

**Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council**  
**Cyngor Cymuned Llangatwg Feibion Afel**

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<b>Minutes of the Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council Public Meeting</b>	
Date	Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 8:00
Venue	Hilston Park
Chair	Councillor Len Lane
Also present	Councillors: John Kennedy, Yvonne Price, Desmond Pugh, Robin Wintour.
In attendance	Mr Mark Nicholas, Clerk to the Council

**Agenda Item 1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Diane Fitchett and Steve Morgan, and County Councillor Ruth Edwards. Also Councillor Graham Edmunds who was attending a One Voice Wales (OVW) meeting the same evening.

**Agenda Item 2. Declarations of Interest.**

Members agreed to declare any conflicts of interest that arose as the agenda was progressed.

**Agenda Item 3. Questions and Comments from Members of the Public.**

None

**Agenda Item 4. Minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016 were confirmed as being a true record of the proceedings.

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#### **Agenda Item 5. Updates and Progress (except where covered by other headings)**

June 3rd, John Pearson, Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) had replied to an email sent by the Clerk giving notification of a vacancy following the resignation of Councillor Anthony Vines. MCC are advertising the "Notice of Casual vacancy". Copies of the notice had also been placed on the noticeboards at the Hendre and Newcastle.

July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Clerk had emailed John Pearson to discover if there had been any response to the notice.

#### **Agenda Item 6. Correspondence and Consultations (except where covered by other headings)**

5th June from John Wheelock, Monmouth Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). An email to inform the Council that the activities of Monmouth CAB will now be carried out by Monmouthshire County CAB. The remaining assets of Monmouth CAB will be transferred to Citizens Advice Cymru. Thanks were given to the Community Council for their support in previous years.

6th June from MCC, a list of environmental events promoting sustainability.

8th June, from Judith Langdon, MCC a request for details of likely attendance at the informal meeting of June 20th. The Clerk had replied to say that two or three Councillors and himself were likely to attend.

8th June, from One Family Community Awards, information about potential funding for Community projects.

21<sup>st</sup> June, from MCC, Press Release - Council publishes Improvement plan and commits to efficient and cost effective services

21st June, from OVW, Notice of training event at Undy Church and Community Hall, 14<sup>th</sup> July.

21<sup>st</sup> June, via OVW, notice of Meet the Future Generations Commissioner events.

28<sup>th</sup> June, From Debbie McCarty, MCC Whole Place Manager, notice of Rural Forum meeting in Raglan 07/07/2016 (clashed with our meeting this evening), and that it might be the last one.

28/06/2016 From OVW, copy of new financial regulations

30/06/2016 via OVW notice of "webinar" about open data on 10th August.

30/06/2016 From MCC The Vale of Usk Rural Development Programme (RDP) - a partnership between Monmouthshire and Newport councils to promote rural communities and businesses and increase prosperity.

05/07/2016 Via OVW, Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) request for feedback. OVW have also requested to be copied in to any response.

06/07/2016 Kindly forwarded by Anthony Vines, Cash Seized from Criminals Available for Community Projects. Community projects in Gwent are now able to apply to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for a share of £150,000 in cash seized from criminals and from the sale of unclaimed found property.

06/06/2016 Via OVW Please find attached a Written Statement from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, announcing further detail on the collection and management arrangements for Welsh devolved taxes from April 2018.

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07/07/2016 via OVW, two statements from the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) concerning devolved tax collection powers.

### **Agenda Item 7. Planning Matters**

DC/2016/00504, Graig Hall Chapel NP7 8UF. Councillors had expressed concerns that some of the footings might be too close to areas shown as “unmarked graves”. Following a site visit by Councillors, the Council agreed to recommend approval of the proposal.

DC/2016/00654 Rockfield Farm, NP25 5NH 06/06/2016. Councillor Diane Fitchett declared a conflict of interest and a site visit was made by other Councillors. The Council agreed to recommend approval of the proposal.

DC/2016/00532 Rockmon, Greenhouse and wood store. This had been the subject of a Planning Committee inspection on Monday, 4th July at 11.00am.

The Clerk has emailed MCC to point out that attached “Consultee letters” about individual Planning Applications have a date that is constantly updating. That is to say, that the date shown is always the date of viewing, rather than the date on which the letter was written. Also, on attempting to examine planning applications on the MCC Planning Portal on Sunday, 26th June, he discovered that the portal was yet again out of action.

