

**TRELLECH UNITED COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**held at The Millennium Hall, Llandogo on Monday 17 February 2020 at 7 pm**

<b>Village</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Catbrook	Guy Bowden	Not 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	Not 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	Not present

**Clerk:** Ann Davison

**PUBLIC MEETING:** two issues were raised.

- (1) Traffic diversions during works to the A466. Two members of the public requested that TUCC support their appeal to MCC to add extra road signage at Botany Bay, to indicate that the road to Catbrook is “residents only”. Closures of the A466 are scheduled for both March and June. On previous occasions drivers have turned through Catbrook rather than following the diversion route via Whitestone.
- (2) Trellech Village Green. Members of three of the households fronting onto Trellech Village Green provided historical pictures and information about the Green in support of their opinion that the space had traditionally not been used for recreation. They said that the area had always been used for parking, whether by horses and carts or motor vehicles. It had never been grassed over. The only reason it had been registered as a village green was to prevent the then landlord of The Crown claiming it as his private parking space. Currently the space is regularly used by the post man and by delivery vans serving houses on the other side of the road, as well as those directly fronting the Green. The main road is very narrow with a blind bend close by, so parking of delivery vehicles on the road would be very dangerous. No-one in the Trellech community had requested that the Green be available for recreational purposes, as other more suitable areas were available. They recognised that parking is legally not allowed on a registered village green, and therefore requested that TUCC consider rescinding the status of the Green.

**20023. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs G Bowden, C Edwards and L Stoter

**20024. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Poulter – item 20040, as his home adjoins Trellech Village Green. Cllr Poulter contributed information under the Public Meeting on the topic, but took no part in the discussion of this item by the council.

**20025. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR DEBBY BLAKEBROUGH:** None

**20026. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 January:** agreed and signed as a true record.

Clerk

**20027. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**Item 20005, 19228: Training Session on Planning**

Nothing further had been heard from Monmouth Town Council about the course on “Responding to planning applications”, due to be held on Monday 9 March, 6-9 pm. This date fell before the next TUCC

meeting; but TUCC's budget for training still had ample funds for any councillor who wished to attend the course.

**Item 20005, 19241, 19233: Forthcoming road works on A466**

MCC's engineer, Ian Brain, had given the following details: the road closure order runs from 16 March to 9 April 2020. Works at Bigsweir were planned for 16 to 19 March; works at Tintern Station to Catchmays Court were planned for 19 March to 3 April. Dates might vary if weather conditions were unfavourable.

**Item 20018: Merlin Waste collections**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 the price of collections will increase by 15p to £3.90 per bin. This will increase the monthly bill for TUCC from £97.50 to £101.40. Merlin now offers an emergency call out service of £10 per bin if they become full before the normal collection date.

**20028. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- 00113, Trellech, Castle Comfort, garden dining area. Recommend approval
- 00078, Penallt, Agricultural Notification. New forestry building to store timber, Jackstones Farm. No objection

Clerk

**20029. FURTHER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

- 00225, Llanishen, field adjacent to 1 West View, hard standing track into field to allow easier access. Recommend approval

Clerk

**20030. MCC PLANNING DECISIONS**

- 2019/00734, Trellech, The Old Stables, Beacon Rd, change to mixed use and proposed advertisement. Approved
- 2019/01954, Penallt, The Coach House, Hoop Rd, construction of standalone garage + air source heat pumps + shepherd's hut for home office. Approved
- 2020/00120, Catbrook, The Hermitage, Whitelye, timber framed building to shelter lambing ewes. Agricultural notification. Acceptable

**20031. FURTHER MCC PLANNING DECISIONS: None**

**20032. INSURANCE POLICY RENEWAL**

It was noted that TUCC had committed to a 3-year long-term agreement with Zurich Insurance in 2019 (minute 19035). This could be extended for a further two years at any point, retaining the same premium.

**20033. ONE VOICE WALES MEMBERSHIP**

It was resolved to renew TUCC's membership of One Voice Wales.

