

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 20 JULY 2021

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), Harriot Bates, Stephen Novick, Rob Breakwell, Sasha Hart, and Phil Hughes.

1707 Apologies

Councillor Rex Turner was not in attendance.

Apologies received from Councillor Fiona Warburton, Peter Davies, David Corfield and County Councillor Amanda Jenner.

1708 Minutes of the Meeting from 15th June 2021 for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 15th June 2021 to now be signed by GC and approved.

Proposed by HB, seconded by SN

1709 Declarations of Interest – Blanket dispensations have been received for matters relating to wind farms, school modernisation and school transport

GC has declared an interest in Broad Energy.

1710 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

1711 Playgrounds

There is still a tree over hanging in the play area in Trewern, PCC will not do anything about it, however, GC keeps ringing PCC and will continue to do so.

ACTION: GC

Previously, we discussed the litter outside the school, we have now received a response to the letter sent to the school and it was agreed that we will remove the bin.

1712 Highways

See 'County Councillor's report'

1713 County Councillors' Report

As CCAJ was unable to attend tonight, she has sent the below update.

Buttington Incinerator - The Planning Inspectorate have confirmed that the next stage of the planning process will proceed in September by way of Public Hearings in mid-September. CCAJ is awaiting further details on the format that these will take and who will be invited to speak at these. CCAJ can request to make further representations and will consider doing that. CCAJ is liaising with PCC to understand their involvement in the next stage too.

CCAJ has asked FW to consider whether it would be worth us compiling our existing submissions that relate to highways concerns and pass these on to the Trunk Road Manager. The Planning Inspectorate has asked for the highways department to provide a further full report. CCAJ had already written to the Welsh Government Minister for highways to highlight concerns with the lack of response they provided during the consultation.

Planning application for no 27 Residential Park - CCAJ has called in the application so that it will be decided by the planning committee rather than an individual officer and reasons for doing so are

that there is concern that dwellings need to be in keeping with the rest of the park and that outside materials, design and roof scope etc should be complimentary to the existing dwellings.

CCAJ understands that there is an inaccuracy in the planning documentation where the applicant has said that the plot cannot be seen from a public area. This needs to be highlighted.

Enforcement complaint re no 30 Residential Park - CCAJs understanding is that no retrospective application has yet been received. As of today they are still within the 8 week timeframe to submit this. CCAJ will seek an update on next steps following her return from holiday if there is no application submitted

General planning matter – responses sent to Powys Planning

It has come to CCAJs attention that a resident in our area has recently sent in an offensive letter to a Powys Planning officer. Whilst CCAJ can appreciate that planning can be emotive and cause worry for residents, writing an offensive planning response is not acceptable. CCAJ is more than happy to speak to residents about their concerns and more than happy for residents to strongly oppose planning matters, but this should be done professionally.

Highways - Verge cutting has been carried out. Pot holes and road conditions continue to be raised (in particular Station Road and Hope Road). Some other areas have had recent fixes over the last month. CCAJ also have the following updates on some issues raised in recent meetings with the highways team.

1. Middletown Hill U2244 (verge slippage problem) – Highways have now visited and will arrange resources to carry out site works, installing some Gabion side support, this will be delivered in the next couple of months provided resources are available.
2. U2250 Heldre Lane – Highways Supervisor Danny Jarman will visit and speak with the Farmer regarding issues with mud etc.
3. U2248 Sale Lane Drainage issues – highways have visited this with Works Supervisor. Many drains require cleaning including the culvert under the bridge abutment, this outlets into the blocked ditch this also needs cleaning and the small headwall repairing. Highways will raise some job tickets and will schedule all this for completion in September when they start on the ditching and Grip cleaning work.

1714 Planning

Broad Energy

GC declared an interest in this application. See 'County Councillor's report' for update.

