

TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
held at The Hall, Llanishen on Monday 9 December 2019 at 7 pm

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

Clerk: Ann Davison

PUBLIC MEETING: None

19237. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs C Edwards and A Pullan

19238. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

19239. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DEBBY BLAKEBROUGH

None due to purdah before General Election

19240. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 November: agreed and signed as a true record.

Clerk

19241. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Item 19207: Parking on Village Greens

Legal advice had now been obtained. This will be on the agenda of the January meeting for full discussion by the council

Item 19233: Catbrook Football Field

MCC had indicated that using the field for a community orchard and wildlife reserve would be viewed favourably, and that any necessary modification to the terms of the lease would be acceptable. Several MCC officers had offered to assist in drawing up a detailed proposal. Catbrook Village Hall Committee would now develop the plan further, to be submitted to TUCC at a future meeting.

Item 19233: Llandogo road safety

MCC's traffic team are considering the proposal discussed by Roger Hoggins with local residents and community councillors earlier in the year. Paul Keeble will ask for a report on their progress.

Item 19233: Forthcoming road works on A466

MCC's Paul Keeble explained that the three planned closures in February and March 2020 between Tintern and Bigsweir Bridge were for resurfacing works. The closures would not be lengthy and would be limited to certain times of the day. He will provide more details once the engineer has them available and will possibly attend a future meeting if necessary.

19242. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** None

19243. **FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:** None

19244. **MCC PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 01442, Llandogo, Bigsnap Cottage, replacement single storey entrance, single storey boot room extension to back, 2 storey rear extension replacing existing garden room. Approved
- 01712, The Narth, Tircwar, single storey extension to dormer bungalow. Approved

19245. **FURTHER MCC PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 01696, Catbrook, Pleasant View Barn, change of condition on opening times. Approved

19246. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £47,632.63.

The comparison between the 2019/20 budget and expenditure to date was noted.

The following accounts were presented and payment agreed.

300183	MCC (grass cutting, £291.34 + VAT)	£349.61
300184	Playworks, salary admin Oct-Dec	£60.00
300185	Clerk, salary	£415.07
300186	JCP Solicitors, £850 + VAT	£1020.00
300187	Llandogo Village Hall, business rates	£220.92

Clerk

19247. **BUDGET AND RESERVES FOR 2020/2021**

The finance group presented a draft budget, with a recommendation that the precept for the next financial year should remain at £35,000. Once again, where spending was unpredictable it had been included under "allocated reserves". As in previous years the budget made generous allocations for "local projects", for which local groups and village hall committees were encouraged to apply. The same criteria for grants would continue to apply: a maximum of £1500 and 50% of total costs, evidence that several quotations for work had been provided, with payment when invoices were submitted. The provision would continue that grants for more than one year to a village hall might be combined to help fund a particularly expensive project.

It was noted that TUCC should pro-actively promote these grants, and that the overarching need to encourage biodiversity (min 19230) should be stressed to applicants. The topic of community engagement should be included on the next TUCC agenda.

Particular items were noted:

- (a) Funding for the MCC summer playscheme remained at the same level. It had been reported that 8 children from the area attended the scheme for multiple sessions in 2019, representing an important service to the community.
- (b) The proposed grant to Monmouthshire Citizens Advice increased to £3,500.
- (c) Donations to charity increased to £1,000.
- (d) Allocated reserves include a sum for councillors' to claim any essential caring costs incurred when they attend TUCC meetings (mandated by IRPW)
- (e) A sum of £1000 is also allocated in the reserves to allow for the provision of bespoke training sessions for the council

It was resolved to adopt the budget for 2020/21. A copy is appended to the minutes.

Clerk

19248. **PRECEPT FOR 2020/2021**

It was resolved that the precept for 2020/2021 should remain at £35,000.

Clerk

19249. TUCC DEFIBRILLATORS ON BHF'S CIRCUIT

The British Heart Foundation was to take over the register of defibrillators from the Welsh Ambulance Trust. As requested, the clerk would supply BHF with a list of the locations for the seven TUCC defibrillators, and the dates when their pads were due to expire.

Clerk

19250. BABINGTON MEADOW: A committee meeting will take place on 11 December.

19251. ANY OTHER REPORTS

- Village websites. A member of the public had asked about a vacancy on the council, relating to a very old notice that was still displayed on a village website. Councillors were reminded to make sure that out-of-date information about TUCC was regularly removed from their local websites.
- Dog fouling in Llandogo. Residents had reported a flurry of incidents on the children's play area in recent months. Sue Parkinson, who headed MCC's campaign on this issue had visited. There is a general litter bin next to the play area which can be used for disposal. It was suggested that TUCC should add a dispenser for free dog waste bags.

19252. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and noted:

MCC, S Beer, meeting of Wye Valley villages group, 10 December, Catbrook Memorial Hall
MCC, G Freeman, temporary road closure, Tintern road, 31/1/20-4/2/20
MCC, M Howcroft, consultation on payment of precept in one or three instalments
MCC, N Howells, response on possible uses of Catbrook football field
MCC, M Moran, report on 2019 summer play scheme

A Bevan UHB, Your Local Health News
CPRW, e-bulletin
CPRW, Rural Wales, Winter 2019
H Fforde, L Parker, G Weston, S Parkinson (MCC), dog fouling in Llandogo
JCP Solicitors, A Poole, advice on parking on village greens
Llandogo Hall, N Jukes, request for payment of rates
Llandogo PCC, J Rundle, thanks for grant towards churchyard maintenance
L Parker, possible shared training on planning, with Mitchel Troy CC and Monmouth TC
Monmouthshire Meadows Group, thanks for promise of financial support for Wet Meadow, Trellech
One Voice Wales, bus pass renewal programme
One Voice Wales, bulletin
Welsh Ambulance Services, registration of defibrillators by BHF on The Circuit
WAG, A More Equal Wales – Commencing the Socio-Economic Duty, consultation
WAG, Discretionary Expenditure Limit (S137) for 2020/2021
WAG, The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation
Wye Valley AONB, public consultation sessions on 2020-2025 Management Plan, Brockweir & Ross

19253. ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA

- Parking on village greens, to discuss legal advice received
- Annual dinner
- Community engagement
- Community councils' powers to spend, including S137 and the Power of Wellbeing
- Councillor training

19254. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: Monday, 20 January 2020 at the Memorial Hall, Catbrook

The meeting closed at 20:12