

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT TREWERN COMMUNITY CENTRE AND VIA MS TEAMS ON MONDAY, 04 SEPTEMBER 2023

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), Judy Evans, Nicola Dyson, Amanda Jenner, Peter Davies, Fiona Warburton, David Corfield and Phil Hughes.

1941 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillors Rob Breakwell and Colin Jenkins.
Councillor Rex Turner was not in attendance.

1942 Minutes of the Meetings from 18th July for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 18th July to now be approved and signed by JE.
Proposed by FW, seconded by PD

1943 Declarations of Interest – Blanket dispensations have been received for matters relating to wind farms, renewable energy, membership of voluntary organisations, school governors, school modernisation and school transport.

CCAJ declared an interest in planning application 23/1176/FUL. GC declared an interest in Middletown Village Hall.

1944 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

1945 Playgrounds

Fence installation, Trewern

DC installed the replacement fence at Trewern play area, due to the fence being very heavy, Mr Sault helped DC carry out the work. It was agreed that we would give Mr Sault £40 to thank him for his help and time, as the work took longer than expected to complete. All happy to pay Mr Sault £40. AE to add payment to next agenda.

ACTION: AE

The recent tree survey highlighted the ancient Oak Tree near the school. A tree specialist has been out to assess the tree and will be bracing the branches, instead of cutting the branch down, so not to kill the tree. The tree specialist has asked for a notice to be put out to say if the weather is windy/stormy, for pupils and residents not to stand under it to shelter.

The school has been chasing David Thompson regarding the gates that open up from Parc Caradog onto the school grounds, which was reported 2 years ago as a Safeguarding issue. PCC are planning to put up high green fences all around the school grounds and BTCP school should be in the next round of funding to have this work completed.

1946 Highways

Jackie Charlton has previously agreed to a meeting with us and we are waiting for her to confirm a date. AE to chase for a date.

ACTION: AE

The missed bin collections are the main issues currently being raised with CCAJ by residents. CCAJ has written several times to PCC and has been told it is due to unforeseen circumstances.

A bit of jet patching work has been started, but not completed on the road by Llwyn Melyn. Still lots of pot holes and a stream of water running down the road.

Andrew Jones was discussing the noisy manhole covers in Middletown with the utilities companies, CCAJ will ask for an update.

ACTION: CCAJ

We have not yet had an update from Andrew about the clearing under the bridge in Trewern, near Bridge Cottage.

AE has previously reported the pot hole in the middle of Station Road near the junction with the A458. AE to chase.

ACTION: AE

Pot hole on the road (U3242) just passed Cottage Cross Road, passed Moat Farm and Pigeon House CCAJ will report it on the PCC online system.

ACTION: CCAJ

It has been previously reported that there is a footpath overgrown between the Church at Buttington which links across the road, walkers use it. There is a whole section of verge where there is no path. We will keep it on the list and keep an eye on it. If PD hears anything more about the issue, bring it back to the meeting.

It was noted that the bus shelter in Middletown is getting quite rough and could do with a coat of paint. AE to look at all the bus shelters.

ACTION: AE

AE has drafted a letter to send to the Minister of Wales, to request for them to assess where we could feasibly have a pedestrian crossing located within Middletown and Trewern. AE to forward letter to everyone for their views/input. CCAJ suggested having a petition to go along with the letter. CCAJ will let us know what she thinks of a petition after she has read the letter.

ACTION: AE/CCAJ

At the last meeting, we discussed the footpath project. CCAJ has had approx 10 volunteers that are willing to help/assist with the work for this project to go ahead. CCAJ will chase Calum Carr for further updates.

ACTION: CCAJ

1947 County Councillors' Report

See 'Highways'.

1948 Planning

23/0840/OUT | Outline application for erection of a dwelling, detached garage, formation of vehicular access and all associated works (with some matters reserved) | Land Adj Three Hills Middletown Welshpool SY21 8DJ

TCC has considered this application. We do not wish to make a comment at this time.

23/1176/FUL | Siting of 2no (mobile) sheperds huts for holiday accommodation (resubmission). | The Sycamores Garreg Bank Trewern SY21 8EA

Ccaj declares interest.

