

**TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
held at Catbrook Memorial Hall on Monday 21 January 2019 at 7pm**

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

**Clerk:** Ann Davison

**PUBLIC MEETING:** none

**19001. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr M Wakeling

**19002. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Item 19015: village hall funding in 2019-20 – Cllrs Dagger, May and Pullan declared an interest as members of their respective hall committees and did not vote on the item. Cllrs Edwards, Parker, Stokes, Stoter and Weston did not declare an interest, as they are all TUCC nominees to their hall committees.

**19003. MCC'S NEW RECYCLING POLICY**

Sue Parkinson of MCC explained the forthcoming changes in the recycling system. Glass will be collected separately in a box provided by MCC, at fortnightly intervals. (In trials of the new system most people only put out glass every two weeks, even when it was collected every week.) Additional boxes will be available if needed or smaller boxes for those unable to lift a full crate. Glass goes to a processing plant in Cwmbran, where it is recycled into new bottles and jars, insulation and road aggregate. MCC is preparing a detailed A-Z for what can be recycled, and exactly where every type of item should go. The Welsh Government already publishes such a list online. Plastic waste goes to new and very efficient incinerators; the ash from the incinerators is used for concrete blocks, apart from a small proportion that is toxic and land-filled. The recycling centre at Troy will close for two days a week due to budget cuts; the evidence is that this will not increase fly-tipping. Residents will be issued with permits allowing them to use MCC waste centres. Councillors made a number of suggestions and comments, which will be taken back to MCC.

**19004. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DEBBY BLAKEBROUGH**

- The budget for 2019-20 is under preparation.
- Catchment areas for secondary schools are under review, affecting wards in TUCC.

**19005. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 DECEMBER:** agreed and signed as a true record.

Clerk

**19006. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**Item 18169: Dog bin for Whitebrook**

The exact location for this bin is still to be confirmed.

**Item 18238: Prices Bridge**

The definitive map modification order for this site will be considered by MCC Committee on 29 January. Mr Griffin's complaint against NRW is under consideration.

**Item 18265: Planning application for Mistletoe Cottage**

TUCC had rescinded its recommendation that 2018/01508 be refused, and Mr Rhodes had formally closed his complaint.

**Item 18275: TUCC Information Leaflet**

This had now been printed, and copies were distributed to councillors for them to hand deliver within their ward.

**Item 18276: Lighting at Trellech School and Street Lighting Strategy**

The clerk had written to Roger Hoggins, but no reply had been received on either issue. It was noted that the street lighting strategy had not yet been brought to MCC for adoption.

**19007. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- 01906, Penallt, Frostlands Bungalow, adjacent field, retention of track and ground levelling. Recommend approval
- 02083, Llandogo, Ty Bryn, change of use to C3 dwelling house. Recommend approval

Clerk

**19008. FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: None**

The clerk was asked to report two cases to Planning Enforcement:

- Manorside Cottage, Pen y Fan, a business is operating, scrapping and dismantling cars, with parts advertised on eBay. Flatbed trucks are using a forest track to deliver old vehicles.
- Old Stables, The Beacons, Trellech, despite an enforcement ruling signs advertising a fish shop are still displayed. Change of use is also needed from residential to business use.

Clerk

**19009. MCC PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 00186, Penallt, Cae Lles, alterations to existing garage and stores to form small annexe holiday let unit. Approved
- 00739, Llandogo, Elmsfield, felling of small group of sycamore trees on boundary with Old Market Garden. Approved
- 01670, Penallt, Croes Faen Bungalow, extension. Approved
- 01677, The Narth, Home Farm, Greystones Lane, wildlife pond in garden. Approved
- 01876, Trellech, Falls Cottage, Cleddon, additional porch to rear and larger window to east elevation. Approved
- 01890, The Narth, Narth Farm, Robins Way, external flue to ridgeline. Approved
- 01367, Trellech, Falls Cottage, Cleddon, fell four conifers. Approved

It was noted that 01876 had not reached TUCC in time for consultation due to an error at the Planning Department. An apology had been received from the planning officer concerned. 01367 had also not been consulted upon, although the letter accompanying the application implied that consultation would take place. It was noted that consultation would only be required at the discretion of the tree officer. The clerk was asked to write to the tree officer requesting that the covering letter be phrased more clearly.

Clerk

**19010. FURTHER MCC PLANNING DECISIONS: None**

#### 19011. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £53,501.34

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.

300107	Llanishen Hall, hire 11 Dec	£20
300108	Wye Media, printing of leaflet	£128
300109	Clerk, salary	£402.40
300110	D May, annual allowance mandated by IRPW (minute 18060)	£150
300111	G Bowden, annual allowance mandated by IRPW (min 18060)	£150

It was noted that cheque 30066, annual allowance of £150 payable to J Gooding, issued on 16 July 2018, had been written off, since it had not been cashed and Mr Gooding was no longer a councillor.

Clerk

#### 19012. SIGNATORIES TO TUCC BANK ACCOUNT

Councillors Bowden and May provided signatures and information, so that they could be added to the list of signatories. A signature is still needed from Cllr Wakeling. Former councillors Baldwin, Gooding and Murray had been removed from the signatories.

Clerk

#### 19013. NATIONAL SALARY AWARD FOR CLERKS 2019-20

It was noted that a national salary award had been agreed, increasing the clerk's pay by £0.38/hour from 1 April 2019. The resultant annual salary will lie within the amount allowed for in the budget.

Clerk

#### 19014. CATBROOK BAND FUNDS

TUCC had held funds on behalf of the Catbrook Band, which ceased operating in 1993, in case a new band was formed in Catbrook. With interest added over the years, the sum was £620. Only one of the original trustees of Catbrook Band was still alive, and he had suggested that the balance be passed to Monmouth Band. Some former members of Catbrook Band joined the Monmouth group in 1993; and Monmouth Band performs twice a year in Catbrook, at the remembrance service and the carol service. **It was resolved** to transfer £620 to Monmouth Band. The clerk will inform the remaining trustee of Catbrook Band.

