

GWEHELOG FAWR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting No 305

Wednesday 29th May 2013

Present

Chair Cllr. Simon Carbury, Cllr. Paul Frampton, Cllr. Maggie Godwin, Cllr. Judith Bayliss, Cllr. Tony Sargeant, Cllr. Charles Kirby and Cllr. Steve Hoselitz

Members of the Public

County Councillor Val Smith and 1 member of the public

1. Apologies for absence

None

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Police Report

The Owl Police report was discussed, including reference to scam emails, what to do if you have become a victim of credit card fraud, and mention of the Gwent Police 'access all areas programme' which took place on 17th May, offering a glimpse of what happens in Gwent Police through Twitter feeds over a 12 hour period.

4. Report from County Councillor Val Smith

Cllr. Val Smith paid tribute to Monmouthshire Council Officer, Steve Greenslade, director of transition at Monmouthshire Council who died last week following an illness.

Cllr. Val Smith gave an update on her activities around the community:

Including a progress report on the Education Achievement Service for South East Wales - increasing standards in schools in Wales.

A number of Monmouthshire Councillors had a well informed visit to an Energy Waste plant. Nr Heathrow.

It was brought to the Community Councils attention that there are 7 establishments offering Corporate Parenting in Monmouthshire, 1 of these is situated in Gwehelog.

Other issues brought to the Councils attention included the Highways working group, who will next meet on 7th June.

Confirmation of cost of garden waste collections and the new recycling and waste collection service is now up and running.

5. HM Prison Usk and HM Prison Prescoed

County Councillor Val Smith reported on her attendance at the Prison Council Liaison meeting held on 20th May.

6. Meeting adjourned and members of the public invited to speak

No public participation

7. Minutes of the Meetings

Meeting 304 held on Wednesday 24th April 2013 at 8pm. Cllr. Simon Carbury asked the Councillors if it was their wish that he sign the minutes. This was proposed by Cllr.

Paul Frampton and seconded by Cllr. Charles Kirby. All in attendance agreed and the minutes were signed by the chairman Cllr. Simon Carbury.

8. Matters arising

- a. The Council felt that progress on local road maintenance was generally slow to achieve results. It was agreed that Cllr Paul Frampton would produce a list of historical highways issues for County Councillor Val Smith to pursue with highways. **Action: Cllr. Paul Frampton.** A discussion was held around the use of HGVs of unsuitable size on local country lanes, and the deterioration to roads this causes. It was suggested that signs 'not suitable for heavy vehicles and warning that 'area is inaccurate for Satellite navigation systems' may reduce the problem. This was proposed by Cllr. Charles Kirby and seconded by Cllr. Tony Sargeant, all in agreement. **Action: Clerk to contact Highways.** Cllr. Steve Hoselitz brought to the attention of the Council the water continually running out of the ground in Wainfield Lane **Action: Clerk to Notify Highways and Welsh Water.**
- b. The standing orders (draft 4) were approved and will be followed from the next meeting. Agreed by all present.
- c. Communication with the Community, A neighbouring community's newsletter was brought to the meeting by the clerk, for ideas on how the Council may communicate with the community and electors it represents. Cllr. Steve Hoselitz made the suggestion of a Press Officer who could submit comments from the Council to the local press on a regular basis. To be an agenda item for discussion at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk to Agenda.**
- d. The clerk provided an update to the Council regarding the enforcement notice issued to Pren-y-Derwen by MCC which takes effect on 24th May requiring all the caravans on site to be removed within 2 months of that date. The Community Council still have concerns over the access to this property and the close proximity to a blind bend. **Action: Clerk** to follow up on letter sent to highways regarding this issue from previous Clerk and copy to County Councillor Val Smith.
- e. The Clerk provided a progress report on the Community Council's request for a Permanent 'Monmouthshire' Sign on the A449. Tony Wallen, MCC, confirmed on 29th April that sign base design and approval paperwork is now almost complete, awaiting Welsh Government approval to install the permanent sign. Will keep the clerk informed. **Ongoing**
- f. The Clerk confirmed that Geoff Smith has agreed to be the internal auditor of the Gwehelog Fawr Council accounts 2012/13; the Clerk confirmed submission to Mazars will be ready on 6th June. The Clerk will issue the public notice by next week, which will need to be displayed on Community notice boards from 10th June. **Action: Clerk**
- g. Review of Clerk hours and Pay – On the basis of Llanbadoc Community Council being in agreement with pay and hours proposed for Clerk duties for their Council work, Proposed by Cllr. Steve Hoselitz and seconded by Cllr. Charles Kirby, agreed by all. Hours for the clerk were agreed as 16 hours per month and pay scale LC1, point 20 based on the National Association of Council Clerks. This will be backdated to 1st April 2013. **Action: Clerk** to pursue with Llanbadoc CC and notify MCC.
- h. Review of Clerk Training – As recommended by OVW – That the clerk complete 9 modules at £20 per module, to be complete over 2 years. £180 – Suggested split costs with Llanbadoc CC, 1/3 Gwehelog - £60, 2/3 Llanbadoc - £120 – on the basis of Llanbadoc in agreement, Proposed by Cllr. Paul Frampton, seconded by Cllr. Tony Sargeant, all in agreement. **Action: Clerk** to pursue confirmation with Llanbadoc CC and contact OVW.
- i. Clerk requested to join Society of Local Council Clerks – Cost £108, Suggested split costs with Llanbadoc CC, 1/3 Gwehelog - £36, 2/3 Llanbadoc £72 – on the basis of Llanbadoc in agreement, Proposed by Cllr. Paul Frampton, seconded by Cllr. Tony Sargeant, all in agreement. **Action: Clerk** to pursue confirmation with Llanbadoc CC and contact SLCC.

