

Minutes of the meeting held on the 19 February 2019

PRESENT Clrs Bentley, Keates, Davies, T Morgan, Phillips, Morgan-Evans, Rippin, Woodier, R Morgan, Evans, Catley (*see below) and Cty Clr Jones. Clr R Morgan chaired the meeting.

APOLOGIES None

CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Two candidates had put their names forward for co-option: Mrs G Meyrick and Mr R Catley. Both were present at the meeting. A secret ballot was held and Mr Catley* was duly co-opted as a councillor. The Community Council now had a full complement of eleven councillors.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Members of the Crucorney Environmental Group were in attendance and at the request of the Chairman, they voiced their concerns that their voluntary litter-picking scheme was receiving a lot of criticism from residents in Cwmyoy and the surrounding area.

There was criticism over the design, colour and number of signs which had been placed in the area as well as the orange litter bags which were there to receive the rubbish.

There was a lively debate among councillors over the issues raised with some support for the views of those who had complained about the litter-picking 'system' to the exact opposite with one comment describing the complaints as unfair and unjustified criticism of volunteers in the community who were doing a good job.

The overall, large majority of councillors, however, felt that the present system which has the backing of Monmouthshire County Council, KWT, Pontypool Community Council, Usk Town Council, Abergavenny Tourist Board and the Landmark Trust should be allowed to continue unhindered but should be monitored to see how successful it turns out to be.

The CEG also agreed to look at a reduction in the number of signs put out although there were various estimates as to how many signs were actually out there depending on whether one was for or against the system in place.

Moreover, according to figures supplied at the meeting, there was a lot of support from the local community in general on social media for what the area's volunteer litter-pickers were doing for the environment.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Current A/C £400 Reserve A/C £12,130.74 (both as at 5 February 2019)

Unpresented cheques not included in the above figures totalled £1375.84 at this time.

Further cheques to be issued imminently totalled £3059.99 (Sports Equipment Storage Shed for Primary School/Clerk's Salary/Merlin Waste).

Further outgoings would be the new gate with disabled access together with a concrete ramp for the children's play area plus tennis equipment, pop-up goals, badminton nets and a springboard for the primary school. There would also be a bill for c. £600 for the new Hall lease. The latter items would cost approximately £2930.

With all the above taken into account, the estimated end-of-year balance would be approximately £5000.

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

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Mr D James, Housing Enabler for Monmouthshire had held a meeting on Social Housing in Pandy Hall on the 11 February. The meeting had been well attended. Much valuable information had been shared but some people were disappointed that more information had not been given re the social housing development proposed by MCC adjacent to Wern Gifford.
2. Mr Keith Powell had not yet supplied detailed information for a letter of support to be sent by CCC re the Bryn Arw tree planting scheme.
3. Mr Martin Whistance had now finished the concrete base for the school storage shed. Councillors were extremely grateful for his help in this matter.
4. Star Legal and new lease. No further progress.

5. Mr Anthony Davies had confirmed that the quotes for the new entrance to the play area could be held indefinitely.
6. Stump carving by Mr Petts. No progress.
7. Double yellow lines were still awaited at the top of the Skirrid Pitch. MCC Highways Department had suggested that they would be in place by the start of May.
8. Road reflectors at Crossways. No further improvement.
9. Post box at Fforest Coalpit. No progress.
10. Wooden chairs for sale at Pandy Hall. No progress.
11. Two new tables for Pandy Hall. Delivery was imminent.
12. Road repairs between the Stanton and the Old Station and the fence at the top of the Sun Pitch. No progress.
13. Wi-Fi at the Hall. Cllr Bentley was continuing with her research.
14. Contact with CSO Davies. Latest information suggested that the latter's area was once again to be changed.
15. Cllr Davies reported that the repairs to the railway bridge at the Old Station would take longer than had been expected.
16. Dead tree on the Patch at Trehonddu. No progress.
17. Broken notice board at the Old Post Office. No progress.
18. It had been reported to SWTRA that the field near the Old Pandy Inn was being accessed along the grass verge parallel to the pavement alongside the A465. A reply from the Welsh Government had been promised within 14/15 days.

REPORTS

1. Cwmyoy Hall. The last film *Mamma Mia* had attracted 22 viewers and the next film would be *A Star is Born* on the 26 February. A hall clean-up had been carried out by 20 people on the 23 January. On the 11 February, the Garden Club had a record-breaking turn out for a talk on unusual vegetables grown at Otter farm in Devon by Mark Diacono. Residents were reminded of the Cwmyoy panto, Robin Hood, on the 21, 22, 23 and 24 February. Tickets were £8 for adults and £6 for children. Programmes and videos would also be available.
2. Pandy Hall. Apart from the minutes above re new furniture, there was nothing to report.
3. Primary School. The federation process was progressing. Councillors were also reminded about a future workday at the School to erect the new

storage shed. Led by Clr Evans, details of the day would be sent out to councillors re the date and time.

4. CEG. A résumé of the litter-picking situation was given. See report above. The Spring Clean litter pick would be held on the 6 April. All tree felling had now been completed and charcoal making would start in April 30 new bird boxes are being installed in Court Wood. Craft courses would start in April. A Walking group was launched on the 9 February when the first walk took place. The next walk was scheduled for 23 March. The Group will adopt CIC status from the 1 April. The AGM would take place on the 1 April.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- A. BBNP 19/17115/FUL Steppes Hafod. Fully supported.
- B. BBNP 18/16906/FUL Owls Lodge. No objection.
- C. BBNP 19/17082/FUL Gaer Farm. No objections.

PLANNING DECISION NOTICES

- A. BBNP 18/16966. Troed y Rhiw Gou, Cwmyoy. Refused by BBNP because of insufficient information.

OBITUARIES Mr Brian Jones, Cwm Coed y Cerrig

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Emails sent out to Councillors were as follows: Older People's Commissioner (15/1); A465 Road Closure; CEG meeting agenda; BBNP Planning 18/16906/FUL; Latest on LDP Training (29/1); Financial Management Governance (29/1); Welsh Government Correspondence re field near the Old Pandy Inn; OVW Bulletin (2/2); Weekly Register (4/2); Llanvihangel Crucorney Railway Bridge; OVW Area Committee meeting (4/2) BBNP Consultation group (12/2); Allotment Provision as part of Climate Change (Welsh Government); Agenda for Children and Young People Select Committee; Steppes Hafod Planning (13/2); Gaer Farm (14/2); BBNP LDP Invitation to meeting (14/2); Welsh Community Solar Power; Weekly Registers; Independent Remuneration Panel Report (18/2); Troed y Rhiw Gou, Cwmyoy Refusal (19/2).
2. Review of Community/Town Council arrangements in Monmouthshire.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. It was reported that the road between the two chapels in Pandy needed repairs. Cllr Keates' list.
2. Cllr Evans reported that Melin's garages at Trehonddu had been demolished and would not be replaced.
3. It was also reported that cars from Chapel Grove were also being parked in Trehonddu.
4. It was reported that road markings at the end of the village near the junction with the A465 had almost disappeared; moreover, there were potholes in the same area which needed attention. Cllr Keates' list.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m. Date of next meeting: 19 March 2019

S G Cooper (Clerk to Crucorney Community Council)