

**TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
held at Llanishen Hall, on Monday 12 December 2016 at 7pm**

Councillor	Village	Attendance
John Gooding	Catbrook	Present
Michael Mason	Catbrook	Present
Bob Dagger (Chair)	Llandogo	Present
Ashley Thomas	Llandogo	Present
Martin Blakebrough	Llanishen	Not present
George Weston	Llanishen	Present
Rosemary Decker-Thomas	The Narth	Present
Larry Stoter (from item 16265)	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	Not present

Clerk: Ann Davison

PUBLIC MEETING : none

16285 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Martin Blakebrough and Ed Rogers

16286 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** none

16287 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 November**

The minutes for 21 November were agreed and signed as a true record.

16288 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 21 November**

Public meeting 21 November

It was acknowledged that the contribution from a member of the public on 21 November had become a personal attack on Cllr Rogers, as opposed to comments on the relevant planning application. The clerk was asked to make a written apology to Cllr Rogers for the council allowing this to occur.

Clerk

Item 15279: Consortium of Wye Valley Councils

The email address for the disbanded Consortium is no longer functional. Any correspondence should go to the clerk of Newland Parish Council at newlandpc@sky.com

Item 16034, etc: Llandogo Play Area Fence

As originally discussed, volunteers will shortly plant a hedge of hebe alongside the fence, to soften its visual impact.

Item 16266, etc: Defibrillator training

The CPR training equipment supplied free by the British Heart Foundation has now been passed on to the Tintern Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade. They are planning first aid training in the New Year and can make good use of it.

Item 16273: Electronic speed signs for Llandogo

Paul Keeble (MCC Highways) indicated that a financial contribution from TUCC would make this more likely. The clerk has requested some costs from Graham Kinsella at Highways.

Item 16274: Communication with BT Openreach

The "high level complaints team" have responded to TUCC's further letter by reiterating their original answer. The clerk was asked to pursue this further, with a simple question: how would you obtain an

overview of the problems in the village, understanding that asking all of the service providers is impractical.

Clerk

Item 16276: Capacity at Trellech School

Cllr Penny Jones, chair of MCC's children and young people select committee, forwarded TUCC's request for information to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People - Liz Hackett Pain and to Will Young who is the Acting Chief Officer for Education. She also asked to be included in the replies. No replies have yet been received.

16289 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- 01344, The Narth, Oak Dene, Pool Lane, variation to 2016/00919, new position for dwelling and car barn. Recommend approval
- 01358, The Narth, Manorside, Pen y Fan, extension, alteration and detached garage. Recommend refusal. No objection to the extension to the house, but the garage (a) appears to be on agricultural land; (b) is a residential building not just a garage; (c) is a new dwelling in the open countryside

Clerk

16290 **FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

- 01026 and 01027, Llangovan, Tregeiriog House, construction of front and rear porches. Planning and listed building consent applications. No objection
- 01206, Penallt, Upper Llananant Farm (see minute 16267). The agent had responded to TUCC's comments. The council had nothing to add
- 01412, Penallt, Cae Dee Barn, Upper Ferry Rd, retrospective for conversion of barn to dwelling. To be considered at January meeting

Clerk

16291 **PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 2015/00606, Penallt, Residential development o allocation site SAH11 (xii) to provide ten dwellings (including 60% affordable housing). Approved

16292 **FURTHER PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 00680 and 00681, Llanishen, Granary (Big Barn), Llanfair Farm, planning consent and listed building consent for conversion of lean-to to study and glazed timber infill screen to front facade. Approved

16293 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £22,083.40

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

The bank statement had been scrutinised and verified by Cllr Thomas.

There were no accounts presented for payment.

16294 **BUDGET AND ALLOCATION OF RESERVES for 2017/18**

A draft budget had been prepared by the Finance Advisory Group. It was noted that the draft allowed for TUCC to cover village hall rates (if MCC continues to charge them: this will be on the next agenda for discussion); for one new notice board each year; and a sum to allow for an additional page on the website. **It was resolved** to adopt the budget, a copy of which is appended to these minutes. It was further resolved to adopt the proposed allocation of reserves, which are estimated to be £35,000 at the beginning of the 2017/18 financial year.

