

**TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**held at Trellech Village Hall on Monday 15 August 2016 at 7pm**

Councillor	Village	Attendance
John Gooding	Catbrook	Present
Michael Mason	Catbrook	Not present
Bob Dagger (Chair)	Llandogo	Present
Ashley Thomas	Llandogo	Present
Martin Blakebrough	Llanishen	Not present
George Weston	Llanishen	Present
Steve Coppell	The Narth	Not present
Rosemary Decker-Thomas	The Narth	Present
John Baldwin	Penallt	Present
Tessa Murray	Penallt	Present
Alan Poulter	Trellech	Present
Ed Rogers	Trellech	Not present
Iain Stokes	Whitebrook	Present
County Cllr Debby Blakebrough	MCC	Present

**Clerk:** Ann Davison

**PUBLIC MEETING:** Peter Flower welcomed councillors to the newly redecorated village hall. Referring to item 16194 on the agenda, he clarified that there are two vacancies to be filled by TUCC on the Babington Educational Trust.

16181 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Coppell, Mason and Rogers

16182 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** None

16183 **TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR BLAKEBROUGH:** None

16184 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 July**  
The minutes for 18 July were agreed and signed as a true record.

16185 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 18 July**

**Item 16054: Rural Housing Enabler - Trellech development**

David James had informed the clerk that the developer intended to donate a computer to the village hall. Neither TUCC nor the hall trustees had requested this. The clerk will inform David James.

Clerk

**Item 16173: Defibrillators, publicity and training**

Press coverage had been in the Monmouthshire Beacon, the South Wales Argus, Free Press and the Forest Review, as well as BBC Wales. Alastair Robertson was thanked for his help in securing this publicity. It was noted that the defibrillator at Whitebrook village hall was purchased by the hall committee.

The new defibrillators have all been registered on the Wales Ambulance website. The clerk was asked to also register the defibrillators in Llandogo and Catbrook.

Dates and venues for training sessions have not yet been set, due to changes in personnel at Wales Ambulance Service.

Clerk

**Item 16148: Replacement trees for Lydart, Five Trees**

These will be planted in the autumn. Cllr Weston will meet with Jonathan Davies, MCC, to agree the exact locations.

**Item 16166, 16149 etc: Dog waste bins and supplies**

The bins are now in stock, and details of TUCC's preferred sites have been sent to MCC for their approval prior to installation. The site in The Narth requires an agreement to be signed between TUCC and Natural Resources Wales, taking responsibility for regular emptying of the bin. The full conditions were read out to the council and it was agreed that the clerk could sign the document on behalf of the council. They have

also required numerous risk assessment documents to be forwarded; Cllr Coppel was thanked for his diligence in sourcing these documents and corresponding with NRW. It was noted that the next meeting of the MCC group will take place on 18 August, but no councillor is able to attend on behalf of TUCC.

**Item 16166, 16158 etc: Fibre broadband in Catbrook area**

Martin Jones had indicated by email that cabinet 5 (Catbrook) was live, and Cabinet 6 (Parkhouse) would go live imminently. (Councillors confirmed that both were now live.) He had also said that premises connected direct to the exchange "would be done later in the programme as this requires a full rearrangement of the copper connections into a new cabinet". Councillors wanted to know when this would be? They also asked for information on cabinet 3 (Peckett Stone) and the Lone Lane cabinet.

Clerk

**Item 16177: Pentwyn Farm waste on Pentwyn Green**

GWT have been advised by MCC to set up a weekly trade waste collection. This will either be from outside the holiday cottage or from the GWT barn adjacent to the Inn at Penallt. Weekly trade collections should commence shortly. Until that time a member of GWT staff will put the waste bags out on the night before the collection.

**Item 16179: Fingerposts**

Mark Watkins, of MCC Highways, explained that the blacksmith works on the signs when he is not busy with other works. He will advise the clerk of when further work might occur.

**16186 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

- 00614, Llanishen, The Vicarage Flat, Watery Lane, alterations & extension. Recommend approval
- 00709, The Narth, Kimberley, ref planning consent 2012/00685: discharge of conditions 1 (scheme of surface water drainage and foul drainage) and 11 (scaled plan showing position of retained trees with root protection area). No comment
- 00813, Catbrook, Stanley Cottage, bank of solar panels adjacent to existing stable block. Recommend approval, but suggest the use of unobtrusive panels without shiny aluminium
- 00849, Trellech, 2 The Cotlands, alterations, single storey extension to rear, new garage to rear, new porch, new vehicle access. Recommend approval

Clerk

**16187 FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

- 00571, The Narth, The Greenway, construction of single storey front extension to existing garage, amendments to fenestrations & alterations to existing conservatory. Recommend approval
- 00888, Catbrook, Atlasta Cottage, demolition of rear conservatory & replacement with single storey rear extension, plus replacement side extension, porch and new window openings. Recommend approval

Clerk

**16188 PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 00619, Catbrook, Pond Cottage, Whitelye, demolition of rear conservatory & erection of oak-framed single storey extension. Approved

**16189 FURTHER PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 00710, Penallt, Brynceirios, Lone Lane, alterations & 2 storey extension. Approved

**16190 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

*Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £22,049.48*

The comparison between the 2016/17 budget and expenditure to date was noted.

