

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT MIDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL AND VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2023

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), David Corfield, Judy Evans, Peter Davies, Phil Hughes, Rex Turner and County Councillor Amanda Jenner.

1881 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillors Rob Breakwell, Colin Jenkins and Fiona Warburton.

1882 Minutes of the Meetings from 18th January for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 18th January to now be signed by GC and approved.

Proposed by JE, seconded by DC

1883 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.

None.

1884 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

1885 Playgrounds

DC and Mike Bates have cut and cleared away the hedge between the play area and the D by the school, Trewern.

Tree survey and management plan, Trewern

The school have been instructed by PCC that the site must have a tree survey completed and management plan ASAP. The school have asked if we could come to an arrangement between School, Community Council and Community Centre for the costs of the initial tree survey and management plan and any works to be done as a result of findings. Moving forwards, a tree survey and management plan needs to be redone every three years. Hopefully once the company know the site, future invoices may then reduce. JE will read the Community Centre deeds. AE to explain to School that as we have now found the deeds to the Community Centre, we would like to check these before we commit to anything, if we pay once, will be committing ourselves to paying this every time. AE to add to next agenda to discuss further.

ACTION: AE/JE

AE has contacted TCCs Insurance company, Zurich, regarding the damaged fence around the play area at the School, they said as the willow tree blew down in the wind, this is an 'act of god' and therefore Zurich will not deal with it. Zurich advised contacting the Community Centres insurance and possibly claim under liability if the Community Centre was already aware of the willow trees poor health before it fell. AE spoke to Anne Jerman, however she thought that the Community Centre was only responsible for everything inside the building and PCC were responsible for everything outside. JE to read through deeds to confirm.

ACTION: JE

It is thought that the hedge between the residential park and the play area in Middletown was planted by the Parish Council and therefore this is the reason why TCC still pay for it to be cut each year. It is thought that it might be on the deeds of caravan park? Is likely a lease on plot of land.

ACTION: JE

1886 Highways

Trunk road – Work commencing on Cefn Bridge. Moving speed limits as you come out of Trewern heading towards Buttington, hopefully this will mean less accidents. CCAJ has received comments from a resident who is unhappy with the work being done on Sale Lane and the length of time it has taken.

CCAJ and DC met with Andrew Jones and NRW about the bridge by Brook Cottage, Trewern. Andrew Jones is going to look at whether or not he could survey under the bridge, not sure if it is deep enough. This is not a PCC issue, as part of Prosperity Funding, property owners can apply for things to make their homes more flood resistant, CCAJ will find out what is involved with that funding. TCC members thought that the old bridge is still under there and probably needs clearing, its full of silt, needs to be dredged, not just clearing debris and then needs maintaining every 2/3 years. CCAJ will chase Andrew Jones.

ACTION: CCAJ

CCAJ has had no response about Active Travel, CCAJ will chase and will also raise with Russell George's office. An announcement was made last week, no new roads in Wales.

ACTION: CCAJ

County roads - ditching and drains done in various places, over last few months, not everywhere. JE checked up Mount Hill tonight and the drains have still not been done there. AE to re-send email to Dave Gardener, this H&S issue has already been reported twice.

ACTION: AE

Residents are not happy about drains at top of Middletown Hill, past Stone House. CCAJ has reported them several times. Pot holes have been done there, as well, as the pot hole outside Sycamores has been done.

CCAJ has requested a list of all the work being done in area, looks like lots of work has been completed, but it doesn't marry up with our ongoing list. CCAJ has asked how they define what is critical and will let us know.

Along Heldre Lane, a verge has slipped down into brook below, CCAJ raised as a concern with PCC in February 2022. CCAJ has been told it has now been inspected, wasn't thought to be critical/dangerous. This has now been put down for works but with no set date for work to commence.

Crggion Lane – there was an traumatic incident in December, involving a young girl riding a horse, a car veered around corner and the horse went into shock and died. CCAJ has been trying to get a horse sign to put up from PCC, but has so far been unsuccessful. CCAJ has been putting out emails to get local horse riders to get in touch with her and possibly arrange for some temporary posters to be put up.

