

M47 Progress Reports/Updates

M47.1 The Charter. The recent correspondence received from One Voice Wales (OVW) had stated, ""Charter Updates Monmouthshire". "Little progress had been made since the Cornwall model had been considered. A letter had been sent to the County Council by Lyn Cadwalladr urging progress but to date no reply had been received. It appeared that the County Council was not embracing the principles of the Charter".

Three years ago following the official event to announce the completion of the Charter which was attended by Cllr Steve Morgan and the Clerk, a further delay had been announced at which point the Clerk had withdrawn from the group reviewing the Charter and predicted that in two or three years' time it would still be talking!!

M47.2 'Review of Communities and Electoral Arrangements – Postponement' dated 19th May but postmarked 6th June had been received from MCC and then copied for Members. It referred to MCC's duty under the Local Government Act 1972 Sections 55 and 57 to keep Electoral arrangements (community borders) under review every 15 years and this had been done late 2013 by a group of County Councillors who appeared to have very little knowledge of the actual task.

The only description of their suggestions was 'ridiculous' and included grouping Rockfield with Penrhos. This was made absolutely clear to them at the very well attended protest Meeting held at County Hall by Llantilio Crossenny Community Councillors and LVACC Members. It had caused hours of unnecessary work by LVACC Members and the Clerk who had submitted written responses of explanation and protest. The latest short message is 'postponement'.

M48 Correspondence and Consultations

M48.1. From MCC – 'Monmouthshire Local Access Forum. This had been copied for Members.

M48.2 From the Ombudsman – Annual Report 2014/2015. This announced that the new Ombudsman was Nick Bennett and that there had been an increase of 6% in the number of cases over the previous year. County/County Borough Councils and the Health Boards accounted for 83% of cases.

As he regarded his current work as being reactive, he was setting up the task of avoiding the present annual upward trajectory of grievances by finding resolution at local level as this would have the advantage of providing earlier resolution for complainants.-

M49 Planning Matters

M49.1 MCC Consents - Discharge of Condition

DC/2015/00581 – Hendre Hall, Hendre – Discharge of conditions 1,2,3,4 from Planning consent DC/2014/00333.

M49.2 MCC Consents –Non-Material Amendment

1962

DC/2015/00550 – 1861 Restaurant, Old Ross Road, Cross Ash. Non material amendments in relation to planning permission DC/2010/00741
Repositioning of external openings to align with internal layout.
Amendment of internal layout and external openings. Sizes to comply with fire and DDA regulations. Introduction of stainless steel flu for wood burner. Addition of conservation style roof lights on rear (north) elevation.

M49.3 MCC Consent –Planning Permission

DC/2015/00080 – Atherstone House, St Maughans – Erection of free range egg Laying unit with associated feed bins and hardstandings.

M49.4 MCC Refusals

DC/2013/00930 – Kaponda, Maypole – Outline Planning . A detached house on land adjacent to a part of the curtilage of Kaponda.

DC/2014/01451 – Cwm Newydd Farm, Rockfield – Erection of rural enterprise dwelling.

M45.5 Applications Received and Recommended for ‘Approval’

DC/2015/00738 – Celyn Farm, Dawn of Day – Demolition of existing extension and construction of new two storey extension to rear of property to provide additional living area, two bedrooms with bathrooms to first floor level. Also new detached double garage with home office above (pre-application ref MC/2014/ENQ/00799).

DC/2015/00661 – Hendre Hall, The Hendre – External alterations to dormer window and to provide flu to roof, internal alterations to extend mezzanine to provide additional bedroom and move staircase.

DC/2015/00664 – 1861 Restaurant, Old Ross Road, Cross Ash – Stabilisation of stream bank adjacent to car park.

DC/2015/00632 – Land adjoining ‘Westgate’ St Maughans – Proposed new dwelling on land adjoining ‘Westgate’ Relating to previous approval DC/2013/00836. Creation of new access, demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of two semi-detached dwellings within existing curtilage of Westgate.

DC/2015/00418 – Home Farm, Hendre – Change of use of two existing outbuildings to a residential two bedroom gateway cottage plus ancillary parking and garden works.

DC/2015/00420 – Home Farm, Hendre – Demolish part of a large agricultural shed immediately adjacent to Home Farmhouse.

M50.1 Authorisations

Members resolved to authorise the following payments: Konica Minolta = £76.46 for photocopier : MCC = £15.00 for room hire.

M50.2 HMRC – Tax

All tax for 1014/45 financial year had been paid by cheque and promptly presented at the bank by HMRC.

However, invoices continued to be received alleging unpaid tax. The one received today was for £557.33. These had each been challenged in fine detail by Taxability acting on this community council's behalf. It was becoming very time consuming and costly. The Clerk would discuss the matter with Taxability again. A copy of one of Taxability's challenges to HMRC was provided for Members.

