

Minutes of the meeting held on the 21 August 2018

PRESENT Clrs Evans, Davies, R Morgan, Keates, Morgan-Evans, T Morgan, Rippin, Bentley, Woodier and Cty Clr D Jones. Four members of the public were also present. Clr R Morgan chaired the meeting.

APOLOGIES None

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mrs Marion Lewis (supported by Mrs Pat Kocan) addressed councillors re the overgrown derelict piece of land, part of which was sited behind her property at 48, Wern Gifford. The piece of land had been an ongoing problem for a period of time and some years ago Mrs Lewis had enlisted the help of Monmouthshire County Council to get the owner to cut back the vegetation. This summer, according to Mrs Lewis, no maintenance had taken place and once again weeds were invading her garden. She was also worried about the danger of flooding lower down on the estate if the bed of the stream which runs through this piece of land happened to get blocked. Mrs Lewis informed the meeting that she had contacted the owner and her daughter but had had no response hence her appeal to the Community Council. During the discussion which ensued, councillors were also informed that access to the derelict piece of land (and, incidentally, to the back of Nos. 52, 53 and 54 Wern Gifford) had been closed by the erection of a gate which is kept locked). Anyone wishing to gain access has to obtain a key from the owner's daughter.

Councillors thanked Mrs Lewis for her presentation and confirmed that they would look into the matter. Clr Woodier agreed to do some research on the area in question and report back to the next meeting.

Clr R Morgan informed councillors that following an email which Mrs Lewis had sent to Clr Bentley before the present meeting, she had spoken to the owner of the land and her daughter and had been assured that the vegetation would be cut back at the earliest opportunity.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Current: A/C £400 Reserve A/C : £6237.53

Re further 106 Agreement money, Clr T Morgan suggested that a possible 'recreational' investment might be made in the provision of parking facilities at Cwmyoy Hall. Clr Keates said he would keep this in mind.

BDO, the external auditors, had given Crucorney Community Council an unqualified report for the second year running stating that the information contained in the Annual Return was in accordance with proper practices and that **no matters** had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. Furthermore, on the basis of their review, they did not need to draw attention to any other matters or recommendations. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his efforts.

The Council approved and accepted the completed Annual Return for 2017-2018 and with it the external auditors' opinion. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit would be placed in the window of the

Skirrid Garage for public perusal. No photo of its location was needed this time as far as CCC was aware.

The **MINUTES** of the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Re the new Hall Lease, there had been no further news from Star Legal.
2. Re the Play Area , a publicity 'shoot' had not yet been arranged as a few further details had to be addressed including the carving of the tree stumps at the top end of the area. Clrs R Morgan, Bentley and Morgan-Evans with the help of Mr James Bentley and the Clerk had weeded the French bowls area. The Chairman expressed thanks to all who had taken part. It was felt, however, that because of maintenance issues it would be better to dig up the French bowls area and to grass it over as soon as possible.
3. Councillors enlisted the help of Mr David Jackman in their attempt to persuade Mr Mike Petts to finish the stump carving in the play area. Mr Jackman informed the meeting that as far as he knew, Mr Petts would be making a start on the 25 August.
4. Parking at the top the Skirrid Pitch. No progress. It was suggested that polite notices discouraging drivers from parking on the pavement throughout the village could be erected by the community council. The Chairman agreed to investigate.
5. Road reflectors and SWTRA. No progress.
6. Clr Woodier presented his report on the Hall fire inspection which he had carried out with Clr Robin Evans. Items requiring action were the testing of the fire extinguishers, PAT testing on small electrical items and remedial work to be done on the fire door between the Committee Room and the main body of the Hall. The Clerk informed the meeting that he was under the impression that the fire extinguishers were due to be inspected by Chubb within the next few days and that the Hall Management Committee was in the process of arranging for the PAT testing.
7. Missing post box at Forest Coal pit. No news.
8. Possible sale of wooden chairs from under the stage. No arrangements had been made.
9. Clr Woodier now had Clr Keats' drains list.
10. Signage indicating the entrance to Llanvihangel Crucorney at Cross Ways. No further news. Clr T Morgan , Cty Clr Jones and the Clerk would hopefully keep abreast of any future developments.
11. There was some debate about whether or not the solar panels on the Hall roof needed to be cleaned annually. Mr David Jackman presented councillors with a detailed report of panel maintenance and the performance of the Hall's solar panels. Opinion was divided as to whether the panels needed cleaning. Mr Jackman presented councillors with a graph of the Solar Panel Performance which suggested that there had been no degradation in

performance. Mr Jackman would also take his report to the next HMC meeting in September.

12. No report had been received about the usage of the Car Charging Facility at the Hall.
13. Clr Woodier agreed to consult the 'Highways Extent' scan to ascertain the boundaries between the A465 trunk road and lanes off that road and where the maintenance responsibility lay insofar as SWTRA and MCC were concerned.
14. Clr Rippin reported that the edges of the road between the Stanton and the Old Station had not been repaired.

