

Gwehelog Fawr Community Council Minutes Meeting Number 361

Venue: Gwehelog Village Hall on 26 September 2018 at 8.00pm

Present: Chair : Cllr.S Carbury, (SC) Vice Chair Cllr.J.Kershaw, (JK), Cllr.C.Kirby, (CK), Cllr.J.Bayliss (JB) Cllr.M.Godwin, (MG) Cllr.R. Marfell (RM)Cllr. R.Carbury (RC)

In attendance: the Clerk Ms. Awni, (NA), County Councillor V Smith (VS)

Members of the Public attending 1 (Note: Monmouthshire County Council is MCC)

| Item No. | Item | Action |
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| 1 | <p>Apologies for Absence: Cllr V S apologised for a late arrival Declarations of Interest - None declared</p> | |
| 2 | <p>The Chair expressed the concern from all Council members over the unfortunate flooding event at the home of the Clerk which was warmly received</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Approval of the Minutes from the previous meeting no.359 held on 25 July 2018 at 8.00pm. There were no proposed corrections to the minutes and they were approved as a correct record proposed by Cllr MG seconded by Cllr CK. Minutes were approved</p> <p>Approval of the Minutes from the previous meeting no.360 held on 19 September 2018 at 7.00pm. There were no proposed corrections to the minutes. The Council members as a whole, approved the amendment made to the Annual Return for 2017-2018 concerning the total fixed assets and the reapproval and adoption of the Annual Return. in relation to the depreciation of Council assets. Council assets do not depreciate and the annual return figure was amended an approved at the Extraordinary meeting Proposed Cllr. MG seconded Cllr. JK Minutes were approved</p> | <p>Clerk to circulate as required</p> |
| 4 | <p>Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting :</p> <p>a) Audit - The Clerk has now received confirmation from the Welsh external auditors BDO, that the Annual Audit for 2017-2018 is now completed. The Annual Return, letter and documents were circulated to members. Cllr MG asked about the position on the council reserves which had been queried. The Clerk confirmed that there had been an ‘addition on the spreadsheet ‘sum which should not have been there.</p> <p>The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been displayed on the Village Hall noticeboard with effect from the 26 September 2018 and will remain displayed for 14 days. In addition, details of the Annual Return and conclusion of the audit will be displayed on the Community Council website. The Clerk apologised for the error made on the assets part of the return which was rectified on the 19 September. It was proposed by Cllr MG and seconded by Cllr JB that the full Council approve and accept the Annual return and the conclusion of the audit. This was approved by all members.</p> <p>b) Planning enforcement correspondence – previously circulated</p> <p>c) Velothon – The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted MCC who had confirmed that plastic bottles are collected up after the race but not the plastic energy wrappers. The Scrutiny Committee manager was made aware of this and it was noted that the Velothon event will be considered by the Scrutiny Committee this year. Comments and observations from the Council and public in relation to this would be welcomed.</p> <p>d) There has been no highways repair work carried out since the last meeting - Cllrs agreed to monitor.</p> | <p>Clerk to action</p> <p>Clerk to establish date</p> |

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| <p>5</p> | <p>Finance and Governance matters : The clerk circulated copies of the Council Receipts and expenditure spreadsheet outlining the financial position year to date. The Clerk confirmed that there had been no financial transactions made since July. It is expected that the August £1500 precept payment, will be in the Council account and this will be checked by the Clerk. The Council account balance stood at £4325.51. This month payment requests include: the Clerks salary August and September, £297.32 Clerk expenses (August and September) £70.00, Payroll charge for Quarter 2 £39.36, HMRC Q2 account £111.40 and postage £2.11p for return of the auditor documents. Cllr.CK proposed payment seconded by Cllr. JB. Payments were duly approved and signed. The Chair inspected the Council account and initialled the total amount shown. The Chair and deputy chair have not received confirmation of payroll costs from the Beverley and Williams Accts Ltd. The Clerk is to request this is made. Meeting dates for 2019-2020 were circulated previously and accepted.</p> | <p>Clerk to check precept received</p> <p>Clerk to request pay is confirmed</p> |
| <p>6</p> | <p>Council Budget preparations: The members are keen to plan for the Council budget for 2019-2020. Cllr JK drew attention to the impact that the Independent Remuneration Panel recommendations and actions could have had, on the Council provision for the current year. The discretionary elements had not been considered as part of budget setting for this year. There was some concern expressed that this did not set a good precedent for the general public in the community. The Chair explained to Cllr RM what impact the Independent Remuneration Panel suggestions had made. There is nothing known of at the moment for which funding is required to be set aside. Cllr JK drew attention to the reserve balance that the Council holds which could be used for unforeseen costs if required. Cllr JB asked what an election might cost and it was estimated that the last election cost to the Council was approximately £200. The Clerk is preparing a paper for discussion at the next meeting.</p> | <p>Clerk to action</p> |
| <p>7</p> | <p>Highways matters – Nothing to report since the last meeting. The request for assistance on the scope and scale of unadopted roads was discussed. Three surveys have been sent through and circulated which require local knowledge. Cllr MG confirmed that completing the surveys was optional.</p> | |
| <p>8</p> | <p>M.C.C. update - Cllr VS made her apologies for her late arrival. Cllr VS confirmed that no progress has been made with the outcome of the traveller appeal. Local Development Plan - Cllr VS commented that the Community could make it's own proposal for an LDP and submit this to MCC see MCC website. There are new proposals for Additional Learning and Inclusion services, observations can be made on the website. There are no changes for A boards etc. Cllr.VS presented prizes to youngsters at Llandegfedd who are learning to sail and becoming more experienced sailors. Fire Authority event will take place this weekend 27/28/29 September in Cardiff Bay. Lots of activities for families. Details of the M4 corridor route around Newport.</p> | |

