecemeal basis. She advised contact with the Crick Wildlife Group re their experiences. This will be discussed at the MoD meeting.

#### **Provision of Allotments**

Council noted that in our quest to seek land we had contacted MCC, Brooms, the Welfare Centre owners and the MoD. We will be discussing this again with the MoD at our meeting with them in November. It was agreed to write again to MCC.

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

No progress.

#### **Speed Limit, Crick**

Councillor Swift had reported that a petition is under way in Crick.

#### **“Village Green” Caerwent**

No progress.

## **Website**

Councillor Evans will continue to prepare information for the website.

## **Weight Restriction Request – Five Lanes**

Reply from Highways Manager that any weight restriction would have implications for farmers and the wider community so should only be considered if evidence shows that the route is being used as a shortcut etc. If the lanes are being used for a short term duration such as construction of housing estate then this should be covered by the planning application, temporary directional signage or possibly a temporary environmental weight order.

## **Barratts Site Contractor Vehicle Access**

Highways Manager will enforce any site access plan previously submitted by the developer.

## **Time Team Field Working Group**

Meeting arranged for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Meeting/Supper – MoD**

Meeting arranged for Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Update from Cadw**

The Old School sale: pre-sale surveys will be undertaken shortly and it is envisaged that the property will be put on the market in early 2014.

The Poor Wood: Cadw have just received information from Welsh Government Legal services department regarding poor wood gathering rights. They are not able to provide further details at present.

The West Gate barns are still available for use. Bookings can be made by contacting Julia Hammond (01633 422518) at the Fortress Baths.

The gates and toilets at West Gate barns are open from 10:00am until 4pm daily (1 April 2013 - 31 March 2014). Cadw have no objection to a sign on the toilets in the centre of the village indicating that 'a toilet at Cadw's West Gate barn facility is available for users with a disability and limited mobility' and providing details of the opening hours.

Llanmelin Hill Fort - currently no update available.

## **Sewage Problems – Burton Villas**

Environmental Health Department had attended and established that the drainage from the new housing developments has blocked on a number of occasions recently apparently as a result of a build-up of wet wipes. This has caused the manholes at Burton Villas to surcharge. DCWW have sent letters to all nearby properties on what can and what should not be put down the drains.

### **M3939 PLANNING**

#### **2013/00842 Llyswen, Crick**

Change of Use from Agricultural to Residential Land for Inclusion to Garden Curtilage

*This Council recommends **Approval***

### **M3940 IT WAS AGREED TO EXTEND STANDING ORDERS BY 20 MINUTES**

### **M3941 CAERWENT PUBLIC TOILETS**

Council considered recommendations of Caerwent Toilets Working Group dated 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013. Agreed to all recommendations.

### **M3942 BURTON HOMES CENTENARY**

Council considered placing an article in the newsletter to mark the centenary. Agreed but to add “if local residents would like to send in their memories of Burton Homes they would be very welcome.”

### **M3943 CAERWENT PLAYING FIELDS OPEN DAY – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November**

Council noted.

### **M3944 FINANCE**

Council approved payment and approval as per finance schedule dated November 2013. Agreed to arrange a Finance Sub Committee.

### **M3945 CORRESPONDENCE**

Council noted the following correspondence:

P SHELLEY, LAWRENCE CRESCENT

Issues re Caerwent Community Centre building. This letter had been passed to the Caerwent Community Centre Committee for their comments. The Committee had expressed concern that their minutes, which had not been approved, were in the public domain. Agreed to inform Mr Shelly that we have liaised with the Community Centre over the issues he has raised.

K ROBERTSON, LAWRENCE CRESCENT

Supports the Community Centre in its activities but there have been problems with parking by Model Club Members. This concern was passed to the Model Club Committee who have now replied.

WELSH GOVERNMENT

Blue Badge Scheme – Eligibility Criteria Consultation.

ONE VOICE WALES

Telephone Service to Isolated Communities.

#### INFORMATION COMMISSION OFFICE, LONDON

Notification under the Data Protection Act 1998. The ICO had written to all Community Councils informing them that they are now of the view that all should notify.

#### MCC

##### Emergency Contacts

The Clerk confirmed that our nominated contacts are Councillor Evans, Murphy and Cousins.

#### WAR MEMORIALS TRUST

Helpsheets and information available as well as administering a number of grant schemes. Agreed to query if there is a joining fee.

#### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS (8)

#### MINUTES/PUBLICATIONS

Monmouthshire County CAB – Chepstow Annual Report

#### **LATE CORRESPONDENCE**

##### CAERWENT PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

Thanks for repairs to play equipment. Recent sewage problem on field remedied. Reminder of Open Day on 16<sup>th</sup> November where they will display their plans for the Village Hall and the Jubilee Trail.

#### **M3946 HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY**

Missing St Brides Netherwent sign (Magor end).  
Potholes – Highmoor Hill, Five Lanes, Carrow Hill.  
Footpaths leading to the Playing Fields all need clearing.  
Yellow posts in situ on A48 east and west – query purpose.

“Please Drive Carefully Through the Village” proposal had been received. Change to **Our** Village, add “Historic Roman Town” and query locations. To be discussed at next meeting.

#### **M3947 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

No reports.

#### **M3948 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

“Warm” organisation – to make a presentation. .  
Unregistered Parish Lands  
“Please Drive Carefully Through Our Village” Signage  
Other Villages Signage  
Wildflower Planting

#### **M3949 TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC DURING THE FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED**

Agreed.

**M3950 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS/GENERAL EMAILS  
FROM ONE RESIDENT**

Council considered the non attendance of resident to arranged meeting.  
Agreed that we are willing to invite for the third time said resident to another meeting but to request confirmation from him that he is in fact willing to attend. Council are concerned about the burdensome and costly affect that his requests are having on this Council.

**M3951 INFORMATION COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE DECISION NOTICE  
DATED 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

Council noted the Decision Notice.

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