

Meeting of Crucorney Community Council held on the 17 December 2019

**PRESENT** Cllrs. Davies, Catley, Phillips, Evans, R Morgan, Woodier, T Morgan, Keates and Bentley. Three members of the public were also present.

**APOLOGIES** Cllrs R Morgan-Evans, Rippin and Cllr Jones

### **COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

1. Some further concern was expressed at the proposed development of the land to the south-west of Wern Gifford including reference to problems at the top end of the Tram, immediately behind the houses and below the fields of Wern Gifford Farm where various instances of water ingress had occurred. Reference was also made to the fact that the stream running alongside the Tram had backed up on several occasions. Concern was also expressed re the extra traffic which would be coming into Wern Gifford both during and after any construction of the proposed houses took place and that traffic calming would be necessary. It was suggested that National Resources Wales should also be made aware of the proposed development. Another local resident mentioned recent flooding on Penbidwal Lane.
2. The local CSO had sent in her report as follows:  
Relevant telephone calls were: 22/11 Trailer stolen from Llanvihangel Crucorney; 29/11 Suspicious vehicle in Bettws; 02/12 people chasing deer in Grosmont; 07/12 Suspicious persons in Llanvihangel Crucorney-located and checked.  
Neighbourhood news and Ward updates for previous meetings: 1) Illuminated speed matrix signs. SWTRA had made the application to the Welsh Government for their consideration. Assessments were now being carried out to see if the road met the criteria. A further update from SWTRA might take a couple of months. 2) There had been quite a few quad bike thefts in the area recently. CSO Mason invited people to request a security check on their properties and/or security marking of tools/equipment. As a matter of interest, £15,000 worth of tools and other items had been security marked recently. 3) Reports of off-road motor bikes in Cwmyoy and the surrounding forestry had been made. Patrols within the BBNP Authority continued to be made.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Current A/C: £400 as at 12 December £400 Reserve A/C £16,922.58 as at 12 December. MCC had now paid S106 monies into the Council's Account totalling £7498 re 2 properties at Twr Mihangel.

Since the November meeting, cheques for £264 (Blackwood Fire Risk Assessment Report on the Hall), £38 (RBL Wreaths) and £250.65 (Wales Audit) had been signed. Cheques signed on the night were: £100 (Chair's Expenses) and £13.49 (reimbursement to R Morgan for printing ink bought at Rymans).

Taking into account unpresented cheques and future expenditure and with one further payment to CCC of the 2019/2020 Precept due before the end of the financial year an estimated balance of approximately £10,000 (Reserve & Current Account) would be carried forward into 2020/21.

It was suggested that the recent S106 monies should be placed in the council's building society account or in a totally new account where the money could be more easily targeted towards the development of recreational assets/activities for the community.

With the above figures outlined, councillors discussed the proposed budget prepared by the Clerk for 2020-2021. The proposed Precept request as it stood, suggested a figure of £13,600 which would mean that a Band D household would be paying approximately £18 for the year (£1.50 per month) towards the Community Council part of The Council Tax. Councillors were also reminded that the Clerk's 5-year review had now overrun into its 7<sup>th</sup> year and that the Council's website manager's duties had increased to take in responsibility for the Hall Management Committee's site as well and that these extra duties should also be recompensed with an appropriate amount.

Councillors agreed to defer the finalization of the Precept request until the January meeting and asked the Clerk to do a comparative survey of what other local community clerks' salaries were.

## **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved as a true and accurate record.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

1. CCC had responded in detail to the LRM Planning, MCC Planning Department, Monmouthshire Housing Association and Welsh Water – Dwr Cymru. Welsh Water had suggested a meeting with CCC early in the

New Year. The Clerk had sent details of CCC's meetings and was awaiting a reply.

