

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 15 JUNE 2021

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), David Corfield, Fiona Warburton, Harriot Bates, Stephen Novick, Rex Turner and County Councillor Amanda Jenner.

1695 Apologies

Councillor Sasha Hart was not in attendance.

Apologies received from Councillor Rob Breakwell, Phil Hughes and Peter Davies.

1696 Minutes of the Meeting from 11th May and 18th May 2021 for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 18th May 2021 to now be signed by GC and approved.

Proposed by FW, seconded by SN

Minutes from the extraordinary meeting held on 11th May 2021 to now be signed by FW and approved. Proposed by SN, seconded by HB

1697 Declarations of Interest – Blanket dispensations have been received for matters relating to wind farms, school modernisation and school transport

GC and DC have declared an interest in Broad Energy.

1698 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

1699 Playgrounds

Last month, we discussed the litter outside the school, AE has now sent a letter to the school and we are waiting for a response.

1700 Highways

Llwyn Melyn road has now been tarmacked, as well as parts of Heldre Lane and Sale Lane. Nasty pot hole on Station Road in Middletown has been reported. Hedge cutting has started.

Lights have been put on the Cefn Bridge, however CCAJ is still concerned about the inconsistent speed along the A458 between Buttington and through to Trewern and Middletown.

CCAJ has also written a letter of complaint to the Minister of Highways, complaining about Highways not submitting a comment on the Buttington Incinerator application or acknowledging that the Cefn Bridge is a black spot, CCAJ has not yet received a response from them.

It was noted that the new McDonalds in Welshpool has caused traffic to queue all the way back through Buttington and to Parc Caradog.

A light was knocked down by Pigeon House in Buttington some time ago, a cover was put over it but it has not been touched since. CCAJ will chase this up.

ACTION: CCAJ

1701 County Councillors' Report

CCAJ's update has been published in the June/July 2021 issue of the Border Gossip.

Volunteers are needed to do vaccines in Newtown. 87% of adults have now received their first vaccine. If anyone has missed their vaccine or not been contacted, get in touch with CCAJ.

1702 Planning

Broad Energy

DC and GC declared an interest in this application.

There has been a 5 week stalling period on the application, as the NRW did not see email asking them to respond to consultation, and they are a statutory consultee. An inspector has already been appointed to the application, he will decide whether it will be a written or a public hearing, and there will be at least a month notice given. CCAJ is not sure how the process will look, but may be invited to make representations again. PCC submission to the consultation was pretty strong, Broad Energy will have a chance to respond to that submission too.

21/0851/HH | Proposed extension & addition of second floor, internal refurbishment, replacement of external balcony | Bro A Bryn Tre-Wern Welshpool SY21 8EA

No complaints received. CCAJ will have a look at the application and ask neighbours if they are aware of it.

ACTION: CCAJ

Residential park in Middletown

The park owners have 8 weeks to submit a retrospective planning application. It was agreed that the owners are totally in breach of planning, however we will wait and see if a retrospective application is submitted.

20/2128/FUL - planning application approved.

1703 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £20,659.40 in the accounts at the end of May 2021. Bank reconciliation and bank statements checked to confirm that it is all in order.

GC to now sign bank statements.

Proposed by FW, seconded by RT

Payments

Clerks Salary – £216 (20hrs for May) under L.G.A 1972 s112.

CA Bowen – £565.00 under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

GloverSure - £118.80 (website hosting) under L.G.A 1972 s111.

Payments proposed by FW, seconded by RT

AE spoke to One Voice Wales and confirmed it was okay for us not to accept the lowest tender, as long as we can justify the reasons for our choice.

It was agreed that AE would contact HSBC to see how we can make payments without the use of Cheques, as we found out when ordering the Sensory Garden products, a lot of companies are no longer accepting cheques.

ACTION: AE

Review of Clerks Salary

The Clerks salary was discussed, as AE has not received a pay review/rise since starting the role as Clerk. AE currently receives £12 per hour and works 20 hours per month with 2.5 hours holiday paid each month. It was agreed that AE would contact One Voice Wales for guidance on pay increase, should it be done by rate of inflation or is there a salary scale we should be following? We need to take into consideration what we have allocated in our annual budget. It was suggested that the Clerks Salary should be reviewed annually. Add to next agenda for discussion at next month's meeting.

ACTION: AE

1704 Correspondence

Local Places for Nature

There is another 'Local Places for Nature' package available. Everyone happy for FW to apply for this in the Community Council's name and the garden will be sited at the school.

ACTION: FW

Sensory Garden

Everything has now arrived for garden and we will be asking for help from the Community. Part of the area is on a slope and some slabs need to be taken up to allow for wheelchair access. CCAJ thinks it's best to have the date fixed for volunteers to help, may need to have a rolling program. It was agreed that we need people to help with lifting slabs and digging, then people who are good at putting flat packs together etc. CCAJ thinks she might be able to get a whole trailer full of top soil from Rowton for £36. CCAJ more than willing to donate that from herself and FW happy to do the same. CCAJ will get that sorted in the next few weeks. Planting will be one of the last things we do.

ACTION CCAJ/FW

1705 Any Other Business

Bicycle tracks on Middletown Hill

We have previously discussed people riding bicycles on Middletown Hill, we have now received photos of the tracks in the Hill, which shows that the hill has been carved up quite a bit by the bike tyres. FW will forward the photos to GC and CCAJ, who will pass them onto the people involved in the common and right of way, as it is a public footpath.

ACTION: GC/CCAJ

The hedge is overgrowing along the footpath East of Middletown, between the border and the turning for Penyfoel. CCAJ thinks it will cause visibility issues, GC will email Andrew Jones.

ACTION: GC

NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Day

The judging of the flags has now taken place, there were some amazing designs. GC has kindly purchased medals for the runners up and a trophy for the winner. GC has also been to see if she can get some sweets from Mollies for the rest of the school children.

We will be raising the winning flag on NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Day, which is Monday 5th July at 10am, if anyone is free, come along to see the winning flag being raised. We will take photos to send to the County Times. AE to chase PH and Jean Jones regarding the ringing of the Church Bells.

ACTION: GC/AE

1706 Date of Next Meetings

20 July 2021 via MS Teams.