1887 County Councillors' Report

Budget – CCAJ is due to vote on Thursday and thinks there will be a 5% increase in Council Tax. CCAJ has spent a lot of time going through the Social Services budget. CCAJ has concerns about cuts to school funding and the issues that will then have on the maintenance of school buildings too. There is huge pressure on Adult services, after the delayed operations during the COVID pandemic, it has now left elderly patients needing additional care.

1888 Planning

22/2121/FUL | Erection of 3 dwellings and rebuilding of barn to form an additional dwelling, to include alterations to access and all associated works | Ivy House Trewern Welshpool SY21 8EL

We find this application difficult to understand with conflicting documents on the planning portal. Section 5, figure 7 on The Heritage Impact Statement shows Barn 2, however Barn 2 does not appear on the Proposed Site Plan for this application. The access to the proposed development is directly opposite Breidden View cul-de-sac, which is a concern, especially as this is not shown on any of the plans drawn for this site. The address of the application shows as Trewern, however this site is based in Middletown. Therefore, before we can make an objective comment, we would like further clarification on this application. We would also like to reiterate the comments made by Cllr. Amanda Jenner and also request an elevation assessment.

22/2122/LBC | Rebuilding of barn to form a dwelling | Ivy House Trewern Welshpool Powys SY21 8EL

We find this application difficult to understand with conflicting documents on the planning portal. Section 5, figure 7 on The Heritage Impact Statement shows Barn 2, however Barn 2 does not appear on the Proposed Site Plan for this application. The access to the proposed development is directly opposite Breidden View cul-de-sac, which is a concern, especially as this is not shown on any of the plans drawn for this site. The address of the application shows as Trewern, however this site is based in Middletown. Therefore, before we can make an objective comment, we would like further clarification on this application. We would also like to reiterate the comments made by Cllr. Amanda Jenner and also request an elevation assessment.

23/0017/HH | Proposed Demolition of Glazed Rear Conservatory Wing, Erection of Rear Extensions, Porch Alterations and Garage Block | Trevone Heldre Lane Tre-Wern Welshpool SY21 8DU

We have not received any objections and therefore we do not oppose this application.

22/2124/FUL | Erection of ground mounted PV solar array | Old Hope Hope Road Hope Leighton SY21 8HF

We have not received any objections and therefore we do not oppose this application.

A resident has put in an Enforcement Complaint against the newly made car park along the top row of Mount Pleasant, Middletown. CCAJ has emailed the planning for an update, but has not yet had a response.

1889 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £25,968.59 in the accounts at the end of January 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 RT

Payments

Clerks Salary – £261.05 (20hrs for January) under L.G.A 1972 s112.

Middletown Village Hall – £237.18 (Broadband contribution) under L.G.A 1972 s111.

Border Gossip annual donation - £600 under L.G.A 1972 s137.

Powys County Council - £698.94 (Election service fees) under L.G.A 1972 s111.

Payments proposed by PH and seconded by GC

Online banking

AE continues to set up online banking for PH and GC.

1890 Correspondence

None.

1891 Any Other Business

Trewern Mission Church

Deferred to next meeting.

Co-option of new Councillor

Three applications have been received for the vacancy. PH proposed and JE seconded the vote for Nicola Dyson. Everyone in favour and all agreed to co-opt Nicola Dyson for the Community Councillor vacancy.

Community Grant to Support Cost of Living Activity

We have received an email regarding the Community Grant to Support Cost of Living Activity. FW has emailed TCC and the school with ideas. All agreed to put ideas on hold for now.

Litter Picking

CCAJ has proposed Saturday 18th March to do a litter pick around Middletown with coffee at Middletown Village Hall afterwards.

AE to draft a letter of thanks to the resident who has been litter picking along the A458 in Middletown.

ACTION: AE

Kings Coronation

AE to contact school about their plans to celebrate the Kings Coronation and add this to the agenda for next month CCAJ will put a post on Facebook to gage with the Community on what they would like to happen for this event too.

ACTION: CCAJ/AE

The Breidden

AE spoke to Ei Group about the state of the outside of the Breidden. They are getting quotes to get the outside and inside cleared, however no exact date has been given for the work to commence.

1892 Date of Next Meetings

21 March 2023 at Middletown Village Hall and via MS Teams.