**20034. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Current bank balance (less uncashed cheques): £56,945.09.

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

The following accounts were presented and payment agreed.

300192	Zurich Municipal, insurance premium	£483.11
300193	MCC, summer playscheme 2019	£450.00
300194	Clerk, salary (415.07) + printer cartridges and paper (58.40)	£473.47
300195	Merlin Waste, Nov and Dec	£195.00
300196	Llandogo VH, hire 17 Feb	£18.00
300197	Catbrook VH, rates (202.51) and services (500)	£702.51

Clerk

**20035. GRANT APPLICATION FOR CATBROOK MEMORIAL HALL**

**It was resolved** to make a grant of £776.15, representing half the cost of replacement light weight GoPak tables for the hall.

**20036. COMMUNITY BOUNDARY REVIEW**

The Minister at WAG had now signed off the alterations to community council boundaries, despite the fact that MCC had promised another round of consultation that never happened. One Voice Wales wished to find out how many councils wanted to challenge the decision, given the flaw in process.

The review will affect TUCC: Llanishen Grange will move into TUCC from Tintern CC; Far Hill will be incorporated into the Trellech ward rather than Llanishen ward; and Llandogo will be removed from TUCC to be incorporated into a new Wye Valley Community Council including Tintern and St Arvans community councils. The first two of these changes had the support of TUCC, while the loss of Llandogo did not.

**It was resolved** to recommend that One Voice Wales should request a further review.

Clerk

**20037. WEBSITE AND DDA COMPLIANCE**

The current TUCC website does not comply with new legislation. The SLCC had negotiated a special deal for council websites at £700 + VAT; the current provider, Vision ICT, had offered to overhaul the website to make it fully compliant, and better suited to use on mobile phones, for £650 + VAT.

**It was resolved** to ask VisionICT to produce a compliant website.

Clerk

Any specific suggestions for improvements to the website should be sent to the clerk before the March meeting. This will be on the next agenda.

All councillors

**20038. MEETING DATES AND VENUES FOR 2020/21**

The following dates and venues were confirmed for next year. It was noted that The Narth village hall is once again available on a Monday night, so has been included. It is the responsibility of local councillors to book their halls for the relevant dates.

All councillors

20 April	Catbrook, Memorial Hall
18 May	Penallt, Pelham Hall
15 June	Whitebrook Village Hall
20 July	Llanishen, The Hall
17 August	Trellech, Babington Centre
21 Sep	The Narth, Village Hall
19 Oct	Llandogo, Millennium Hall
16 Nov	Penallt, Pelham Hall
14 December	Llanishen Hall
18 January	Catbrook, Memorial Hall
15 February	Llandogo, Millennium Hall
15 March	Trellech, Babington Centre

Clerk

**20039. NOTICE BOARDS**

Councillors reported a need for new or replacement notice boards next to the village halls in Llandogo and Llanishen. Local councillors will check with the village hall committees on their preferred type of board. Possible costs and designs to be considered at the next TUCC meeting.

Clerk, GW, LP

The existing boards in Whitebrook, New Mills, Penallt, Catbrook & Trellech are not in urgent need of replacement. The information on the Trellech map board does need updating. Cllr Poulter will investigate the options.

AP

**20040. PARKING ON TRELLECH VILLAGE GREEN**

This item was dealt with at the beginning of the meeting, prior to item 20027.

Councillors recognised that this area in Trellech became a Village Green by default, to solve a problem at the time, and to prevent it falling into private ownership. Councillors also felt that it was wrong to turn a blind

eye to regular parking on the Green, as this had implications for other Greens within the TUCC area. **It was resolved** to seek further legal advice about the process and implications of de-registering the Village Green.

Pending this advice no action should be taken to prevent parking on Trellech Village Green. A further letter should be sent to residents adjoining the Green, confirming that TUCC would take no immediate action and that TUCC was awaiting further legal advice on the possibility of de-registering the Green.

