

**TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
held at The Hall, Llanishen on Monday 10 December 2018 at 7pm**

<b>Village</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Catbrook	Guy Bowden	From item 18262
Catbrook	Andy Pullan	Present
Llandogo	Bob Dagger (Chair)	Present
Llandogo	Lynne Parker	Present
Llanishen	Martin Blakebrough	Not present
Llanishen	George Weston	Present
The Narth	Rosemary Decker-Thomas	Present
The Narth	Larry Stoter	Not present
Penallt	David May	Not present
Penallt	Mary Wakeling	Present
Trellech	Christopher Edwards	Present
Trellech	Alan Poulter	Present
Whitebrook	Iain Stokes	Not present
MCC	County Cllr Debby Blakebrough	Not present

Clerk: Ann Davison

**PUBLIC MEETING:** None

**18259 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs M Blakebrough, D May, I Stokes and L Stoter and Cty Cllr D Blakebrough

**18260 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** None

**18261 CO-OPTION TO CATBROOK WARD**

**It was resolved** to appoint Guy Bowden as councillor for the Catbrook ward. Having completed the Declaration of Acceptance form, Cllr Bowden joined the meeting.

Clerk

**18262 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DEBBY BLAKEBROUGH:** None

**18263 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER:** agreed and signed as a true record.

Clerk

**18264 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**Item 18249: Prices Bridge**

TUCC has sent a letter to NRW in support of Mr Griffin, and asking that his complaint be dealt with as soon as possible.

**Item 18248: Road Safety in Llandogo**

Roger Hoggins has indicated that purchase of the VAS signs is likely to be in the next financial year, as MCC will need to contribute funds as well as TUCC.

**18265 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- 01508, Whitebrook, Mistletoe Cottage, relocation of timber shed. Following a complaint by the applicant that TUCC's original comments were incorrect, the chairman and vice chairman had visited Mistletoe Cottage. They reported that it was evident that the cabin was not being used as a home office and the amended plans showing shutters to the doors and windows would make it look more like a storage building. It was therefore resolved to rescind the previous recommendation of refusal, and to recommend approval.
- 01677, The Narth, Home Farm, Greystones Lane, wildlife pond in garden. Recommend approval
- 01874, Catbrook, Pleasant View barns, change of use, agricultural building to micro distillery. Recommend approval
- 01894, Penallt, Croes Faen bungalow, infill plot, single dwelling with garage and new highway access. Recommend approval

Clerk

**18266 FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: None**

**18267 MCC PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 001340, Trellech, Church Cottage, roof extension and larger porch. Approved

**18268 FURTHER MCC PLANNING DECISIONS: None**

**18269 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £42,903.43

The comparison between the 2018/19 budget and expenditure to date was noted. The bank statement and invoices had been scrutinised and verified by Cllr Pullan.

The following accounts were presented and payment agreed.

300103	MCC, grounds maintenance	£341.08
300104	Wales Audit Office	£237.30
300105	Clerk, salary and expenses	£472.71
300106	Llandogo Memorial Green	£150

Clerk

**18270 BUDGET AND ALLOCATION OF RESERVES for 2019/2020**

**It was resolved** that the budget for 2019/20 be approved. A copy is attached to these minutes. Further effort has been made to move items to "allocated reserves" if it is uncertain that expenditure will be required, since repeated under-spending on the budget has led to a regular increase in reserves. The general contingency item in the reserves may be used for any unforeseen expenditure if approved by the council. Since the payment of councillor allowances has now become mandatory, this item has however been moved back from allocated reserves to the general expenditure account. In recognition of the importance of training for councillors an allocation of £1,000 was included in the reserves to allow for two in-house sessions provided by One Voice Wales: one of these should be on the Code of Conduct. (This sum included the hire of a venue, provision of refreshments, and travel expenses for the trainer as well as the training session.) As recommended by the IRPW a provision has also been made in allocated reserves for claims for care costs that might be presented by councillors. The Catbrook Band fund, which had been held in a separate account in the Co-op Bank, but merged with TUCC's deposit account on transfer to Unity Trust Bank, is now designated separately in the allocated reserves.

