

Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Llangatwg Feibion Afel

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Minutes of the Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council Public Meeting	
Date	Wednesday, July 11 th 2018, at 8.00pm
Venue	Hilston Park, Newcastle, NP25 5NY
Chair	Councillor Yvonne Price
Also present	Councillors: Ray Bowen, Graham Edmunds, George Edwards, John Kennedy, Len Lane, Yvonne Rees, & Robin Wintour. County Councillor: Ruth Edwards
In attendance	Mark Nicholas, Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Steve Morgan and Desmond Pugh.

2. Declarations of Interest.

None were received as regards the published Agenda. Councillors agreed to identify any that arose during the course of the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on June 13th were confirmed as being a true record of the proceedings.

Topic from later Agenda Item (9. Planning Matters) brought forward.

Several members of the public were present at the meeting who wished to present their views on planning application **DM/2018/0093** – proposed Cider Production Facility at White House Farm, NP25 5NS. It was agreed that discussion of this item could be brought forward so that those members of the public who did not wish to stay for later agenda items could make their comments and then leave the meeting.

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All the members of the public who made comments objected to the proposal. The principal reasons given for opposition were:

Poor road access – access is only possible along the B4347 heading south from Norton. This is a steep, narrow, road which is single track for much of its length. It is not possible for large vehicles to make the turn to White House Farm when approaching along the two-lane section of the B4347 from the south-east, past Hilston Park.

Increased vehicle movements, due both to raw materials being brought in, and to the finished product being shipped out. It was said that the apples produced adjacent to the proposed facility were in fact on a long-term contract to a major cider producer, were not available to the applicant, and therefore all apples used would need to be brought in along the public highway.

Water usage and waste – There were concerns that unknown, but significant, amounts of fresh water would be used in making the cider, and also that large quantities of liquid waste will be created.

Concerns were also expressed about noise, light pollution, working hours and wildlife.

The Clerk advised those present that it was likely that the proposal would go before the MCC Planning Committee at the start of September, and that a group of (in this case) objectors should appoint a spokes person to submit comments on their behalf, by prior arrangement with the County Council.

4. Guest Speakers.

See next item.

5. Affordable Housing at Cross Ash Village

David James, the Rural Housing Enabler for Monmouthshire spoke to the meeting about a long-standing proposal to build a number of affordable houses on the site of the former garage and petrol station at Cross Ash.

Various options had been discussed with the developer. However, it had not been possible to arrive at a scheme that was satisfactory to all parties, in terms of:

- The numbers of affordable homes
- The numbers of open market houses
- The costs of, and any subsidy towards cleaning contaminated land

It was suggested that other sites around Cross Ash should be investigated and that a meeting to look at them would be beneficial.

6. Questions and Comments from Members of the Public.

Please see after Item 3, "Topic from Later Agenda Item (9. Planning Matters) Brought Forward"

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7. Updates and Progress (except where covered by other headings)

18 June 2018, from Leighton Jones at the Independent Remuneration Panel, a proforma for reporting (even if nil), expenses and allowances paid to Councillors in the 17/18 year. The Clerk will submit a nil return.

20th June, from Lisa Aspinall, WAG, a newsletter about the work of the Independent Review Panel (Wales) IRP This is a review of Community Councils in Wales, not to be confused the other IRP above.

Broadband – no apparent progress, Councillor Robin Wintour had enquired with Katherine Jordan at Nick Ramsay's (AM) office if there was any more news about contracts to finish the broadband links at the Hendre?

Website – Councillor Des Pugh had been able to update some items on the website. updated the website, and also the Facebook feed. One post had received 843 views.

8. Correspondence and Consultations (except where covered by other headings)

28th June, from OVW, the June News Bulletin.

5th July, from OVW. Notice & Agenda for Annual General Meeting of Monmouth/Newport area Committee, to be held in Usk on Thursday, 19th July.

Also, notice of a woodland trust competition, for a tree deserving of a £1000 woodland maintenance grant. Nominations by 6th August.

9. Planning Matters

4th July. From MCC, a list of new and completed enforcement actions.