M51 Highways/Footpaths/Transport

M51.1 Bridge on B4521 at Skenfrith opposite The Bell. The letter sent to MCC's Bridges Officer on 16th March was still awaiting a response despite having requested an early response.

M51.2 Road Markings on Route 20.1 at Llanfaenor. No response had been received from Head of Operations Roger Hoggins following having sent him a letter on 7th April .

M51.3 Dangerous condition of macadamized footpath along B4233 Rockfield/Monmouth. County Cllr Ruth Edwards said that she had raised this matter with MCC Highways.

M51.4 Temporary Public Footpath Closures. Due to unsafe bridges on routes within LVACC area, various footpaths had been closed for the next six months. Copies of the routes concerned had been provided to Members.

M51.5 'Jobs' no longer being done by MCC due to financial constraints. The Clerk gave examples such having to spray the waist high vegetation for access to the notice-board at Maypole, spraying around the notice-board/postbox at Skenfrith, spraying the War Memorial at Skenfrith, cleaning and disinfecting the school bus shelter at Cross Ash, etc. (he was not complaining!). Having discussed the matter, Members did not arrive at any positive conclusion at a time when local residents did not become involved in their surroundings. Cllr Len Lane explained the extent to which cuts have been necessary within his section as a result of budget constraints.

M52 Environment/Waste/Recycling

Nothing to report.

M53 Education and Lifelong Learning

A letter had been received from MCC's Communication Officer ' Council to engage over additional learning needs provision'.

This was primarily aimed at parents or carers of pupils with additional learning needs and gave an opportunity to attend various public meetings. Those unable to attend who had particular needs were invited to contact MCC's Principal Officer **Stephanie Hawkins** stephaniehawkins@monmouthshire.gov.uk

M54 Health and Wellbeing

The Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council had sent a pamphlet ' Review of In-Patient Falls in Hospitals in the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board Area'.

The period reviewed was April/November 2014 (8 months) when a total of reported falls was 2741. Copies provided for each Member.

M55 Members'/Clerk's Reports

Cllr John Kennedy had attended the (last but one day) Monday 29th June Meeting of the Monmouth CAB (Charity 1145396).prior to its very final closure.

The main topic he raised was the disposal of remaining funds – which would eventually – and formally – be a decision for the members of the company rather than the trustee board.

There would be a sizeable amount but the recipient(s) would probably require registered charity status. Cllr Diane Fitchett knew of a not dissimilar case and would be providing details. Although there would not be a Community Council direct involvement, suggestions would be welcome from the public.

M56 Churchyard

The Clerk had inspected the Churchyard after Len and his gang had mowed the grass and swept clean the few remaining horizontal stones as a precaution against anyone slipping.

.It presented an impressive scene and justified all the work carried out over many years especially viewed against the decision recorded in the March 1984 Community Council Minutes when it had been decided to abandon any attempt to tackle the dense backlog which was considered as being beyond redemption.

No problems were detected with the integrity or stability of monuments. The Ministry of Justice rules of January 2009 pertaining to the Rolls monuments and the War memorial had been strictly satisfied. The Clerk had lopped off any overhanging tree branches from neighbours' land.

M57 War Memorials

Still awaiting the slate panels for Skenfrith.

M58 Date of Next Meeting

1965

On Thursday 3rd September 2015 at Hilston Park commencing at **7.30pm**.

M59 Website

Members debated the development of a LVACC Website at length. They were aware of the many implications and costs. At this initial stage, they resolved that Chairman Anthony Vines and Cllr Desmond Pugh be empowered to take charge of the task of deciding and embarking on the best course for LVACC. They were aware that a £500 grant was available to be spent by November.

M60 Comments, etc by County Cllr Ruth Edwards

Nothing specific was raised.

M61 Announcements/Suggestions

M61.1 The Clerk showed Members the past lever-arch file and a documents binder which had been used during and prior to the charity which related to the proceeds of the old Maypole Hall site. The charity had been disbanded some three years ago and the remaining balance used towards the costs to the tarmac path leading to and around the War Memorial at Llangattock. He wished to know whether they could now be discarded. Cllr Desmond Pugh who had been the Trustee of the Charity said that he would take charge of them and await a longer period from the demise of the charity.

M61.2 Cross Ash Summer Show and Events

Cllr Len Lane announced that this would take place on Saturday 15th August at the Village Hall.

Boat rides would be a major attraction.

M61.3 Skenfrith Fun Days

Site – the entire village. This coming Saturday and Sunday 12.00 o'clock

A wide variety of attractions to suit all ages.

Roy G Nicholas
Monmouth
3rd July 2015

MMXV

Minutes approved

Chairman

Dated