

**TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
held via Zoom on Monday 19 July 2021 at 7 pm

<b>Village</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Catbrook	Guy Bowden	Present
Catbrook	Andy Pullan	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	Present
Trellech	Alan Poulter	Present
Whitebrook	Iain Stokes	Present
MCC	County Cllr Debby Blakebrough	Not present
MCC	County Cllr Richard John	Present

**Clerk:** Ann Davison

**PUBLIC MEETING:** none

**21121. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None

**21122. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Stoter, personal & prejudicial interest in planning application 2021/01153. He took no part in the discussion and did not vote on the recommendation

**21123. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 June:** agreed as a true record. Chair to print and sign.

**21124. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**Item 21104, 21061, 21051: TUCC Defibrillators**

The clerk was still waiting for an estimate from an electrician for installing the new cases on The Sloop in Llandogo and the Babington Centre in Trellech. **It was resolved** that the clerk be empowered to authorise work up to a maximum budget of £300 per installation, to avoid further delays.

**Clerk**

**Item 21104, 20129: Playground Safety Inspections**

Cllr Pullan had spoken with Mike Camp about repairs at Broadstone. The rocks in the grass would be removed. Cllr Pullan had ordered a sign with contact details, as required.

**Item 21112: Revised Community Boundaries**

The clerk had passed on information about assets and expenditure in the Llandogo ward to the clerk of Tintern CC. The Tintern clerk had responded that the only asset in the Trellech Grange ward was a notice board. There were no dog bins in the ward. Tintern CC had given £125 per annum towards the upkeep of the churchyard at Trellech Grange.

Llandogo councillors were keen to liaise with Tintern CC. **It was resolved** that the chair should arrange to meet with the chairs of Tintern and Mitchel Troy community councils, together with the three county councillors, to discuss the various issues arising from both the new community boundaries and the new county council wards. These impacted upon the county council – not least the question over how budgets were to be set in December for councils that did not yet exist. The county councillors could then ensure that MCC was aware, and ready to assist in good time.

MB

**Item 21117: Footbridge in Pen y Garn**

The Penallt footpath group had already reported this to the MCC field officer, who had placed it on a priority list for replacement. The group will carry out temporary repairs in the meantime if the proposed replacement date is too far in the future.

**Item 21117: Work on Whitelye Common**

There had been some dispute within the community over clearance work, but this did not involve the community council, and it was not believed that any harm to the area would occur. All those involved were anxious to encourage wildlife.

**21125. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- 00661, Penallt, The Farm, Lydart, existing grazing land to secure dog walking paddock with associated off-road parking. Recommend approval subject to a tree survey and SuDS for car park.
- 00937, Trellech, High View, Cicelyford, demolish existing garage, construct single storey extension. Detached garden office. Recommend approval
- 00977, Llandogo, Parklands, outline planning for two extensions to existing poultry units to upgrade staff facilities. Recommend approval, subject to consideration of water run off as the proposed soakaway was close to a water course and only 300 metres from the Rive Wye. Clarification is also needed over the non-residential floor-space, which according to the application would not increase despite the extensions
- 01005, Whitebrook, Fern Bank, extension and alterations to cottage, refurbishment of adjacent cider mill. Recommend approval
- 01097, Whitebrook, Fern Bank, listed building consent, extension & alterations to cottage etc. Recommend approval
- 01099, The Narth, The Cabin, rear 1st floor extension and alterations. Recommend approval
- 01145, Llanishen, Site adj to B4293, Church Rd: Discharge of conditions, construction traffic etc. Recommend approval, but the Construction Environment Management Plan needs to be amended, as it refers to Church Lane, "Trellech "
- 01162, The Narth, Chapel View, Maryland, extension and alterations. Retrospective. Recommend refusal. The application is incomplete (no design and access statement) and contains several incorrect statements. For example, the property is clearly visible from the public highway; a new access has already been created which should have required Highways approval; numerous trees, hedges and shrubs have already been removed, with no ecological survey undertaken. The proposed extension at least doubles the size of the

house, in contravention of H5, H6 and RE2; in addition a new triple garage has been added and the existing outbuilding nearly doubled in size. Only a preliminary bat survey has been submitted, which recommends further survey work, despite the fact that building work already carried out has probably already disturbed any bats. The building needs renovation, but no further work should be allowed until a comprehensive application has been approved. A councillor is willing to speak at Planning Committee.

**21126. FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:**

- 01160, Llanishen, Penybryn, Quarry Rd, replace conservatory with garden room, etc. Recommend approval
- 01153, The Narth, Kynance, retention & continuation of boundary fence. Cllr Stoter took no part in the discussion and did not vote. Recommend refusal. The fence is outside the property boundary, on Highways land and is too tall. It is out-of-place in the village environment. It also limits visibility for vehicles on the corner. There would be no objection to 3-4 feet fence/trellis. A councillor is willing to speak at Planning Committee.
- 01016, Llanishen, The Oaks, vary cond 2 of 2019/00149, alterations to window positions & sizes. Recommend approval

Clerk

**21127. MCC PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 2020/01742, Llanishen, Penarth Mill and Penarth Mill annexe, Pant Glas road, reclassified by HMRC as 2 dwellings. Planning approved
- 2021/00584, Penallt, Llanant Farm, new agricultural barn. Approved
- 00739, Penallt, Singleton, wooden octagonal garden room & wooden home office. Approved
- 00753, Whitebrook, The Hythe, discharge of condition 2 2020/01817, hedge planting. Approved
- 00773, Llanishen, Homestead, 1<sup>st</sup> floor side extension. Approved

**21128. FURTHER MCC PLANNING DECISIONS:**

- 00741, Catbrook, Stoneacre, Tintern Heights, wooden gazebo to side and front of building. Approved

**21129. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £44,780.00.

The comparison between the 2020/21 budget and expenditure to date was noted.