A reply was received on 28<sup>th</sup> June from MCC to say that they were aware of the issue and were unable to resolve it until a new IT system is introduced.

### **Agenda Item 8. Financial Matters**

The balance of the Treasurers (chequebook) Account was £509.12 at the last statement, and in the Business Bank Instant account, £6,654.60. It was agreed to transfer £2000 from the Business Bank Instant account to the Treasurers account to support the writing of cheques.

Annual Return, The Clerk apologised for missing the due date. The Auditors had been contacted and had advised on the procedure for submitting a late return. It was agreed that Councillors Len Lane and Desmond Pugh would form a sub-committee to check and sign the return if satisfactory.

The meeting agreed to authorise the following payments: - Gwent Outdoor Centres - hire of room for this meeting £15.00; £259.92 to the Clerk (nett salary) and £64.80 (tax due on Salary)

Also £200 to the Village Life Community Project towards the cost of defibrillators. See also Agenda Item 12, for further details on this matter.

### **Agenda Item 9. Highways, footpaths & transport**

The Clerk had contacted Andrew Welsh from the Highways department and asked him to contact Councillors Graham Edmunds and Robin Wintour with a view to arranging on-site meetings to discuss highways problems in their areas.

### **Agenda Item 10. Environment, recycling, waste**

10<sup>th</sup> June, from MCC, a query about dog fouling.

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Merlin Waste had contacted the Clerk to inform him that it was not economically feasible for them to empty single dog waste bins from isolated locations.

### **Agenda Item 11. Education and lifelong learning**

Cross Ash Governors meeting: -The Estyn inspectors have visited and the publication of their report on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August is eagerly anticipated.

Other news: the defibrillator planned for the school premises is to be wholly funded by Abergavenny Round Table, the machine will be mounted onto an outside wall so it will be accessible outside of school hours. The school is happy to report that the herringbone style parking bays seem to be working all and have been installed alongside dedicated disabled bays within the school grounds.

The Governing Body has appointed a replacement from within the present school staff for the deputy-head teacher Mike Fawcett, who left last term. Interviews are being conducted for a new Year 1 teacher.

### **Agenda Item 12. Health and Wellbeing**

3rd June, an email from Elizabeth Carr, Engagement Support Officer, Older People's Commissioner for Wales. Notice of series of training events to raise awareness of ageism in Wales, the nearest event to be held at Bridges, Monmouth, on September 14th 2016.

06/06/2016 From MCC, information about summer Play Schemes in Monmouthshire, for further information please contact [andrea.sysum@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.sysum@torfaen.gov.uk) – telephone 01495 742951 or 07980 695717. The schemes will operate at Abergavenny, Monmouth and elsewhere.

Defibrillators - The Community Councillors and the Clerk had engaged in extensive correspondence with interested parties to establish how many groups operated within the Community Council area and how many defibrillators were proposed. It was confirmed that there is now a single group, The Village Life Community Project (VLCP). It is planned to place defibrillators in the phone box at Maypole, at the Village Hall in Skenfrith and at Cross Ash School. The existing defibrillator at the Rolls of Monmouth Golf Course has already been very kindly made available for public use.

At their meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2016, the Council had agreed, in principle, to give £100 towards the cost of each defibrillator. As the defibrillator at Cross Ash School had already been wholly funded by the Abergavenny Round Table, it was resolved to donate £200 to the VLCP. This being £100 towards each of the defibrillators at Skenfrith and Maypole.

### **Agenda Item 13. Visits by Councillors and Clerk**

20<sup>th</sup> June, Councillors Diane Fitchett, Yvonne Price and the Clerk had attended an "informal information sharing session for all Town and Community Councils" at County Hall in Usk. This covered the variable quality of the MCC response when replying to communications from Councillors and Clerks, future similar meetings, local government reform and elections in 2017. Elections will take place on the basis of current boundaries.

### **Agenda Item 14. Llangattock Churchyard**

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Councillor Len Lane reported that the grass had been cut again and that the Churchyard presented a welcoming spectacle for any visitors.

#### **Agenda Item 16. War Memorials**

Nothing to report.

#### **Agenda Item 17. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held at 7.30pm, on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at Hilston Park.

#### **Agenda Item 18. Announcements and Comments of Interest.**

The Cross Ash Flower Show and Fun Day will be held on Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 2.00 pm.