j. Due to the increase in home working/running a business from a residential address, the Council aim to develop their knowledge of application of planning regulations in relation to this issue – the clerk sourced a copy of 'Planning Policy Guidance 4 – Industrial, Commercial development and Small firms'. In particular point 32 of this document – Deciding on whether permission is needed. Clerk retained copy for file.

9. Planning

9.1 Planning Applications

DC/2013/00313 – Proposed alterations and refurbishments, Great House Farm, Gwehelog. **Recommendation Approval**

DC/2013/00161 – Retention of nutrient store in different location to previously approved under DC/2012/00255 – Due to ambiguity of plans deferred decision pending site visit by Community Councillors. **Site Visit to be arranged**

9.2 MCC Enforcement Cases - New and closed cases

Great House Farm, Gwehelog – MCC contacted and advised that Mr Tuffs had removed trees alongside the roadway at the back of property. MCC site visit confirmed as no fence erected, no breach had occurred and advised that fencing exceeding 1 metre will require planning permission. Mr Tuffs confirmed verbally to Community Council that he would request planning permission.

10. Correspondence

10.1 For discussion

- a. Correspondence received in relation to 'Routes A472 and B4598 at Usk, proposed prohibition of commercial vehicles' reviewed by the Council.
- b. Cllr. Simon Carbury provided an update of the Rural Forum Meeting he attended on 25th April. Attendance at next Rural Forum Meeting will be by **Cllr. Tony Sargeant** on 6th June, 7.30pm, Raglan School.

10.2 Feedback from Correspondence Box

None

10.3 For Correspondence Box

- a. Clerks and Councils Direct May 2013 Edition

10.4 Correspondence received

- 1. OVW TRAINING - Module 1, The Council - CWMBRAN 01/05/13 - OVW
- 2. GAVO e-Briefing - GAVO
- 3. Consultation on Welsh Government's draft Social and Environmental Guidance. Ofwat – (Water Services Regulation Authority) - MCC
- 4. Consultation on the Council's Proposed Improvement Objectives 2013/14 -MCC
- 5. CABINET - 1ST MAY 2013 - MCC
- 6. GWT Race for Wildlife 12th May – Gwent Wildlife
- 7. 'Y Plas' S4C promotional poster - OVW
- 8. GAVO e-briefing - GAVO
- 9. GAVO Spring funding newsletter - GAVO
- 10. Monmouthshire Roadwork's report w/e 03/05 - MCC
- 11. Planning Committee site inspections 2nd May - MCC
- 12. Planning Committee meeting 7th May - MCC
- 13. Gwent best kept Village - GAVO
- 14. Community Web Portal – CMC2

15. The Ombudsman casebook - issue 12 - OVW
16. Guided walks in Monmouth 6th May - MCC
17. Allotments / Community Growing Event - OVW
18. South East Wales HAUC / Co-Ordination Meeting - MCC
19. Monmouthshire Road Works Report w/e 10/05 - MCC
20. Projector for Use – Monmouth one stop shop - MCC
21. Central Monmouthshire Area Committee - MCC
22. Wind energy seminar for councillors and planners, Carno, 20th June - OVW
23. Individual Cabinet member decisions – 22nd May - MCC
24. Commercial Christmas introduction – Discount from a Christmas lights supplier
25. Rural Forum Meeting – Agenda next meeting & Minutes from last meeting
26. Last minute Big Lunch tips, with budget BBQ recipes from Levi Roots – Big Lunch event Sunday 2nd June - OVW
27. Continuity and Change – Refreshing the relationship between Welsh Government and the third sector in Wales - GAVO
28. Welsh Affairs Committee Press Announcement: Crossing the border- road and rail links between England and Wales - Government Response received - OVW

11. Finance

- a. Balance £2,507.34 Passbook checked and copy of accounts distributed
- b. Clerk's expenses, withdrawal slip for £30.00 presented, proposed by Cllr. Paul Frampton and seconded by Cllr. Tony Sargeant.

12. Any Other Business

Public Notice – Individual Planning application number and summary to be contained within the public notice of relevant Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**

One Voice Wales Conference Sat 5th October, Royal Welsh Showground – Details provided to Councillors

Welsh Water, Poster to be displayed requesting location of private pumping stations. **Action: Cllr. Paul Frampton**

For information: Fairwater, Cwmbran Runners 'Rack Raid' Sunday 2nd June – Raglan to Usk Road 12.43pm for 50 minutes

Condition of Community Notice boards, review to be undertaken – **Action: Cllr. Paul Frampton**

Date of next meeting - 26th June 2013

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.12pm

Yours faithfully

Olivia Beaumont
Clerk