

M28 Progress Reports/Updates

1955

M28.1 Monmouth CAB. Still awaiting information.

M28.2. 'Fields in Trust'. Still awaiting response from MCC concerning 'Rockfield Estate Open Space'.

M28.3 Royal Mail Postbox. Not yet installed.

M29 Correspondence and Consultations

M29.1 From National Eisteddfod (to be held this year at Abergavenny 29 July – 6 August) – An announcement that a Proclamation Ceremony was to be held at Caldicot on Saturday 27 June. A civic procession was scheduled from the town centre at 1.30pm and the *Proclamation* at 3.00pm. An invitation to participate had been extended for any two LVACC Members to attend.

M29.2 From MCC – Emergency Contacts Directory. No changes were required. Cllr Ray Bowen and the Clerk would continue to serve.

M30 Planning Matters

M30.1 Application received from MCC today

DC/2015/00632 – Land adjoining 'Westgate', Maypole – Proposed new dwelling on land adjoining Westgate relating to previous approval DC/1013/00836. Creation of new access, demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of two semidetached dwellings within existing curtilage of Westgate.

M30.2 Applications received and recommended for 'Approval'

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

DC/2015/00523 – The Bell Hotel, Skenfrith – Removal of existing timber structure and oil tank. Construction of a new detached building to provide new biomass boiler plant, pastry kitchen and first floor staff accommodation.

M30.3 Modification or Removal of Condition

DC/2015/00168 - Rockmon View, Rockfield – Removal of Conditions 13, 14, and 15 Planning permission DC/2012/00168*.
(* DC/2012/00168 'Land at Whitehall Farm').

M30.4 MCC Permissions granted

DC/2015/00198 – Pen y Lan Farm, Hendre – Garden room to rear of dwelling.

DC/2015/00224 – Box Farm, B4347 – Extension to an existing agricultural building for machinery storage including importation of fill material to raise ground levels.

M30.5 Acceptable Agricultural Notification

DC/2015/00323 – Hendre Wood – Welsh Government Woodland Estate Forest road maintenance required for timber extraction.

M30.6 Affordable Housing

An update of 2nd June 15 had been received from Mr David James, Rural Housing Enabler following his recent successful public consultation at Cross Ash. A copy of his letter had been distributed to each Member.

M30.7 Cwm Newydd Farm Application DC/2014/01451

A copy of the Minutes of MCC's Planning Committee's determination of 5th May 2015 had been provided by the Clerk for each Member.

He had also provided each Member with an extract from the Farming section of this week's Monmouthshire Beacon under the title *Lack of succession plans threatens 40,000 UK family farms*". This was appropriate to the current situation at this farm.

M31 Financial Matters

M31.1 Authorisations

Members resolved to authorise the following payments : MCC = £300.00 as a contribution towards maintenance work at LVACC section of Churchyard : MCC = £15.00 for room hire.

M31.2 HMRC Tax deductions

Ever since HMRC introduced their system of collecting income tax direct from the small community Councils instead of collecting it from the Clerks' (very much part-time) personal returns, this community council has experienced nothing but on-going confusion.

MCC's agreement was to deduct 20% as tax from the Clerk's salary and this amount had invariably been forwarded to HMRC within the correct time schedule. However, there has been nothing but a plethora of totally irrelevant correspondence and demands from HMRC officers, all of which have required challenges involving hours of telephone time and on-line explanations.

This was really a case of HMRC unable to carry out their duties correctly and to the financial cost of this community council.

M31.3 The Certificate of Employers' Liability Insurance had been received from Aon Insurers.

M32 Highways/Footpaths/Transport

M32.1 Various matters requiring attention. An undertaking had been received from Highways that matters reported to them in recent weeks were to receive attention. Copied to Members.

M32.2 Damaged bridges of 21.7. Cllr Robin Wintour had reported earlier in the day that these bridges would be made safe and earmarked for permanent repair. Copy of his note distributed to each Member.

M32.3 Unauthorised notices on public highway. An example was provided by Cllr Graham Edmunds who said that at the bottom of Lint Hill 22.2 there was currently a private notice *Road Closed*. Members were concerned not only about any inconvenience caused to the public but particularly about confusion for emergency vehicles.

M32.4 Roadside Advertising Signs. County Cllr Ruth Edwards pointed out that these required planning consent.

M32.5 Raised surface macadamised footpath alongside B4233 Monmouth/Rockfield. Only a short length of this footpath was within the curtilage of this community council and consequently, County Cllr Ruth Edwards was asked to raise the matter with Highways. It is many years since it received any attention. The accumulation of spoil/debris/vegetation is such that there are places that present a danger even to a single person when two vehicles are passing in opposite directions! (There is a small length near the Studios which is clear).

It is not possible for it to be used safely by any members of the public irrespective of age. In particular, parents with prams, persons on an electric scooter or wheelchair. persons requiring to walk in-arm and the very many 'keep-fit enthusiasts whom one sees from early morning.

What can be done please to remedy these years of neglect and clear it right back to its original width?

M33 Environment/Waste/Recycling

Cllr Len Lane as a MCC employee apprised fellow Members on the reasons for the recent changes in refuse collections. He also spoke of the many redundancies which had been necessary and the consequences endured by the remaining staff in providing a good public service.

M34 Education and Lifelong Learning

Nothing new to report.

M35 Health and Wellbeing

Nothing new to report.

M36 Members'/Clerk's Reports

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No Meetings had been attended by Members or the Clerk during the past month.

M37 Churchyard

Despite telephone calls and forwarding precise details to Zurich especially Insurance for trees, no response had been received. Consequently, Members decided that MCC's Tree Surgeon be asked to inspect the two pine trees in the Churchyard to establish whether any action was required.

M38 War Memorials

Having spoken earlier in the day to Inigo Jones Slateworks, the Clerk told Members that he had been promised that the slate tablets would be delivered by the end of June.

M39 Date of Next Meeting

On Thursday 2nd July 2015 at Hilston Park commencing at 8.00pm.

M40 Website

Postponed to the July Meeting.

M41 Comments, etc by County Cllr Ruth Edwards

She had already provided information as appropriate during debating of previous items.

She also informed Members that she had been elected by MCC's Planning Committee Members to serve as its Chairman for another year.

M42 Announcements/Suggestions

Nothing of note.

Roy G Nicholas
5th June 2015
Monmouth

Minutes approved
Chairman

MMXV

Dated