

TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
held at The Babington Centre, Trellech on Monday 19 March 2018 at 7pm

Councillor	Village	Attendance
John Gooding	Catbrook	Present
Andy Pullan	Catbrook	Present
Bob Dagger (Chair)	Llandogo	Present
Lynne Parker	Llandogo	Not present
Martin Blakebrough	Llanishen	Present
George Weston	Llanishen	Present
Rosemary Decker-Thomas	The Narth	Present
Larry Stoter	The Narth	Not present
John Baldwin	Penallt	Not present
Tessa Murray	Penallt	Not present
Christopher Edwards	Trellech	Not present
Alan Poulter	Trellech	Present
Iain Stokes	Whitebrook	Present
County Cllr Debby Blakebrough	MCC	Present

Clerk: Ann Davison

PUBLIC MEETING: a member of the public raised an issue of trees next to his garden, and his fear that branches might fall onto his house. It seemed that he needed to raise the issue with Monmouthshire Housing, who owned the land in question.

18046 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs J Baldwin, , C Edwards, T Murray, L Parker, L Stoter

18047 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

18048 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DEBBY BLAKEBROUGH

Cllr Blakebrough spoke of her concern that with an ever-reducing budget and dwindling reserves, MCC staff are over-worked and sickness is increasing. MCC does not have adequate resources with which to carry out its responsibilities. This will inevitably be reflected in the services provided locally.

18049 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 February

The minutes for 12 February were agreed and signed as a true record, with an alteration to the date in the heading to 2018. Two amendments were agreed to the minutes for 15 January: the date in the title and in minute 18021 should read 2018, as opposed to 2017.

18050 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 12 February

Item 18019: Training on code of conduct

Not enough councillors were recruited for this training session, so it did not take place.

Item 18032: Insurance claim

The brokers have forwarded the claim to Hiscox.

Item 18042: Parking on Pentwyn Green

The legal department at MCC has suggested the strategic placing of stones to prevent vehicles parking. This will be on the next agenda for discussion.

Item 18043: GDPR training

The clerk attended the session provided by MCC, but did not find it very helpful. One Voice Wales have advised that they are planning a training session for councillors and that SLCC should soon issue help for clerks.

Clerk

18051 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 2017/01141, Trellech, Lion Inn, detached dwelling in grounds. Additional details. Recommend approval
- 2017/01265, Llandogo, Parklands, new vehicular access to separate access to Parklands from that to holiday let. Appeal lodged. Noted
- 2017/01267, Trellech, Churchwood House, single storey extension and 1st floor extension to north wing. Recommend approval
- 2018/00020, Llandogo, Hillside Cottage, install air source heat pump and solar thermal tubes. Recommend approval
- 00181, Llandogo, Land north of A466, east of Llandogo, insertion of agricultural access onto A466. Note that the proposed access is very close to a bus stop.
- 00186, Penallt, Cae Lles, alterations to existing garage and stores to form small annexe holiday let unit. Recommend approval
- 00197, Llanishen, Quarry Cottage, retention and completion of works to form ancillary living accommodation. Recommend refusal. This is no longer a “conversion” as all traces of the original barn have been removed. The current application follows an enforcement action, as works did not comply with planning permission granted under 2017/00581 for conversion. It constitutes a new dwelling in the open countryside.

Clerk

18052 FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

- 2018/00336, Penallt, Lower Meend Farm, Lydart, installation of 2 rooflights on rear roof of dwelling. Recommend approval

Clerk

18053 PLANNING DECISIONS

(none posted since 16 February, as MCC software being changed)

- 2016/00513, Trellech, Archaeological site Tinkers Lane, temporary permission for outbuilding. Approved
- 2017/01327, The Narth, Homestead, conversion of garage to dependant relatives annex. Approved
- 2017/01479, Llanishen, 16 Wayne Close, single storey extension to side and rear. Approved

18054 FURTHER PLANNING DECISIONS: None**18055 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £41,499.42

The comparison between the 2017/18 budget and expenditure to date was noted.

The bank statement and invoices for payment had been scrutinised and verified by Cllr Pullan.

The following accounts were presented and payment agreed.

300039	Community Connections (Monmouthshire Befriending) (min 18033)	£200
300040	Wales Air Ambulance (min 18033)	£200
300041	Homestart (min 18033)	£100
300042	Llandogo PCC (teas) (min 18035)	£100
300043	Clerk's expenses	£165.45
300044	Whitebrook VH services and rates	£596.81
300045	Merlin dog waste collection, Jan-March (£81.36 x 3)	£244.08
300046	MCC, contribution to summer play scheme (min 17040)	£450
300047	Pelham Hall, hire 15 May & 20 Nov 2017	£32.40
300048	Catbrook Hall, hire 17 April 2017 & 18 Jan 2018	£40
300049	Llandogo Memorial Green grass cutting	£150

Clerk

18056 "MAKE TRELLECH SAFE"

MCC Highways had sent a map for consultation, showing the proposed speed restrictions on roads within the village. **It was resolved** to support these proposals.