Clerk

**20041. BABINGTON MEADOW**

The recent scheduled meeting was cancelled. An Easter Egg hunt will be held as in previous years.

**20042. ANY OTHER REPORTS**

- The AONB's River Festival in 2020 will include an event in Llandogo on 16 May. There will be a public meeting in Llandogo Village Hall on Thursday, 27 February, to plan the event and to discuss a fitting tribute to Roger Brown.
- It was noted that the clerk will be unable to attend meetings for several months, following a hip replacement on 17 April. This will not prevent her from other duties, including preparation of agendas and draft minutes. Cllr Parker will take minutes at the meetings that the clerk misses.
- Annual dinner. Cllr Blakemore had circulated possible menus from The Fountain Inn. Councillors chose to use the £19.95 menu. Each councillor will let Cllr Blakemore know if they and/or partner can attend and their menu choices.

All cllrs

- Climate champions meeting in Abergavenny was attended by Cllr Decker-Thomas. Mark Hand was scheduled to attend but did not arrive. She noted that MCC was committed to planting trees but had difficulty in finding suitable locations. If councillors could identify "spare" corners of land then the Woodland Trust will advise on suitable varieties and supply trees.

All cllrs

- Catbrook Community Orchard: an inaugural meeting will be held in March
- Llanishen Garage has been bought by ASC Phillips, and is due to open to the public for vehicle repairs next month.
- Flood damage occurred in Llandogo during Storm Denis. MCC has been informed
- Whitebrook Wind-up half marathon, Sunday 26 April

**20043. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and noted:

MCC, S Beer, pdf map of MCC highways  
MCC, I Brain, update on road closures of A466 for resurfacing, Bigsweir to Tintern  
MCC, H Clatworthy, invitation to councillors to join Community Climate Champions  
MCC, G Freeman, temporary road closure, New Mill Rd, 9-10 March  
MCC, G Freeman, temporary road closure, Pentwyn Lane, 7-9 April  
MCC, L Greer, invitation to Chairman's Charity Ball, The Angel, Abergavenny, 14 March  
MCC, K James, acknowledgement of precept request  
MCC, M Moran, invoice for summer playscheme 2019 and request for 2020  
MCC, Planning, reconsultation 2019/02013, Twyn Gorse, Llanishen, alterations to roof

AONB, S Sawyer, update on River Festival 2020 and Llandogo meeting 27 Feb  
CPRW, e-bulletin  
D Cooper, concerning parking on Trellech Village Green  
H Fforde, slippery pavements near Llandogo School and Millennium Hall  
GAVO, J Gillard, possible workshops provided by Local Nature Partnerships Cymru  
M Holgate, concerning parking on Trellech Village Green  
R Hutchings, follow-up to legal advice  
IRPW, Principles relating to reimbursement to councillors of care costs  
J Lee, Abergavenny Town Clerk, summary of meeting on dog waste collections  
One Voice Wales, Area Committee, minutes for 16 Jan  
One Voice Wales, Boundaries Review, need for further action?

One Voice Wales, membership renewal  
Open Spaces Society e-zine  
A Poulter, response to Tucc letter about parking on village green  
A Pullan, Catbrook Memorial Hall, business rates and insurance, + grant application  
SLCC newsletter on website compliance with DDA  
S Vass, copy of letter to P Keeble on traffic diversions during works to A466  
Vision ICT, cost of upgrading website for DDA compliance  
Wales Audit Office, accounts qualified at a third of town and community councils  
Wales Air Ambulance, annual review  
WAG, Minimum pricing for alcohol from 2 March, stakeholder information  
Zurich Town and Parish Insurance, policy renewal documents

**20044. ITEMS FOR THE PRESS/NEXT AGENDA**

- Biodiversity in the Tucc area

**20045. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Monday, 16 March 2020 at the Babington Centre, Trellech

The meeting closed at 20:50

DRAFT