

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MIDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL AND VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), Judy Evans, Rob Breakwell, Amanda Jenner, Colin Jenkins, Peter Davies, Nicola Dyson, Rex Turner and David Corfield.

2001 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillors Fiona Warburton and Phil Hughes.

2002 Minutes of the Meetings from 20th February for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 20th February to now be approved and signed by GC.
Proposed by PD and seconded by JE.

2003 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.

GC declared an interest in Middletown Village Hall.

2004 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

2005 Playgrounds

Play area lease, Middletown

We have received a letter from The New Saints Football Club regarding the end of lease for the piece of land where the play area is located in Middletown. All agreed to get advice regarding the lease. AE to contact One Voice Wales and others.

ACTION: AE

Updating TCC assets on insurance policy.

GC goes through the list of assets and the quotes received for the play equipment in both Trewern and Middletown. AE to speak to insurance to confirm what is covered under 'Other Ground Surfaces', is it just the Wet Pour? AE to also check with Internal Auditor if the laptops and other items should be depreciating in value from an accounting point of view on the Fixed Asset Register each year. AE to then add to next agenda for discussion.

ACTION: AE

2006 Highways

CCAJ reported drains at the bottom of the Hope Road by Leighton Road. PD says PCC have been along there but they haven't done any work on the blocked drains at the bottom of Hope Road. CCAJ will report it again.

ACTION: CCAJ

Local residents have contacted CCAJ with complaints about the section of the road along the U2252 (around Oakland House and beyond back lanes Middletown/Trewern). CCAJ has again emailed Clive Jones (PCC) and copied in Jackie Charlton (PCC), as this road has been reported many times due to constant drain problems with water flowing down the road and a deteriorating surface/pot holes. The recent pot hole work done here didn't even last a few days as it was washed away. It was agreed

that we would formally write to CCAJ and asking her to contact Matt Perry (Head of Highways, Transport and Recycling for PCC) regarding the issues along this road. AE to draft a letter to CCAJ.

ACTION: AE

Further along this road (U2253), there is also a verge slippage into a brook below it which has been reported over the last few years. There was a temporary barrier put there but residents are now concerned that this is getting much worse and is dangerous particularly for the increased traffic which is going to a farm. CCAJ has also reported this again to Clive Jones (copying in Jackie Charlton, PCC). TCC have reported this many times to PCC. AE to also include this in the letter to CCAJ.

ACTION: AE

Safety of the A458, Middletown.

TCC met with Craig Williams and Russell George last week to discuss the safety of the A458 and specifically the accident involving a Middletown resident who sadly died, along the piece of road outside Bank Farm Caravan Park. It was agreed this piece of road has been an issue for a long time. The Go Safe van visits on a regular basis and any cars overtaking here is being monitored daily. TCC will now officially write to the Welsh Government (copying in Andrew Jones, Russell George and Craig Williams) with our suggestions on improving the safety of the A458. It was agreed that in the short-term, we would like a permanent speed camera, which captures both drivers overtaking and speeding, the double white 'no overtaking' lines extended in both directions, the road resurfaced, as well as, a flashing light that either indicates drivers speed or to highlight that there is a car in the hidden dip ahead. It was also agreed that the current sign highlighting the hidden dip is currently too far away from the dip in the road and we either need this sign moving closer to the dip or more frequent signs repeating that there is a hidden dip in 600m/400m/200m etc. We would like the speed of the road to be part of the review, asking their professional opinion on whether the speed along this road should be lowered. AE to draft the letter and send it to everyone for their input/approval.

ACTION: AE

The Police have already asked Highways for an extension to the double white 'no overtaking' lines and for the road to be resurfaced. TCC to reiterate this request in our letter to the Welsh Government. The long-term plan, would be to look into the idea of a bypass again. Cross border roads is going to be taken on by the UK Government and we discussed whether we should get feedback/ opinions from local residents on the bypass. However, it was agreed that we should concentrate our efforts on the short-term plan for the time being, as a bypass would be many decades down the line.

The National Highways Team will be carrying out essential targeted resurfacing work on the A458 between the England/Wales border and Churncote Roundabout. AE to add the details of road closures to FB and TCC website.

ACTION: AE

2007 County Councillors' Report

CCAJ is still concerned about the Education funding and some of the vacancies that are not being filled. If anyone knows anyone struggling to afford their Council Tax, ask them to speak to CCAJ, there are discussions that can be had regarding Council Tax relief or exemptions.

At the last meeting, we discussed the The Bridle Path near the Dingle Farm, Middletown. Calum Carr has made contact with the owner and will be arranging a site meeting with them.

It has been reported that there is a lot of building waste being tipped along Leighton Road between a building and a house. CCAJ will look into this.

ACTION: CCAJ

The road is currently being dug up by Priors Cottage as they connect to the sewerage.

2008 Planning

24/0228/HH | Renovation, conversion and extension to existing dwelling and installation of treatment plant | Lower Bryn Bryn Lane Hope Leighton Powys SY21 8JD

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

2009 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £31,222.07 in the accounts at the end of February 2024.

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 ND

Payments

Clerk Salary £261.05 (February payment) under L.G.A 1972 s112.

Middletown Village Hall - £25 (Hall hire for March) under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

Trewern Community Centre - £120 (Hall Hire for 2023/24) under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

The New Saints Football Club (Middletown play area rent) - £225 under L.G.A 1972 s111.

Proposed by PD and seconded by DC

2010 Correspondence

GC has received a Play For Wales booklet and thinks it will be of some interest to CCAJ.

2011 Any Other Business

CCAJ would like to plan a litter pick for Trewern area on Easter Saturday. CCAJ will add this suggestion to FB and gauge the interest of local residents.

ACTION: CCAJ

A local resident has had water flooding into their kitchen. Andrew Jones has previously been to look at this issue and as far as TCC were aware, this issue had been resolved. RB to find out more and we can then take it forward if needed.

ACTION: RB

2012 Date of Next Meetings

16 April 2024 at Trewern Community Centre and via MS Teams.