Clerk

**18271 PRECEPT for 2010/2020**

**It was resolved** that the precept for 2019/20 should remain at £35,000.

Clerk

- 18272 RISK ASSESSMENT**  
**It was resolved** to accept the following amendments to the previous risk assessment: two rather than three signatories required on cheques, a note under item 4.2 that a Data Protection Policy, Document Disposal and Retention Policy, and Privacy Notice had been adopted by the council, and a new item 4.6 requiring all councillors to attend training on the Code of Conduct at least once in every five years. The clerk will maintain a record of training sessions attended by councillors.
- Clerk
- 18273 ASSETS REGISTER**  
**It was resolved** that the computer and scanner purchased by TUCC in 2003 should be written off.
- Clerk
- 18274 MINUTES AND ACCOUNTS TO GWENT ARCHIVE**  
It was noted that the clerk had deposited the original signed TUCC minutes for the years 2002-2018, and accounts for 1997-2002 and 2004-2018, at Gwent Archives. (No accounts for 2003 being on file.) Earlier minutes and accounts are already in their care. Gwent Archives are housed in Ebbw Vale, and the clerk had put forward a travel expenses claim for the 65 mile round car journey.
- 18275 TUCC NEWSLETTER**  
The text had been agreed at the previous meeting, and with the appointment of a new councillor for Catbrook a full list of councillors could now be included. **It was resolved** that the leaflet should now be printed, ready for distribution in the New Year.
- LS, Clerk
- 18276 LIGHTING AT TRELLECH SCHOOL**  
It was reported that there is frequently inappropriate and intrusive lighting at the school during weekends and late at night. This is a public nuisance, annoying to neighbours, and a waste of resources. While some security lighting is justified, this could be of the PIR variety and does not need to be so extensive or of such high impact. It was believed that this lighting is not under the control of the school, and is instead controlled by MCC.  
The clerk was asked to write to Roger Hoggins to express councillors' concerns and to ask who is responsible for the lighting. (copied to Cty Cllr Blakebrough and the head teacher)
- Councillors were also reminded of the Street Lighting Strategy drawn up by the late Councillor Tessa Murray, after a working group on the subject was convened by MCC. The clerk was asked to enquire whether this Strategy had ever been adopted by MCC.
- Clerk
- 18277 CATBROOK FOOTBALL FIELD: No report**
- 18278 BABINGTON MEADOW**  
About £400 was raised from the recent car boot sale. Traditional activities for Christmas and Easter are being planned.
- 18279 ANY OTHER REPORTS: None**
- 18280 CORRESPONDENCE**  
The following correspondence was received and noted:
- MCC, M Moran, consultation by Arts Council for Wales  
MCC, S Parkinson, Give Dog Fouling the Red Card, meeting notes  
MCC, R Williams, North Mon Area Committee, agenda, 28 Nov
- AONB, Lower Wye Catchments Natural Flood Management Project  
G Bowden, expression of interest in councillor vacancy for Catbrook  
CPRW, members' e-bulletin  
J Gooding, response to clerk on history of Catbrook Band funds  
J Griffin, copy of presentation on Prices Bridge  
P Moore, storage of campaign materials  
One Voice Wales, training schedule, Jan-March 2019

G Reynolds, request for grant towards maintenance of Llandogo Memorial Green  
C Rhodes, formal complaint over handling of planning application 2018/01508  
A Robertson, ownership of land on which Capel Pentwyn stands and sale of the chapel  
I Stokes, letter of apology  
Trellech Primary School, thanks for £1000 grant  
Wales Audit Office, invoice for 2017/18 audit  
WAG, S137 Discretionary Expenditure Limit for 2019/20  
K White, Christmas lights in Trellech

- Mr Robertson had approached the clerk over the sale of Pentwyn Chapel and a historical settlement over ownership of the land on which the chapel stands. The records on file seemed to show that this land was never associated with the Babington Meadow charity, and was instead associated with the Penallt Babington Educational Trust. His query had therefore been passed to the trustees of that charity.
- Kate White had requested that TUCC provide Christmas lights in Trellech, specifically on the Babington Centre. Cllr Edwards reported that the Babington Centre Committee had heard from Ms White and was acting upon the suggestion.
- Mr Griffin's presentation about Price's bridge was to be circulated to all councillors.

Clerk

**18281 ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA**

- Catbrook Band fund
- Training on the Code of Conduct
- Catbrook football field

**18282 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Monday, 21 January 2019 at The Memorial Hall, Catbrook

The meeting closed at 20:49