

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held on the 16 May 2023

PRESENT Clrs R Morgan, Davies, Bentley, Morgan-Evans, Rippin and County Councillor D Jones. One member of the public was also present. Clr R Morgan chaired the meeting.

APOLOGIES Clr T Buckler

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no comments

FINANCIAL REPORT

Current A/C £400 Reserve A/C £17817.94 Both at 4 May 2023

One precept payment of £4,600 for 2023-2024 had been paid into CCC's Account by MCC.

Payments made since the April meeting were: £240.00 (H.Rippin); £2.60 (Post Office Counters); £145.60 (Merlin Waste) and £680 (Audit Wales for the 2021-2022 Audit).

CCC had paid the surprisingly large Audit Wales bill for 2021-2022 but had asked again for a breakdown of the charges. The latter request had been acknowledged by the Audit Wales Office but no explanation had been received as yet.

Audit Wales had still not informed CCC of the dates for the 2022-2023 Audit.

The results of the recent survey of residents re possible enhancement of facilities in the area were being analysed but it was also decided that the survey should be extended for another 2 weeks to enable more residents in outlying areas to have their say.

Various ideas already on the table (and which had received estimates) were outdoor adult exercise equipment, an outdoor table tennis table, dog-friendly gates in conjunction with the BBNP, a new door and frame for the storeroom adjacent to the former bowling green, a safety fence between the bowling green and the paved area adjacent to the play area, re-paving of a seating area with canopy between the Hall and the former bowling green, flashing speed

lights for the A465, CCC security cameras for the Hall, repairs re damp problem in the bar and repairs to guttering on the Hall

It was also reported that Pandy HMC had received a very high electricity bill for the period between February 2022 to the present time (during which estimated readings only had been provided). OVO had been asked to send out a representative to check the meter and assess the usage. The representative would report to OVO and HMC would be informed accordingly.

The **MINUTES** of the previous meeting (April 2023) were signed as a true and accurate record with one amendment. (See Matters Arising.)

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Clr Rippin informed the meeting that the Woodland Group is now referred to as the CIC. The CEC is the environmental charity. A discussion needed to take place between the community council and the CIC to clarify fees for the website and how they were to be paid.
2. County Clr Jones reported that a site meeting had been held at Pen y Parc and Hill Street with local residents and MCC representatives in attendance. A commitment was made to fill pot holes/ repair damage to the road surface and improve inadequate although no time scale was given by MCC. It had also been reported that the road surface on the Skirrid Pitch was suitable for lorries to negotiate the steep climb.
3. The parking area outside the primary school was still causing problems at peak times because of continued irresponsible parking by some parents and the recently installed parking bays. A reply from Mr Kinsella at MCC was still awaited.
4. The CEC had still not returned a signed copy of the MOU to Pandy HMC. The CEC signatories would be Helen Rippin and Ben Gerston.
5. Edge of the road at Lower Stanton. No progress.
6. General state of roads throughout the area. No further information.

REPORTS

1. Pandy Village Hall. The Coronation Day and Disco had gone well. Other news as per above under Financial Report.
2. Cwmyoy Hall. No report.

3. Primary School. A recent finance meeting had reported positively on the school's position.
4. Police Report for April. It was reported that: a suspicious vehicle was stopped on the A465 and it transpired that the driver was driving without a licence; loose horses had been reported at Llangua but there was no sign of them when officers attended.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. BBNP 23/21943/FUL Llwyn Franc Farm. Supported by CCC.
2. MCC DM/2023/00598. There was a lack of information re the name of this property. Councillors would seek further information before any discussion. Cty Clr Jones agreed to contact the MCC officer concerned.

PLANNING DECISIONS

1. BBNP 22/21328/FUL Cefn Farmhouse. Approved by BBNP.

OBITUARIES

Sylvia Catley, Mary Herring and Piers Geddes.

CORRESPONDENCE

Councillors had no further comments to make on correspondence which had been sent to them by email.

The Clerk, however, reported back on the 2 emails sent in by residents which had queried verge cutting in the area.

The first email had asked for information as to when CCC was going to cut verges because as a litter-picker he was finding it difficult to get at litter because of the height of the grass on verges. He also asked why the verges at the northern end of Llanvihangel Crucorney were in a better-kept condition than those at the southern end of the village. The Clerk had replied that verge cutting along the A465 was the responsibility of SWTRA with Monmouthshire County Council as its service provider. The verge at the northern end of the village was partly kept tidy by a local resident who kindly cut the grass on a regular basis throughout the year.

The second email queried why there was no mention in CCC's minutes of a communication he had had with SWTRA last year re cutting back verges which became a hazard to motorists due to lack of visibility at junctions joining the A465 because of the height of the grass. The Clerk had replied to the resident that although CCC had raised this issue many times in the past with the relevant authorities, the resident's communication with SWTRA had been regrettably missed out of the minutes.

It was decided that CCC would ask MCC as the service provider to SWTRA for a schedule of verge maintenance this year. It would also request a schedule for cutting back vegetation along paths etc. for which MCC was also responsible as every year CCC finds itself in the position of requesting that this work be done in a timely manner.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The Chairperson reported that she had received an email from the BBNP Warden re the provision of dog-friendly/easy-access gates. She was pleased to inform councillors that he had received permission from the landowners to install 2 of these gates on the path behind the Rising Sun and that he would hopefully carry out the work over the next couple of months. He would be contacting another landowner over the coming months.
2. A resident had brought to CCC's attention that the parking of several vehicles including trailers was taking place on a regular basis on the MCC- adopted verge on the corner alongside no. 82, Wern Gifford. Moreover, vehicles were also being parked on the corner as one turns into the junction making visibility very poor at all times but especially during school hours. It had also come to the attention of CCC through information supplied by MCC that the pull-in adjacent to the bungalows was not a parking area specifically for the bungalows but was for the general use of the public. The resident had been advised to contact Monmouthshire County Council with their concerns because it was within MCC's remit to take action with regard to the use of this verge and any damage caused. The Clerk would report back to councillors at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 21.15 Date of next meeting: 21 June 2023.

N.B. The June meeting will be a 'hybrid' meeting at Pandy Village Hall. Those people (including councillors) who are unable to attend in person will still be able to access the meeting online through 'Zoom'.