Clerk

#### 19015. VILLAGE HALL FUNDING IN 2019-20

Those councillors who had declared an interest (see 19002) did not vote. **It was resolved** that three streams of funding will continue:

1. The element of business rates charged to village halls will be covered in full (minute 18012)
2. Up to £500 a year towards services (minute 17043)
3. Grants towards capital projects. **It was further resolved** that this sum should be increased to £1500 a year (representing no more than 50% of total costs). In addition this sum could be promised for two consecutive years for one project, to a total of £3,000. As before, applicants will need to submit estimates in advance and the sum would only be payable on completion of the work, when copies of invoices were submitted to TUCC.

The clerk will write to the village hall treasurers to inform them of the policy for 2019-20.

Clerk

#### 19016. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

**It was resolved** that a bespoke training course from One Voice Wales should be booked, at a cost of £399 plus travel costs for the trainer. The preferred evening would be a Monday in March or April. Neighbouring councils will be invited, as up to 20 people may attend such a session, although preference should be given to TUCC councillors able to attend. TUCC will provide a venue and refreshments.

Clerk

#### 19017. CATBROOK FOOTBALL FIELD

The field had not been used by any sports group for more than ten years. Since there are no changing facilities or toilets, and no parking provision, its potential for use is currently very limited. The grass is cut for hay, and the field is registered under the WAG Bee Friendly scheme.

The clerk was asked to clarify whether the lease allows the field to be used for activities other than sports, and to then write to the Monmouthshire Beacon to invite expressions of interest. The council would be open to suggestions from groups with ideas for using the field, and might contribute financially towards facilities.

Clerk

**19018. INFORMATION BOARDS IN PENALLT**

The information board at the Croes Faen intersection had collapsed as the wood had rotted. Cllr May had salvaged the laminated information sheet, which was originally provided by TUCC in 2008. Commercially produced replacement boards would cost close on £1000 each. Cllr May will canvas local opinion on whether the boards are of interest or value, and whether a cheaper alternative may be found.

DM

**19019. BABINGTON MEADOW: No report**

**19020. ANY OTHER REPORTS**

- One Voice Wales Area Meeting, 17 Jan. Cllr Decker-Thomas had attended. Presentation on MCC scheme on loneliness and social isolation. She also drew to councillors' attention the Community Networking Event at Monmouth Comprehensive School on 31 January, at 4.30pm
- Cllr Dagger reported that his term of office as governor of Llandogo School had ended (not appointed by TUCC).
- TUCC twitter account: Cllr Dagger now has the password from former Cllr Mike Mason, and will revive the twitter feed, with assistance from Cllr Decker-Thomas.
- Cluster meeting will be held on 22 January at Shire Hall, Monmouth at 6pm

**19021. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and noted:

MCC, temporary road closure, Common Rd, Mitchel Troy Common, 28-30 January

MCC, K James, precept form for 2019-20

MCC, J Keech, notification of tree works at St Odoceous' churchyard, Llandogo

MCC, J Keech, notification of tree works at St John's Cottage, Catbrook

MCC, M Mussel, Definitive Map Modification Order for Price's Bridge, at committee 29 Jan

MCC, S Parkinson, new arrangements for recycling and waste disposal

MCC, S Parkinson, proposed location for dog bin in Whitebrook

MCC, J Pearson, electoral register 2018/19

MCC, R Rawlings & J Skidmore, to attend March TUCC meeting, re Loneliness and Social Isolation

MCC, J Skidmore, Community Networking Event, Monmouth Comprehensive School, 31 Jan, 1630

MCC, J Skidmore, Monmouth Cluster Group meeting, 22 Jan, 6pm, Shire Hall

MCC, P Sullivan, Community Chest grants for sports clubs

MCC, D Wong, survey of community facilities in preparation for new LDP

Came & Co, insurance renewal proposals for 2019-20

Clarke Printing, Monmouth, quotation for printing TUCC leaflet

R Decker-Thomas, copy of draft street lighting policy for rural areas

D Dolbey, request for financial support to renovate Whitelye kiosk as an information point

J Griffin, response to NRW complaints team on Price's Bridge matter

GTS, Monmouth, unable to quote for printing TUCC leaflet

Gwent Archives, catalogue for records deposited

Gwent Wildlife Trust, Meadow Matters & invitation to Landowners Day, 3 Feb

Llandogo Memorial Green Committee, thanks for contribution towards upkeep

D May, need for new display board in Penallt

NRW, Tristan Williams, acknowledgement of complaint received re Price's Bridge matter

One Voice Wales, Monmouthshire/Newport Area Committee, 17 Jan

One Voice Wales, National Salary Award 2019-20

C Rhodes, concluding letter over planning dispute, Mistletoe Cottage

Trellech Primary School, letter of thanks for grant, from Elsie Wright, Sports Ambassador  
Vision ICT, Operation London Bridge  
WAG, update on implementation of Community & Town Council policy  
Wyemedia, quotation for printing TUCC leaflet, and invoice  
Zurich Insurance Company, quotation for 2019-20

- Preparation of new LDP: councillors had updated the information about their wards and the clerk had forwarded this to D Wong at MCC
- The letter of thanks from the Sports Ambassador at Trellech School was shared and appreciated, as a model thank you letter. It was suggested that the letter be added to the TUCC website

Clerk

**19022. ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA**

- Whiteley kiosk renovation
- Insurance renewal

Clerk

**19023. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Monday, 18 February 2019 at The Millennium Hall, Llandogo

The meeting closed at 21:00