TCC has considered this application. We again would like to re-iterate our same concerns we had with the first planning application submission, 23/1176/FUL and again object to this application from a Highways point of view, as the access to this site would be along an extremely narrow road, which is already very dangerous without the added increase in traffic from this proposed development. It has also been noted that this application is not for retrospective planning, it has been highlighted that the Shephard's Huts have been advertised as holiday accommodation previous to this application being submitted to the planning.

23/1313/RES | Reserved matters application for details of access & road improvements, appearance, landscaping, drainage, layout and scale in connection with outline approval 20/0817/OUT for 8 dwellings | Land Adjacent West Of Penyfoel Middletown Welshpool Powys

TCC has considered this application. We again would like to re-iterate the same concerns we had with the outline planning application submission, 20/0817/OUT. We have not received any objections and therefore we do not oppose this application. However, we are still concerned about the road narrowing considerably outside Llwyn Celyn, as well as the access onto the main A458 highway. Although there is plans to improve accessibility at this junction, this is already a dangerous road without the added increase in traffic from this proposed development. Therefore, we would like to reiterate the comments made by the Highways in regards to this junction and ask that their guidelines are strictly adhered to. We would also like to raise our concerns that with the additional pressures on the local sewerage infrastructure from this proposed development, along with the high number of newly accepted planning proposals in Middletown being added to the infrastructure, it would be unsustainable without vast improvement.

23/1023/FUL | Conversion of an agricultural building to detached residential dwelling and all associated works | White House Heldre Lane Buttington Welshpool SY21 8SX

TCC has considered this application. We have not received any objections and therefore we would like to support this application.

1949 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £27,491.46 in the accounts at the end of July 2023. Bank reconciliation and bank statements checked to confirm that it is all in order.

GC to now sign bank statements.

Proposed by PD and seconded by PH

Payments

Clerk Salary £522.10 (July and August payment) under L.G.A 1972 s112.

Trewern Community Centre - £2,300 (annual donation) under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

Middletown Village Hall - £2,300 (annual donation) under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

Proposed by PD and seconded by ND

It was agreed to write Sue Davies a cheque for the approved payment for emptying the bins.

Audit

AE has received an email from the external auditor with a list of additional paperwork required. This was discussed and AE has already responded to the request.

1950 Correspondence

None.

1951 Any Other Business

Anna Griggs and PH are happy to accommodate the War Plaque within Trewern Community Centre, which is currently located in the Cefn Chapel. However, a new Vicar is starting soon, so PD will keep us updated on any developments.

Andrew Jones has confirmed he is looking for the old cast iron Buttington sign, GC will chase him for an update.

ACTION: GC

No update on the request for a Post Office Mobile Service Van to visit the area. AE to chase.

ACTION: AE

There has recently been some fly tipping around the Breidden. AE to notify the Brewery.

ACTION: AE

It was noted that Potters Group no longer accept tyres. AE to contact them to see what the alternative for disposing of tyres and for a list of other items they no longer accept. Put this update in Border Gossip too.

ACTION: AE

It was agreed that the area in the centre of Middletown, next to the Breidden car park was starting to look untidy, with fallen branches. It was agreed that we would ask Wootton Trees Services to take a look and quote for shaping the tall trees and cutting the top of the tree. Previously they have kindly not charged for the work they have carried out for the Community Council, they live in the Village too. Therefore, it was agreed that if they do not charge again, we would still make a donation to them instead. It was also agreed that we would then require CA Bowen to tidy up the shrubs in the area after Wootton Tree Services have completed their work. GC will obtain a rough quotation from CA Bowen for this too. All happy to go ahead.

ACTION: GC

BTCP school are planning to hold a 70th Anniversary Celebration on Friday 29th September between 2pm and 5pm. GC had previously been invited to the school where the pupils were helping to make a glass sculpture to mark the occasion, GC had a great day and the pupils loved it too.

1952 Date of Next Meetings

17 October 2023 at Middletown Village Hall and via MS Teams.