

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2022

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), Phil Hughes, Fiona Warburton, Harriot Bates, Rob Breakwell, Judy Evans, David Corfield, Peter Davies, Sasha Hart and County Councillor Amanda Jenner.

1779 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillor Rex Turner

1780 Minutes of the Meeting from 15th February 2022 for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 15th February 2022 to now be signed by GC and approved.
Proposed by SH, seconded by JE

1781 Declarations of Interest – Blanket dispensations have been received for matters relating to wind farms, school modernisation and school transport

GC and DC declared an interest in Broad Energy.

1782 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

1783 Playgrounds

At the last meeting, we discussed the quotes GC had obtained for the overhanging tree between the play area and Hazel Close. GC has met with resident and Wootton Tree Services Ltd, the resident has confirmed that are happy to clear the debris on their side. The tree is also overhanging a piece of the play equipment quite considerably too, all in agreement to cut back that part of the tree too.

Proposed by PD, seconded by DC/JE

AE to draft a letter to send to the resident on behalf of TCC to confirm that TCC will cover the cost of having the branches cut, however we wish to make it known that by doing so, this is no admission of liability and we are not setting a precedent for future.

ACTION: AE/GC

GC has spoken to Ray Parry Playgrounds Ltd, at the moment the weather is too wet, so he has proposed installation of the new equipment in early May.

CCAJ has purchased three signs and has passed them onto the School to be put up where the CCTV is, hopefully this will help prevent dog fouling in the area.

1784 Highways

Sale Lane U2248 – the work on the footpath on the corner has been completed today. The spare tarmac has filled several potholes up the U2248 but this job has not yet been completed. The culvert has a broken headwall, but the flow is not impeded by this. CCAJ has put this road onto the Capital Funding list, and it will be ranked alongside all the other jobs. BT lines are still hanging there. Trees left in verges, GC and CCAJ will follow up with landowner.

ACTION: GC/CCAJ

Heldre Lane U2250 and U2251 – barriers have been placed at the site today and Engineering Design Services (EDS) have been asked to assess the situation. The drainage works have been completed on Heldre Bridge and now awaiting Transport for Wales to clear the blocked culvert on the railway line itself. It was agreed that we will continue to monitor this area.

SY21 8EG – EDS to attend site where road is slipping into brook and a works order has been issued to fill potholes.

Fox Lane and Firs Lane – a works order has been created and the Jetter should be working there this week. CCAJ has also asked if the drains could be done outside the Smithy, Buttington too.

Middletown – CCAJ has gone through the Housing team to look at the top road of Mt. Pleasant. Richard Jones and Ffion Williams will survey this area tomorrow and send update to CCAJ.

GC sent letter to Highways about white lines on Cefn Bridge and the signs from the Green Dragon.

It was agreed AE would send an email to Andrew Jones regarding the overhanging hedge directly below Maesfron, Trewern. It was thought this overhanging hedge is a contributing factor for vehicles, especially larger/wider vehicles having to drive over the white line and into the middle of the road and in doing so, making the other side of the road narrower for oncoming vehicles. We realise this latest accident wasn't caused by an oncoming vehicle, but we are aware from speaking to lorry drivers (especially of curvation sided lorries) that the overhanging hedge which goes quite a way, back to Maesfron entrance, is a big issue and needs taking back in line with the wall.

ACTION: AE

DC has spoken to the owner of the burnt tractor, the insurance is currently dealing with it and will remove all the debris. GC has spoken to CA Bowen to discuss the grass and trees, it was agreed that we will wait to see what happens, especially now it is the start of the growing season. If more needs doing e.g., tree trimming or reseeding, CA Bowen will keep us updated. GC now knows what to do if anything like this happens in a public area again. Police should have been there and then they decide what to do next. Highways team have not sent a sweeper, hopefully it will be here tomorrow. Barriers are now up anyway. GC will chase if they don't come tomorrow.