Clerk

18057 GRANT APPLICATION FROM LLANDOGO SCHOOL

Llandogo School had made a grant application in anticipation of the budget allowance for schools in 2018/19 (minute 18013). The scheme was to create an outdoor wooden stage, at a total cost of £3,000. **It was resolved** in principle to offer a grant of £1,000 as this complied with the conditions of minute 18013, and no payment would be made before the submission of invoices for the completed work, which would be in the next financial year.

Clerk

18058 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

Deferred until later in the year

18059 2018 RIVER FESTIVAL

Festival events will take place in Llandogo on 19 May. No requests for funding or other TUCC participation have been received.

18060 IRPW ANNUAL REPORT AND ALLOCATION OF 2018-19 RESERVES

The 2018 annual report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales was received and noted, and in particular chapter 13 relating to community councils.

Trellech United CC falls within the IRPW's Group B, of councils with a precept between £30,000 and £199,999. A new provision mandated the payment to members of £150 per year "for costs incurred in respect of telephone usage, information technology, consumables etc". **It was resolved** that £150 will therefore be paid to each councillor in 2018/19. Any individual member may make a personal decision to elect to forgo part or all of this entitlement by giving notice in writing to the clerk. But since details of any payments made to members have to be published on the council website it was felt that a choice to forego the payment could be invidious for other councillors. Any councillor who felt they did not need the payment should instead be encouraged to donate it to a local charity of their choice.

It was resolved to adopt IRPW's determinations 47, 48, 49, 50 and 51, relating to allowance for chair, travel and subsistence costs, the costs of care, and financial loss incurred when attending approved duties. Any payments under these headings will require individual resolutions by the council.

It was noted that the allocation in TUCC reserves for councillor allowances in 2018/19 was currently £1,000, plus £500 for expenses (as approved in minute 17265). **It was resolved** to move an additional £1450 from "general contingency" to "councillor allowances" to meet the new IRPW requirement, and £500 to "chairman's allowance". The general contingency amount would therefore be £17,638. If necessary some of this contingency amount could be used against any other claims under determinations 47-51 that exceeded the £500 in the budget (subject to council resolutions at the time).

18061 MOBILE POST OFFICE SERVICE

It was noted that the regular visits of the mobile post office to Tintern are unreliable, leading to wasted journeys. Even when the Post Office website claims that the van is at Tintern "now", this is not always the case. The clerk was asked to write to the Post Office pointing out that the website needs to be correct. Parcels can be "tracked", but apparently not vans.

Clerk

18062 CATBROOK FOOTBALL FIELD: No report

18063 BABINGTON MEADOW: No report

18064 OTHER REPORTS

- The defibrillator in Llandogo was recently used successfully by the Priory Nursing Home, so replacement pads are required. R McKeand has been asked to facilitate this, and the clerk was asked to follow it up.

Clerk

18065 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and noted:

MCC, village halls invited to receive energy use makeover
MCC, R Blount, reducing single use plastic and polystyrene in village halls
MCC, P Cleary, consultation on speed restrictions in Trellech
MCC, Dewi Jones, reintroduction of A-board charges and guidance notes on flyposting
MCC, M Moran, summer playscheme jobs advertised
MCC, J Skidmore, notes of cluster group meeting, 16 Jan 2018
MCC, R Tranter, parked vehicles damaging village green

Charity Commission, request for 2017 annual return for Penallt Recreation Ground
Friends of Llandogo School, M Peters, application for match funding
Home Start Monmouthshire, appeal for funds
Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW), Annual Report, 2018
IRPW, consultation event for clerks, Abergavenny, 18 April
J Lazenby, clerk to Goytre CC, cancellation of training on code of conduct
Keep Wales Tidy, Town and Community Council brochure on partnership working
D May, TUCC representation on Pelham Hall Committee
NALC, A GDPR toolkit for local councils
One Voice Wales, news bulletin
Open Space, Spring 2018
Wales Air Ambulance, appeal for funds and annual report
Wales Audit Office, Financial Management and Governance in Local Councils, 2016-17
WAG, funding available to set up schemes for community engagement, increasing citizen participation and engagement in local democracy, and clustering
WAG, consultation on edition 10 of Planning Policy Wales (historic environment)

18066 ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA

- Parking on Pentwyn Green
- Access track to The Manse across Pen y Fan Village Green
- TUCC newsletter

18067 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: Monday, 16 April 2018 at The Memorial Hall, Catbrook

The meeting closed at 21:24