£1,500	to current spending 2017/18
£7,000	handyman (or other tasks allocated by MCC during FY
£1,000	Llanishen Pond/Kiln Tump/Whitelye maintenance tasks
£1,000	a contested election
£2,000	legal fees
£5,000	Vehicle activated signs
£1,000	improved road signage eg village hall signs
£16,500	general contingency

- 16295 **PRECEPT for 2017/18**
It was resolved to set a precept of £35000. This figure is £1500 less than the budgeted expenditure, with the balance to be met from reserves.
- 16296 **STREET LIGHTING IN THE TUCC AREA**
The clerk was asked to write to Roger Hoggins at MCC. to ask the following questions:
- Why has remedial action with LEDs failed? (Repairs were due to take place in October.)
 - Why are lights still on through the night in both Llandogo and Trellech, despite promises from Roger Joy they would be turned off.
 - Why does the MCC lighting strategy apply only to bats and dormice, and not to residents?
 - Are the same lighting standards applied in urban and rural areas, and if so, why? Rural residents do not want bright lights. The community led plans in both Llandogo and The Narth highlighted this as a major issue.
 - Both MCC and the AONB have policies to turn off lights during after midnight, but this is not being implemented in the countryside.
- 16297 **MCC RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**
This will be included on the next agenda
- 16298 **TUCC REPRESENTATION AT ONE VOICE WALES AREA MEETINGS**
Either Cllr Stoter or Cllr Decker-Thomas will try to attend future meetings.
- 16299 **CATBROOK FOOTBALL FIELD:** Nothing to report
- 16300 **BABINGTON MEADOW:** Nothing to report
- 16301 **OTHER REPORTS**
- Bigsweir bus shelter
 - Liz Bickerton to be invited to the January meeting
 - Fly tipping. It was noted that MCC came the same day to clear a truckload of waste at Cleddon Bog.
- 16302 **CORRESPONDENCE**
The following correspondence was received and noted:
- MCC, L Bickerton, request to attend TUCC meeting to explain non statutory services research project
MCC, W Hodge, Highways, enquiry about missing finger post signs, by Penallt Baptist Chapel
MCC, R Joy, promise that Trellech lights off from midnight from 29 November
MCC, P Keeble, suggestion that TUCC might help to fund electronic speed sign in Llandogo
MCC, M Moran, planting of hedge by Llandogo play area fence
MCC, J Pearson, candidate briefing session, 26 and 31 Jan, County Hall, Usk
- AONB, Landscape and biodiversity enhancement grant scheme
BT Openreach, S Layton, response to letter of complaint
CPRW, members' bulletin, December 2016
Cty Cllr Penny Jones, letter about school places forwarded within MCC
Consortium of Wye Valley Councils, email address no longer valid
D Davies, MP, 2016 newsletter
Monmouthshire Meadows Group, S Tyler, land at Wet Meadows, Trellech
One Voice Wales, Information Bulletin
One Voice Wales, training schedule Jan-March 2017
Open Spaces Society, appeal for funds
Tintern Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade, invitation to open night, 10 December
WAG, consultation on changing the name of the Welsh Assembly
Weston, G, press release and photos of tree planting at Five Trees, Lydart
Wheeler, S, state of Bigsweir bus shelter

16303 **ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA**

- Wet Meadows, Trellech
- Financial support to village halls

Clerk

16304 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Monday, 16 January 2017 at The Memorial Hall, Catbrook

The meeting closed at 20.31

	2017/18 Budget					2017/18 Budget
	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16	2016/17	2016/17 <i>Expected outturn</i>	
	<i>Actual</i>	Budget	<i>Actual</i>	Budget		
Clerk's salary	4262	5000	4731	5300	4800	5300
Employer's pension contribution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office expenses	429	650	367	650	450	500
Councillor expenses	350	450	0	2000	300	1500
Training	25	200	17	200	180	250
External audit	205	205	205	250	250	250
Internal audit	50	55	55	60	60	60
Subscriptions	439	500	451	500	520	550
Insurance	577	650	577	700	600	650
Hire of halls	147	350	273	350	300	350
Tree work	0	200	0	200	0	200
Churchyards	1400	1800	1800	1800	1800	1800
Grass cutting MCC	0	700	976	700	271	350
Grass cutting Llandogo Mem Green			0		150	150
Grass cutting Broadstone/Catbrook	350	850	665	850	790	800
Grass cutting Babington Meadow	350	450	450	450	450	600
Playgrounds, repairs/inspection	120	200	120	200	125	200
Dog waste collection	103	200	91	200	450	1000
Lease on Catbrook football field	0	50	0	50	0	50
Citizens Advice Bureau	2000	2500	2500	2500	2500	2750
S137 - charities etc	500	500	500	500	500	500
Elections	0	0	0	0	0	500
MCC summer playscheme	400	400	400	450	450	450
Website	88	500	0	0	0	300
IT equipment	0	0	108	150	0	0
Village halls & local projects	4867	9000	7413	10000	10000	15500
Noticeboards	176	1000	652	1000	837	1000
Llanishen Pond/Whitelye/Kiln Tump	0	1000	0	1000	0	0
Legal fees	0	500	0	500	0	0
Miscellaneous, Contingency	0	800	500	800	500	800
TOTAL	£16,838	£28,710	22851	£31,360	26542	36360
Precept		£25,000		£31,000		£35000