2. CCC had been informed that the work on the play area would be starting around the 6<sup>th</sup> January.
3. Payment of outstanding S106 monies as reported above under Financial Report.
4. Draft lease and Star Legal. Work in progress.
5. Cllr Bentley reported that she was trying to organise a direct debit in conjunction with the Pandy HMC in relation to the monthly payments required for the Wi-Fi in the Hall.
6. There had been no further news re the enforcement order relating to unauthorised access into the field near the Pandy Inn.
7. Double yellow lines in Llanvihangel Crucorney were still awaited with bated breath.
8. There was no further information re the refurbishment of the toilets in the Hall. Contact had been made with Mike Moran at MCC.
9. Councillors thanked the Chair for her organisation of the very successful Xmas meal.
10. Re river bank damage reported at the last meeting, one fallen tree had been removed but there was still work to be done.
11. Blackwood Fire's fire risk assessment report had now been received. It was taken by Cllr Evans for his comments. Among other things, servicing of the boiler had been commented upon and it was agreed to sound out Roger Brown to see if he would take on the work. Mention was also made of Black Mountain Heating as an alternative. Enquiries would also be made re arranging for an electrician to inspect all electrical equipment in the Hall and to discuss the possibility of installing extra fire bells in the Hall.
12. Tree at Pont Rhys Powell Bridge. No news.
13. A letter had been received from the Pontrilas Railway Station Action Group thanking CCC for its support and suggesting a meeting in the New Year.

## REPORTS

1. Cwmyoy Hall. A brief report had been received: *Rocketman* had attracted 10 filmgoers and *It's a Wonderful Life* had attracted 6. It was hoped that the car park would be finished in the New Year. The Carols and Light Entertainment Evening was not well attended but some funds

were raised for the Hall. The panto was well under way and would be staged at the end of February.

2. Pandy Hall. Report as mentioned above under Matters Arising. Further to the above, it was also mentioned that £220 had been raised at the Xmas Fayre with a record number of tables. Unfortunately, the event had clashed with the Xmas event held at Llanvihangel Court and the open day at Llwyncelyn. The panto had been held on the 13 December but there was no news about attendance at the event.
3. Primary School. The Finance Committee had met and had agreed a pay increase for one member of staff because of extra duties and responsibilities taken on.
4. CEG. No report had been received.

## **PLANNING**

1. BBNP 19/18104/FUL The Old Carpenter's Shop at Trewyn. No objections.

## **PLANNING DECISION NOTICES**

## **PLANNING UPDATES/ISSUES**

1. Land south-west of Wern Gifford. CCC had informed the various authorities of its opinions and a meeting was expected in the New Year. (See also above and last month's minutes.)

**OBITUARIES**        None.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Emails sent to councillors were as follows: Emergency roadworks 19/11; Twr Mihangel S106 payments 20/11; Emergency carriageway closures 21/11; Countryside access improvement plan 21/11; OVW 27/11; Aneurin Bevan 27/11; CCC's Wern Gifford letter to the authorities 28/11; Road closure, Cwm Road 3/12; S106....4/12; Planning application re the Old Carpenter's Shop at Trewyn 4/12; Local health news 6/12; Weekly register 9/12; Connecting communities 11/12; Xmas....11/12; Statutory pre-Application, Wern Gifford Recall 12/12
2. A letter had been received from Pandy Bowls Club which informed CCC that the Club would be officially closing down by the 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Club which had been established in 1929 wished to express its sincere gratitude to CCC for all the support and cooperation extended to the

Club throughout its ninety years' existence. Councillors accepted the news with great sadness.

3. A letter had been received from a resident expressing concern at the build-up of leaves etc. which was hampering the flow of surface water into the 4 drains on the Sun Pitch. Cllr Evans agreed to look at these. She also mentioned concern expressed by residents re the field north of Wern Gifford which had been mentioned as a candidate site for the next MCC Development Plan. There seemed to be some confusion between this 'site' and the site to the south-west of Wern Gifford on which planning permission was being sought. (See minutes for the November meeting and items above.)

She also reported that confusion still reigned over local bus timetables although books of timetables could be obtained from the One-Stop Shop, apparently. The provision of a bus shelter had not been agreed. Cllr Woodier agreed to put up copies of relevant timetables as soon as was convenient.

There being no other business, the Chair wished everyone a Merry Xmas and the meeting closed at 20.55

Date of next meeting: 21 January 2020

***S G Cooper : Clerk***