21/1147/HH | Erection of replacement garden room | Garbetts Hall Welsh Harp Hollow Buttington Welshpool SY21 8HB

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

21/1148/LBC | Listed building consent for erection of replacement garden room | Garbetts Hall Welsh Harp Hollow Buttington Welshpool SY21 8HB

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

21/1216/DIS | Discharge of condition 2 of planning permission M/2004/0776 (type, colour and texture of all external materials and fenestration of the mobile home to be sited on plot 27 of Middletown Residential Park) | 27 Middletown Residential Park Middletown Welshpool SY21 8EX

We have received concerns from local residents in relation to this application, specifically requesting that the dwellings on the residential park all remain in keeping with each other and compliment the existing dwellings on the park. The local residents are also concerned the existing homes on the park will become less desirable and lose value once caravans are sited permanently on the residential

park. We would like to reiterate the above concerns and ask for this application be rejected. When planning permission was first sought for at the residential park, we were ensured that it would not be a blot on the local landscape and we wanted it to fit in with the surrounding area. After much discussion, this resulted in the section 2 requirements and we feel that over the years this has been a huge benefit to the village and the high specification of the dwellings does enhance the village and we would not want to see this condition removed. It has also been noted that there is a discrepancy in the application, the application states that the plot cannot be seen by a path or road. However, this is incorrect as the plot can be seen from various points in the village. Therefore we would like to strongly object to this application.

21/0577/OUT – AE to continue chasing developers and planners regarding the proposed meeting to discuss this application.

ACTION: AE

1715 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £19,534.87 in the accounts at the end of June 2021. Bank reconciliation and bank statements checked to confirm that it is all in order.

GC to now sign bank statements.

Proposed by PH, seconded by SN

Payments

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

Welshpool Printing Group - £212.80 under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

Sue Davies - £100 under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

PAYE – £164.40 under L.G.A 1972 s112.

Payments proposed by PH, seconded by SN

Review of Clerks Salary

Last month, 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. AE contacted One Voice Wales for guidance on pay increase. One Voice Wales confirmed that the rate of pay for the clerk and all other council employees is a matter to be resolved by your council. One Voice Wales have also sent through information on pay scales, however they have explained that it is not a legal requirement for the Council to adopt this national agreement. It was noted that consideration needs to be taken with the amount that was allocated for the Clerks salary in the annual budget and if there is a 15% increase/decrease on last year's spend, this will also be something we are audited on. GC therefore proposes £13 per hour back dated to April 2021, we will then be within the 15% increase on last year's spend and if there is a need for overtime due to the incinerator, we can justify going over the 15% if needed. Everyone happy with £13 per hour, back dated to April 2021. It was also agreed that the Clerks Salary should be reviewed at the AGM.

Proposed by GC, seconded by SH

1716 Correspondence

Consultation on Qualifications of Clerks in Wales Regulations

We have received an email detailing the Minister for Finance and Local Government consultation for: *'Eligible Community Councils (General Power of Competence) (Qualifications of Clerks) (Wales) Regulations 2021'*. The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 ("the 2021 Act"), sets out the intention of Welsh Ministers to specify, in regulations, the qualifications or description of qualifications that the clerk to a community council must hold in order for the community council to meet the second of the three eligibility conditions to become an 'eligible community council'. The

consultation will be open between 28 June 2021 and 24 September 2021. AE to keep checking if/when any further qualifications might be needed by Clerk.

ACTION: AE

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, however it is unsure if tracks are bicycle tracks or motorbike tracks. Keep on agenda to discuss further at the next meeting.

1717 Any Other Business

Covid Community Recovery Grant

We have received an email detailing that a Covid Community Recovery Grant has been made available by the council in recognition of the vital role played by the third sector and to help organisations respond to the impact of the pandemic. It aims to assist recovery and help organisations develop flexible and responsive plans and activities to become more resilient and financially sustainable. Local organisations can apply for up to £20,000 for projects and funding can be used to support a variety of initiatives such as expanding services or activities, enhancing facilities, purchasing equipment, or recruiting and supporting volunteers. Grants will cover up to 80% of costs and funding can be matched in either cash or staff/volunteer time. It was suggested that we could maybe apply for the grant and use it to either create a mountain bike track or to have all the footpaths in the area remarked and clearly stated. There are lots of walks in the area and some going across to Pool Quay. We could create a leaflet detailing the walks etc. It was agreed we would download the form and see how much info is needed to apply. It was thought that in Llandrinio, there have been several new walks. AE to contact Clerk for Llandrinio & Arddleen Community Council for find out further info.

ACTION: AE

1718 Date of Next Meetings

21 September 2021 via MS Teams.