

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

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), David Corfield, Judy Evans, Peter Davies, Rob Breakwell, Colin Jenkins, Fiona Warburton and Nicola Dyson.

GC introduces and welcomes ND to TCC.

1881 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillors Rex Turner, Amanda Jenner and Phil Hughes.

1882 Minutes of the Meetings from 21st February for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 21st February to now be signed by GC and approved.

Proposed by JE, seconded by PD

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.

GC and DC declared an interest in planning application 23/0128/HDG.

1884 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

1885 Playgrounds

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, management plan and any works to be done as a result of findings. JE has spent hours going through leases and letters outlining who is responsible for the trees in this area. In the past it has all being a bit of a grey area, but we have since found the deeds to the Community Centre which explain, that TCC is the Custodian Trustee, the Community Centre lease is for the building and a right to park and access the building (no land is shown as part of the lease) and they are only responsible for internal repairs only. PCC are responsible for outside the building. As part of the play area lease, TCC are meant to keep all hedges around the play area in good repair, but this would only include 5 out of the 63 trees surveyed, one of which is marked in red for work to be done. Therefore, it was agreed we are not able to contribute a third towards the cost of the tree survey, but we will cover the cost of the survey for 5 trees in the play area and any work needed on those. It was also agreed that the survey and any works on the trees should be paid for by PCC and not the school, Community Centre or Community Council. AE to let Anna Griggs know the outcome of this discussion.

ACTION: AE

It was thought that we may be responsible for cutting the play area hedge on the road side by the D at the school, however this has always been cut previously by the school and TCC cut the play area side of the hedge. It was agreed that we will keep an eye on this next time it is due to be cut.

Damaged Fence, Trewern

JE has confirmed that the deeds state that the Community Centre are only responsible for everything inside the building and PCC are responsible for everything outside. AE spoke to PCC, who

advised getting in touch with the School, as a claim for the damaged fence should go through Education Services' Insurance. A claim form has now been submitted, along with the quote and photos of the damaged fence.

1886 Highways

Pot hole work has been completed near the top of Moel Y Golfa. Complaints have been received from residents about the road near Llwynmelyn. CCAJ and TCC have reported this road numerous times. AE to report it again to PCC.

ACTION: AE

Middletown Quarry Road Drain Maintenance

The drains have not been cleared yet. There is currently a stream of water flowing down the hill. It was agreed that if it freezes overnight then this road will be lethal in the morning and extremely dangerous, especially as there are lorries going up and down from the quarry and there is also a bus stop at the bottom of the road too. Every drain full of compacted silt. JE took photos of water running over and across the road, road was dreadful. Agreed to escalate this again with PCC along with the road near Llwynmelyn, every month until the issues are dealt with.

ACTION: AE

The Hope Road is also the same, water running out of drains and very slippery when frosty.

The footpath running along the A458 towards the border has now been cleared, however there are cones running along the hedge, where the ground is subsiding. AE to write to PCC to thank them for clearing this, tell them the ground is subsiding and find out what their plans are to rectify this. Ask PCC if they could also encourage Shropshire Council to clear the footpath over the border too.

ACTION: AE

The work on the Cefn Bridge has now been completed, however the Buttington sign is missing. PD will double check on his way home tonight and let AE know. If the sign is still missing, AE to ask Andrew Jones where the sign has gone.

ACTION: PD/AE

1887 County Councillors' Report

None.

1888 Planning

23/0128/HDG | Application to remove a 70 meter hedgerow to increase visibility onto the A458 Trunk road. | Land Adjacent Bank Farm Middletown Welshpool Powys SY21 8EJ

GC and DC declared an interest in this application. Trewern Community Council have considered this application. We do not wish to make a comment at this time.

It was agreed that once the planning application for the development next to the school has been submitted, we will need to hold a public meeting to discuss the proposed development and school car park.

1889 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £25,963.19 in the accounts at the end of February 2023. Bank reconciliation and bank statements checked to confirm that it is all in order.

GC to now sign bank statements.

Proposed by RB and seconded by FW

Payments

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

Middletown Village Hall – £50 (Hire of the hall for Feb and March) under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

Trewern Community Centre - £45 (Hire of the hall) under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

One Voice Wales Membership Renewal - £230 under L.G.A 1972 s143.

Payments proposed by FW and seconded by RB

Online banking

Online banking access has now been set up for AE, PH and GC.

At the last meeting, we agreed to make our annual donation to the Border Gossip, however Marion Hayes has emailed to say that we may wish to delay this payment, as they need to make a decision on the future of the Border Gossip. Despite numerous appeals over the past three years, offers have neither been received to take over the Editor's role nor contribute articles for the magazine. It was agreed that it would be a shame to lose the Border Gossip. AE to contact Kim Mountford for a job description and advertise it on TCC website, Facebook and ask CCAJ to put it on her Facebook page.

ACTION: AE

1890 Correspondence

An email has been received from a resident asking about allotments in the Trewern area. We need to have a certain number of people requesting an allotment before we can approach PCC. AE to ask CCAJ if she can put something out on her Facebook page asking if anyone would be interested in setting it up and taking it forward.

ACTION: AE

1891 Any Other Business

Trewern Mission Church

Defer to next meeting.

Co-option of New Councillor

Declaration of Acceptance form was signed by ND and given to the Clerk.

King's Coronation

CCAJ had no responses to her post on Facebook asking for ideas for a Kings Coronation event in the Ward.

Cefn Chapel

The Vicar is finishing at the Cefn Chapel in July, so the Chapel will likely be closed by August.

Therefore, TCC need to discuss what to do with the Defibrator that is currently located outside Cefn Chapel. It was thought that outside the Community Centre would be an ideal area for it, as there is more footfall around the Community Centre and people could come through from Parc Caradog too. Need permission from Community Centre. There is also a board in the Chapel that has all the names of the people who died in the 1st and 2nd world war, which would be good to keep in the Community Centre too. PD to speak to PH.

ACTION: PD

The light outside the school is still very bright. FW will speak to Anna Griggs.

ACTION: FW

1892 Date of Next Meetings

18 April 2023 at Trewern Community Centre and via MS Teams.