ACTION: GC

1785 County Councillors' Report

None

1786 Planning

Broad Energy

GC and DC have declared an interest in this application.

CCAJ has attended one day of the hearing so far, at the moment it is an evidence/information gathering stage for the Planning Inspectorate. The Planning Inspectorate will then write a report for the Minister and they will then make the final decision. The Planning have had all the submissions from last year and a whole load more of submissions from CCAJ and Buttington Incinerator Impact Group (BIIG). Yesterday's hearing focussed on planning policies and the overall need and sustainability of the site and proposal. Lots of discussion on carbon emissions and excavation materials. Tomorrow is focusing on Health permits. NRW will look at health from an emissions point of view and CCAJ will be raising the issue of mental health. CCAJ has spent the day getting evidence together. The minister is going to be visiting Powys Castle. Powys castle have withdrawn there objection to the proposal. CCAJ will keep us all posted.

22/0070/FUL | Conversion of a barn to a residential unit and associated works | Barn At Fronhaul Trewern Welshpool SY21 8DU

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

Other planning applications:

21/2218/HH – approved

22/0018/NMA - approved
21/1738/FUL – withdrawn
21/1716/FUL – Withdrawn
21/1848/FUL – approved
21/1392/NMA – approval

1787 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £22,230.41 in the accounts at the end of February 2022. Bank reconciliation and bank statements checked to confirm that it is all in order.
GC to now sign bank statements.
Proposed by FW and seconded by PH

Payments

Clerks Salary – £234.10 (20hrs for February) under L.G.A 1972 s112.
One Voice Wales Membership Renewal Fee - £212.00 under L.G.A 1972 s143.
Payments proposed by PD, seconded by PH

Online Banking

AE has applied for online banking and needs GC and PH to sign the bank forms to send to HSBC. AE to arrange for the other Councillors to have a 'view only' access to the online banking.

ACTION: AE/GC/PH

Chairs Allowance

At AGM held in May 2021, it was agreed that the Chairs Allowance would be discussed at a future meeting, due to the possibility that if FW had to Chair any meetings about Broad Energy (as GC has declared an interest), GC would like the Chairs Allowance to be split with FW. However, as we are now nearing the end of the financial year and no meeting has yet been held by TCC regarding Broad Energy, it was agreed to pay GC the Chairs Allowance for this year. Due to the rate of inflation and the rising costs of living, it was agreed to pay GC £675 for the Chairs Allowance this year.
Payment proposed by PH, seconded by SH

1788 Correspondence

CCAJ will catch up with Environmental Health for their views regarding the issue raised by a resident of quad bikes on the land near Llwynmelyn Lane. It was thought that this is not going to be a regular/organised quad bike event and therefore Environmental Health would not be interested if it was just a one off.

FW and the school governors have expressed concerns to Michael Gedrim (Designated Lead Officer for Safeguarding in Education for Powys) regarding the gates that lead from Parc Caradog directly onto the school grounds, but have not had a response yet or an acknowledgment of any kind. FW to follow this email up and will copy CCAJ and Cllr. Phil Davies into the email too. Until the governors know PCCs thoughts on this issue, they don't want to yet send the drafted letter out to parents.

ACTION: FW

CCAJ has also raised the issue of a tree that has fallen by Ham and Eggs.

CCAJ will have a look at the manhole cover that has been put very close to Sale Lane to see if this will cause any problems.

Masks do not need to be worn in Village Halls anymore, so GC would like to start to return to face to face meetings.

1789 Any Other Business

SH has sent an email regarding an incredibly rare local butterfly - the Pearl-Bordered Fritillary. Next month sees the launch of "Pathways for Pearls" which incorporates an essential observation science project survey (organised through the Wildlife Trust), whereby the public in the Welshpool & surrounding areas can take part in a to establish as to the extent of this beauty's habitat.

1790 Date of Next Meetings

19 April 2022 via MS Teams.