

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held on the 21 March, 2023

PRESENT Clrs R Morgan, R Morgan-Evans, Bentley, Rippin, Buckley, Davies and Cty Clr David Jones. Clr R Morgan chaired the meeting.

APOLOGIES Clr Phillips

N.B. The Agenda was suspended for a short while at the start of the meeting to allow Clr Rippin to run through the ideas behind the draft community survey re future projects she had prepared recently. Councillors were asked to report back with their views as soon as possible. Clr Rippin then left the meeting to attend the local CEG meeting partly on CCC's behalf as part of its liaison with CEG and its biodiversity commitments.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

3 local residents from Hill Street and Pen y Parc Road voiced their concerns re the state of the 2 roads as a back up to the emails they had sent CCC recently. The road surface which was full of potholes and drainage were of extreme concern to the residents in this area, emphasising that many patch-up jobs had been attempted in the past by MCC which had been unsuccessful because of poor workmanship and the rushed nature of the repairs - a veritable scenario of 'false economy'. They also added that the road leading up to and past Whitehouse Farm was also showing signs of serious deterioration.

County Councillor David Jones promised that he would report these concerns to the relevant road engineers at MCC and try to arrange a site meeting as soon as possible. He also mentioned with some optimism that MCC had purchased/was soon to purchase a state-of-the-art pothole repair machine which promised to be a game-changer for the County.

Councillors and residents present would await the outcome of this news with bated breath. One resident, apparently, had also emailed David Davies MP with his concerns and the outcome of that correspondence was also awaited with interest.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Current A/C £400 Reserve A/C £20586.60 Both as at 20 March 2023

Since the February meeting, the following cheques/payments had been issued/made as follows: £475.20 (Worcester Electrical, LED bulbs for Hall); £230 (One Voice Wales subscription); £3.99 (Bailey's spray paint for light shades in Hall); £150 (MCC payment for children's play scheme);£18 (Key 2 Shoes – extra keys for Hall); £500.50 (HMRC PAYE payment); £2,000 (Clerk's salary); £50 (Ann V Powell, Country Payrolls); £600 (Tom 's Fencing);£17.97 (Raglan Garden Centre - wild flower seeds re biodiversity commitments. Finally, liaison between the Chair and the BBNP Warden re more user-friendly gates as opposed to stiles in the area (a proposed CCC/BBNP joint project) was still ongoing.

With regard to issues raised by Audit Wales, Country Payrolls had now set up a PAYE system for CCC and payments had been made to HMRC for the 2022-2023 year. Work had been completed re LED lighting for the Hall, new fencing had been installed near the entrance to the Hall car park, an automatic urinal flush had been installed in the Gents' toilets, the loft space above the foyer in the Hall had been partially boarded out to provide storage space and it was hoped that the new roundabout and a new commercial swing frame would be installed in the children's play area before the end of the week. Councillor Rippin had also created a separate area on CCC's website to publish full accounts and governance statements. A search for hyperlinks on the council's website which were not working according to Audit Wales had proven to be inconclusive.

Councillors agreed a donation of £500 to the local primary school for outdoor learning equipment which included Eco Building Logs, Tough Spot and Stand, Magnifying Glasses and Seeds/Seed Trays.

The Notice of Conclusion of Audit for 2021-2022 had been posted in the window of the Skirrid Garage and on CCC's website on the 23 February 2023 and had remained in situ in the Skirrid Garage until 17 March. The Notice would remain on CCC's Website indefinitely.

The Clerk reported that MCC had published a list of all Town and Community Councils re precept values for 2023-2024.It was interesting to note that CCC's precept was the 4th lowest out of 32 town/community councils.

Finally, Mrs C Haines had accepted CCC's invitation to complete the council's internal audit for 2022-2023.

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

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Groes Lwyd Road near Dan y Bwlch Farm. No further news had been received about the promised remedial drainage plans.
2. A countersigned copy of the new Merlin Dog Waste Collection contract had now been received.
3. Mr Kinsella at MCC had not yet reported back his findings re the parking bays and possible double yellow lines outside the local primary school.
4. A definitive notice had now been received from MCC re construction work on the R1 at the county boundary at Llanthony which was to start on the 24 May 2023. CCC had circulated the notice on behalf of MCC on CCC's website, What's On Crucorney, CCC's Facebook page and on Llanvihangel News through Clr Morgan-Evans.
5. Pandy HMC had agreed to let out the Hall at no cost for a Coronation Tea Party.
6. The MOU with CEG was still to be signed by both parties as far as was known. CCC agreed to pursue this matter as it was felt that the MOU was an important document.
7. The brown and white chapel sign for Zoar Chapel was no longer an issue.
8. The Clerk had sent out to councillors for their perusal before this meeting a draft biodiversity/environmental statement which would eventually be placed on the council's website. The draft was approved by councillors with a few minor amendments.
9. Edge of road at Lower Stanton. No progress.
10. Unsuccessful attempts by lorry drivers to negotiate the Skirrid Pitch continued to disrupt traffic flow and annoy residents. Councillors felt that representations should be made to the Black Mountain Water Company to rectify the situation. A local resident had already reported the issue to MCC and had had a favourable response and offer of help under health and safety.

REPORTS

1. Cwmyoy Hall. No report.

2. Pandy Hall. As above under projects and finance. Councillors expressed their thanks to Mr Gerry Whittaker and Mr Ian Tremlett who had volunteered to install the eco-friendly LED lights in the Hall (as well as cleaning the heavy duty lampshades) and the automatic flushing urinal in the gents' toilets. Ian had also brought his own scaffolding with him.
3. CEG/CIC. No report.
4. Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School. Some matters re budget considerations were in progress, some items of which were subject to negotiations with the teachers' professional associations.
5. Police Report. No report had been received for February or March.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. BBNP 20/18928/FUL & 20/18931 FUL Dan y Bwlch Farmhouse had been scheduled to be reported to the Planning Committee today, 21 March 2023.

PLANNING DECISIONS

1. BBNP 22/21664/FUL Rock Cottage, 22/21700/FUL Maes y Beran Farm, BBNP 23/21702/FUL Trevelog Farm and BBNP 23/21701/FUL Sychtree Farm re telecommunications cabinets and poles had all been approved by the BBNP.

OBITUARIES

Gwyn Llewellyn, Pen y Parc Farm.

CORRESPONDENCE

Councillors had no further comments on correspondence sent to them by email other than that discussed by local residents and councillors re Hill Street and Pen y Parc Road at the start of the meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Cllr Bentley had received no further correspondence from the resident at no. 82, Wern Gifford re storing building materials on the green patch near his bungalow so councillors assumed that he had contacted MCC re the adopted verge situation mentioned in the Minutes for February.

2. Clr Bentley had no further information re the booster vaccinations publicised in a recent email to CCC and sent out on What's On Crucorney.
3. Clr Bentley informed councillors of an Army function to be held at Rodney Parade, Newport on the 22 March.
4. To reinforce the report from residents at the start of the meeting, Clr Davies felt that all roads in Crucorney were in serious need of attention and that MCC should be more proactive in repairing/maintaining them.

The meeting closed at 21.00. Date of next meeting: 18 April 2023.