REPORTS

1. Cwmyoy Hall. ' *Three Billboards....* ' had been shown on the 25 July (21 viewers). The next film would be *Phantom Thread* on the 22 August. On the 26 July, Cwmyoy Hall was used for over 8 hours as a rest and refreshment stop for a 1000 kilometre cycle ride. The Llanthony Show on the 4 August had been a great success. On the 11 and 12 August, the Llanthony Makers' Fair was held in St David's Church, Llanthony, supported by 17 local craftsmen/women. Entry money and donations amounted to £400, a very satisfactory outcome. The Clerk then read out information from the Landmark Trust re Llwyn Celyn. Events would be held on the 4-10 October including a new piece of music (5 and 6 October in the evening) by one of the artists in residence, performed outdoors by local young people and the Unicorn Singers from Crickhowell. Open days would be from 7-10 October. Any concerns or questions should be addressed to llwyncelyn@landmarktrust.org.uk
2. Pandy Hall. Committee members were looking for new foldaway tables for the Hall to add to the recently acquired chairs for the committee room. Clr Bentley would raise the matter in the HMC Meeting in September.
3. Primary School. No report.
4. Crucorney Environmental Group. Recent key events had been a stall at the Llanthony Show which had received a lot of interest; charcoal making by the Woodland Group; a meeting between the CEG and MCC re litter prevention in the County; craft courses (for the 24 August); chair making for the 15/16 September and hurdle making for the 22 September and a barbecue and croquet day held at Trout Cottage on the 19 August.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. BBNP 18/16436/FUL Twr Mihangel. Additional garage. No objections.
2. BBNP 18/16517/FUL Middle Gaer. No objections.
3. MCC DM/201801347 Ty Newydd Farm. No objections.

PLANNING DECISIONS AND UPDATES None

OBITUARIES Mrs E Harris, Skirrid Pitch.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no comments (apart from those mentioned elsewhere in the Minutes) on the following items of correspondence sent to councillors by the Clerk by email: update re the Skirrid Pitch, OVW AGM Report, various weekly registers (where applicable), Independent Review Panel re the future of Town and Community Councils, weeding platoon, OVW Bulletin, change re Plot 9 at Twr Mihangel (see above), community facilities and the future of what are now called 106 Agreements, Middle Gaer planning application and Ty Newydd Farm planning application.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Clr Rippin had received some further suggestions re the Community Council's work as follows:
 - (a) A repetition of a request for a dog-walking area to be provided by the Community Council. After some discussion, it was decided to ask Clr Rippin to produce a suitably worded post on the Llanvihangel Crucorney News Facebook page sounding out the wider public's views on this, including a request for information on landowners willing to set aside an area or on known dog-walking areas already in existence.
 - (b) The possibility of a crossing on the A465 at the entrance to Wern Gifford, something which CCC had discussed with the authorities in recent years.
 - (c) The arrangement of free lessons on the use of the defibrillator at the Hall. (One had been arranged in the past.)
2. It was reported that noise from music and fireworks at a recent wedding celebration at the Court had disturbed people in the area late on a Saturday night continuing until after midnight. Councillors decided to check with the licensing authority re exactly what is allowed until what time and whether it was possible to get organisers to let local residents know in advance what to expect before any event. Several councillors felt that Chinese lanterns should be banned altogether.
3. Clr Robin Evans asked whether speed monitoring on Wern Gifford near the school had anything to do with the Monmouthshire Development Plan. The Chair reported that it was, in fact, a follow-up exercise re the Council's concerns with regard to parking and speeding near the school when children were being dropped off and picked up during the school day.
4. It was reported that at Llanvetherine, MCC had installed 2 permanent flashing road signs indicating speed limits through the village. Cty Clr Jones agreed to investigate this provision.
5. Clr T Morgan reported that the phone box near the Old Station had finally been removed.
6. Clr Davies reported that BBNP was engaged a huge bracken-cutting exercise on Hatterrall Hill. He wondered whether money spent on this exercise might be better spent on other things. Clr T Morgan thought it might have something to do with grouse shooting but was not certain about this.

7. It was reported that MCC had carried out gulley clearing in the Llanvihangel Crucorney area recently.
8. The Report and Recommendations of the Independent Review Panel on the future of Town and Community Councils had mentioned among other things that in the future Community Councillors would have to attend training courses (partly funded by the Welsh Government); community council clerks would have to have the minimum CILCA qualification (partly funded by the Welsh Government); community councils would have to liaise more closely with town councils and town/community councils would have to take on more place-based services (linked to the Power of Competence) although people-based services would remain with the County Council.

The IRP also recommended a review of boundaries and a lowering of the voting age to 16 with 16-year-olds also being able to be councillors.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

Date of next meeting : 18 September 2018