All invoices and the bank statement had been scrutinised and verified by Cllr Thomas.

The following accounts were presented and payment agreed:

500473	Llandogo PCC, churchyard upkeep	£450
500474	MCC, clerk's salary April-June	£1194.33
500475	SLCC, clerk's membership renewal	£103
500476	One Voice Wales, attendance for 2 at AGM & conference, 1 October	£160
500477	Llanishen PCC, churchyard upkeep	£450

Clerk

**16191 STREET LIGHTING: QUESTIONS FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE**

County Cllr Blakebrough had said that Roger Joy, of MCC, would be attending the next meeting of the Strong Communities Select Committee.

Councillors wished to know: what is the criterion for deciding whether or not to turn off street lights - is one objection sufficient to halt a plan? They were concerned that new LED lights not only over-rode previously agreed schedules for turning off lights between midnight and 5 am, but all seemed to be turned on 24/7.

Cllr Murray had sent a specific query to Roger Joy that had not been answered. The clerk was asked to forward the email via the central email address set up by Paul Matthews.

Roger Joy should also be invited to a TUCC meeting.

Clerk

**16192 GRANTS TO VILLAGE HALLS**

A proposal was made to give a flat grant of £1000 to each village hall every year, to be spent at the discretion of hall committees. This was deferred to the next meeting, to give councillors time to seek feedback from the various hall committees.

Clerk

**16193 ACCESS TO OPENREACH**

It was noted that the division of responsibility between telecoms providers (BT, Virgin, etc) and Openreach results in councillors being unable to find out general information for a community. Even if many residents are experiencing similar problems, Openreach refers all queries back to the various providers involved. A similar division of responsibilities exists in the provision of electricity, but Western Power has an exemplary attitude towards its customers.

The clerk was asked to write on behalf of the council to the CEO and Chairman of Openreach (copied to David Davies MP), asking: who do they define as their customers? How should customers be treated? How can councillors access Openreach with questions about service to a whole community? Specific questions to be asked are: how many call-outs were there for engineers to Llandogo in the last year? And how many people were charged because the fault was found to be inside their house?

Clerk

**16194 BABINGTON EDUCATIONAL TRUST**

Phil Chadwick had recently resigned as trustee, and there are now two vacancies for trustees to be nominated by TUCC. This item was deferred to the next agenda.

Clerk

**16195 CATBROOK FOOTBALL FIELD:** A hay crop has been collected.

**16196 BABINGTON MEADOW:** No report

**16197 OTHER REPORTS**

- A466 between St Arvans and Tintern to be closed for up to 5 weeks from 12 September. The clerk will request that information on diversions is supplied in good time.

Clerk

**16198 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and noted:

- MCC, T James, Town and Community Clusters, collecting information on services
- MCC, R Joy, lighting scheme for Trellech estate and in Llandogo
- MCC, J Keech, tree preservation order, Oakdene, Pool Lane, The Narth
- MCC, N Leaworthy, planting of replacement trees at Five Trees
- MCC, S Parkinson, dog waste bins arrived
- MCC, S Parkinson, dog fouling issues and local authority best practice. Meeting 18 August
- MCC, volunteers sought for Local Access Forum

Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council, newsletter

AONB, annual partnership tour, 23 Sep: 2 places available for TUCC councillors  
Blakebrough D, successful application to WAG for grant towards Make Trellech Safe  
Dagger, R, request to MCC to clear tree canopy on A466 during planned road closure  
Future Generations Commissioner, correspondence with WAG  
GWT, D Stenner, arrangements for refuse collection from Pentwyn Cottage  
D James, Big Lottery Funding available to tackle rural poverty  
D James, Trellech developers offering a computer to village hall  
Jordan, A, reminder that Whitebrook Village funded defibrillator at village hall  
Llandogo PCC, request for grant towards churchyard maintenance  
T Murray, correspondence about Penallt Common  
National Eisteddfod/MCC, invitation to reception buffet, 1 August  
One Voice Wales, AGM motions 2016  
One Voice Wales, Area meeting minutes, 7 July  
Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, Casebook no. 25  
N Roberts, resignation of trustee to Babington Educational Trust; correspondence on contribution by developers  
A Robertson, press release on defibrillators in TUCC area  
Wales Planning Inspectorate, procedure to register footpaths in The Narth commenced, 19 July and full submission from MCC  
D Warmington-Gardner, changes to trustees, Babington Penallt Educational Foundation  
WAG, Older People's Commissioner for Wales, summer newsletter  
F Wilton, details of Tour of Britain route through TUCC area, 8 September

- Babington Penallt Educational Foundation: it was noted that Lyn Harper has resigned as Hon Sec, and has been replaced by Rob Golder. Penny Woodman has replaced Lyn Harper as a committee member, and Rachel Marsh has joined as an additional committee member.

16199 **ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA**

- Noise - an Environmental Health Officer to be invited to a TUCC meeting.
- Repairs to adopted BT kiosks

Clerk

16200 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Monday, 19 September 2016 at the Babington Centre, Trellech

The meeting closed at 20.59