The following accounts were presented and payment agreed. Cllrs Blakebrough and Stoter were nominated to complete online authorisations for these payments.

BACS/52	Merlin Waste	£174.42
BACS/53	Clerk, salary	£402.65
BACS/54	HMRC PAYE (July)	£23.80
BACS/55	Playworks (Katherine Watkins), salary admin	£20.00
BACS/56	Llandogo PCC, churchyard grant	£500.00
BACS/57	B Mahony, Narth Footpath Group SDF grant £500 + £100 TUCC match funding, see min 21030	£600.00

It was noted that the payment to Merlin Waste included £19.50 to cover the price increase from 21-30 June. The unit price had now increased from £4 to £5.50, resulting in monthly

payments increasing from £112.67 to £154.92. The annual budget would therefore be some £440 higher than anticipated, and this would need to be covered from the general reserves.

The Audit Notice for the 2020/21 accounts, informing electors of their rights to inspect the accounts, must be displayed by 6 August 2021. The clerk would add it to the website shortly, and email it to councillors for display on notice boards.

Clerk, LS, MB

**21130. BIODIVERSITY GROUP**

Rachel Carter. One Voice Wales's 'Places for Nature' officer, will make a presentation to the Tucc meeting in August.

The biodiversity group had asked councillors to look again at the draft S6 report produced in 2019 and to prioritise actions. It was suggested that Monmouthshire Meadows Group and Gwent Wildlife Trust be asked for recommendations. As a first step it was agreed that Rachel Carter be asked for a steer on the direction of work. Tucc should also consider how to encourage the community at large to take biodiversity seriously.

Clerk

**21131. BUS SHELTERS**

MCC (Roger Hoggins) had asked councils to clarify whether they would take on ownership and maintenance of bus shelters that were no longer on bus routes.

Tucc had seven bus shelters in its ownership, which appeared on its assets list and were included in the insurance policy. Only one of these (Broadstone) was no longer on an active bus route. Tucc therefore accepted responsibility for its safety and maintenance.

Clerk

**21132. DOG WASTE BINS**

Further to the information in minutes 21066 and 21104, it was noted that there had been a misunderstanding over the price increase from Merlin Waste. Whilst rural community councils were not going to be charged the £6.25/unit applicable in the towns, their unit price would be increased from £4 to £5.50 from 21 June 2021. This was reflected in the current bill.

MCC had reported that they believed £6.25 per bin to reflect the true cost of providing the service. A number of options had been proposed by MCC for regularising the service.

**It was resolved** to continue with the current service, as none of the alternative options promised to be either cheaper or more efficient..

Clerk

**21133. FUTURE TUCC MEETINGS, ZOOM AND BLENDED MEETINGS**

It was noted that new Welsh legislation requires that any face-to-face council meetings must also offer online access for councillors and members of the public. Blended meetings need appropriate equipment (including a TV screen) and good broadband. Since many village halls cannot offer such facilities One Voice Wales is negotiating with the Welsh Government over how councils can comply with the law.

In the meantime **it was resolved** to continue with Zoom meetings for at least a further three months (possibly until WG has solution). The clerk was asked to write to One Voice Wales expressing their support for them in the negotiations.

Clerk

**21134. PENALLT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Postponed to the next meeting.

**21135. BABINGTON MEADOW**

It was noted that younger people are urgently needed on the Committee, ideally families with children.

**21136. ANY OTHER REPORTS**

- Item 20147, August 2020: FP468 in the Narth. The blockage had now been cleared and the footpath was open and usable.
- Recycling waste in Whitebrook was only being collected fortnightly, including food waste bins which foxes were investigating. Complaints to MCC had brought no improvement. The email address of the MCC officer responsible was given to Cllr Stokes, and Richard John asked to be copied in to correspondence

**21137. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and noted:

MCC, J Draper, query over delegated panel or Planning Committee for 2020/00358  
MCC, G Freeman, temporary road closure, Bargain Wood Rd, 2-4 August  
MCC, G Freeman, temporary road closure, Lone Lane, Penallt, 27-29 July  
MCC, G Freeman, temporary road closure, Whitelye Road, 9-13 August  
MCC, G Freeman, emergency road closure, Hoop Rd, Penallt, 5-7 July, 15-19 July  
MCC, R Hoggins, ownership and maintenance of bus shelters  
MCC, S Parkinson, updates on dog bin emptying  
MCC Planning Policy, replacement LDP 2018-33, Preferred Strategy consultation & second call for candidate sites

E Besirevic, correspondence with chair on work at Whitelye Common  
A Bevan U Health Board, weekly vaccination update  
British Heart Foundation, online links to CPR training  
R Carter, Local Places for Nature officer, to make presentation at August TUCC meeting  
CPRW, members' e-bulletin  
Narth Footpath Group, B Mahony, work locations 16 July  
One Voice Wales, intro to Rachel Carter, Local Places for Nature officer  
One Voice Wales, webinar on Local Places for Nature, 22 July  
One Voice Wales, Operation London Bridge  
One Voice Wales, Monmouth/Newport area committee, 1 July, minutes  
One Voice Wales, remote training sessions in July  
Play Inspection Company, quote for 2022 inspections  
Llandogo PCC, J Rundle, request for churchyard maintenance grant  
B Scarr, info on planned repairs to footbridge in Pen y Garn  
P Stevens, Oak Tree Electrical, to provide quote for installing defibrillator cases  
Tintern CC clerk, Trellech Grange assets  
Welsh Government, climate change newsletter

**21138. ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA: none**

**21139. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:**

Monday, 16 August at 7pm, via Zoom. Members of the public will again be invited to contact the clerk in advance if they would like to join the meeting.

The meeting closed at 21:42