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| <p>9</p> | <p>Council Reports and Communications – Police report received and circulated to members Village hall report – Cllr MG reported that the Hall is holding a coffee morning on the 9 October and all are welcome. The first meeting of the gardening club is due to be held. Neil Diamond tribute concert is planned Other reports – There is a OVW area meeting in October. Correspondence given to members attending.</p> | <p>Vice Chair</p> |
| <p>10</p> | <p>Questions from the public and press: The member of the public present confirmed that there is a specific area of verge which is left uncut in the community, at certain times of the year to allow ‘special plants’ to flower. It was felt that it would be a better use of council resources to cut the verge back in some areas rather than attempt to cut the verge areas. The resident proposed that Usk recycling Centre might benefit from a ‘shop’ recycling quality discarded items. The Chair felt this might not be within the remit of the staff on site but it was agreed that the Clerk would drop a note to Usk Town Council with the suggestion.</p> | <p>Clerk to action</p> |
| <p>11</p> | <p>Planning – 28.7. New Application received no. DM/2018/01075 Alice Springs Golf Club development – previously circulated -no objections 14.8 New Application received no. DM/2018/01279 Agricultural building housing farm animals previously circulated – has gone to Planning Committee 17.9 New Application received no. DM/2018/01470 Detached house land adjacent to The Beeches, Wainfield Lane. The Chair confirmed that he had phoned the MCC Planning team in relation to this application as details of the proposed drainage mechanism and system, was missing. He had explained that without this level of detail it was not possible to form a complete opinion on the proposal. The planners confirmed that information is still awaited from the agents. There was concern expressed that this was a shoehorn infill that partly ties in with the existing. The present drainage system will struggle to cope given that there are existing drainage issues around capacity. Some drainage options are not feasible considerations as others have tried and been unsuccessful with sealed tank and digester options. Cllr JK said he was against shoehorning Cllr JB said there were no dimensions and it appeared lower than the Beeches. The Chair confirmed that it was a struggle to see the plan and any figures and it is so close to the boundary. A copy of the plan was circulated to members. Cllr JK raised concerns that it is a small plot with drainage issues. General consensus was that the foul drainage and rainwater run off was not specified and there was no detail or information supplied. The Beeches is not a new build. It is a small plot with a large house planned. It is difficult to make comment without this detail but no Council member was in favour of the proposal. No Appeals received MCC Enforcement Cases – NONE NOTIFIED</p> | |

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| 12 | Correspondence list for the Aug and September period had been circulated via email. A funding request had been made by the Village hall for assistance with the purchase of gardening tools and general support for the Gardening club. The Chair confirmed that the Council no longer make donations apart from to the Welsh Air Ambulance which is deemed to benefit the Community as a whole. The Council felt unable to support the request on this occasion. | |
| 13 | Events and training : The Clerk had previously circulated a number of events and training available through OVW. Cllr RM was made aware that as a new member he will be expected to attend Code of Conduct training. | Cllr RM to attend |
| 14 | Matters for next meeting – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk management review and assessment Cllrs JK and RC agreed to take a fresh look at this for the next meeting• Budget setting and review The meeting was declared closed at 9.15pm Next meeting : 31 October 2018 at 8pm | Clerk to circulate risk papers |