DM/2018/0093 White House Farm, NP25 5NS. – Proposed Cider production facility. Please see after Agenda Item 3 – “Topic from Later Agenda Item (9. Planning Matters) Brought Forward” Councillors Des Pugh and Steve Morgan will examine the proposal.

DM/2018/00886 Sunny Mount, Maypole NP25 5QF. Proposed alterations & Extensions. Councillors to examine and make recommendation in next few days.

DM/2018/00980 increase in height of building, relating to earlier DC/2017/01129, Ty-Gwyn, Crossways NP25 5NP. Councillor Yvonne Price declared an interest, as being married to the applicant, and left the room while the matter was discussed. Two members of the public spoke to the meeting about their objections to this proposal, as regards the increased height. Other comments were made, although it was noted that these applied to the original (DC/2017/01129), and now decided, application. It was agreed that two Councillors from another ward would examine the application.

5th July, from OVW, news of Circular 008/2018, relating to Planning and private sewerage works.

<https://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/circulars/welshgovcirculares/wgc-008-2018/?lang=en>

An on-going enforcement case was discussed. The Clerk will enquire with MCC Planning as regards any updates.

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10. Financial Matters

The meeting agreed to authorise the following payments:

£18.00 J. Brimble, grass cutting at Skenfrith War Memorial

£17.00 Monmouthshire County Council, hire of room for this meeting.

£20.00 Councillor Yvonne Price, for purchase of flowers.

£279.22 Net Salary for the Clerk for June

£279.22 Net Salary for Clerk for July, to be banked in August.

£209.40 Tax and National Insurance on the Clerk's salary for the previous quarter.

£192.00 To Broomfield Alexander, invoice number 72806, for the internal audit, and

£117.00, for payroll charges, April, May, June. Invoice number 72986.

The meeting considered it inappropriate to accede to a request for sponsorship from GAVO (Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations).

11. Highways, footpaths & transport

29th June. Notice of road closures including at the Hendre, from 08.30, 9th July, until 15.00 July 11th. This being to enable telephone pole replacement.

Also, an extension of the road and footpath closure programme for the National Grid Refurbishment, until 15th October 2018.

12. New Standing Orders

A new set of Standing Orders, composed by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) had been sent to the Community Council by OVW, and briefly discussed at the meeting of June 13th. The Clerk had prepared and circulated a suitably tailored version for the Community Council. He had also rendered the document gender-neutral, by altering in excess of a hundred instances of "Chairman", "Vice-Chairman", and "his". The meeting agreed unanimously to adopt this version of the new Standing Orders

13. Environment, recycling, waste

Concerns had been expressed about the Monmouth Civic Amenity site being closed at intervals during opening hours. Councillor Len Lane advised the meeting that he understood that this was unavoidable and unpredictable. This being because the layout of the site required that it be closed when full skips were replaced by empty ones. As the throughput varies, it is not possible to shut the site at a known time each day.

Complaints had been made to MCC about noise emanating from the Marquees of the Bell Inn at Skenfrith. Permission to erect these had been granted under application DC/2017/00552. A condition of the approval was related to noise mitigation (now DC/2018/00836), Satisfaction of this condition will be discussed at the next meeting.

14. Education and lifelong learning

Nothing to report.

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15. Health and Wellbeing

Village Life Community Project (VLCP) Defibrillators. The Community Council's insurers had replied to the Clerks earlier query, and informed him that it would not be possible for the Council's Insurance Policy to include theft or liability insurance for the VLCP defibrillators. This being due to the fact that items owned by a 3rd party are excluded from the policy.

Tom Pitts Tucker of the VLCP informed the Council that work towards placing defibrillators in the out of use phone boxes at Newcastle was proceeding steadily but slowly.

4th July, from MCC, a Press Release about Chepstow Leisure Centre saving a person's life with a defibrillator.

5TH July, via OVV, a newsletter from the Older People's Health Commissioner for Wales.

http://www.olderpeoplewales.com/wl/Publications/pub-story/18-07-04/Summer_2018_Newsletter.aspx

16. Visits by Councillors and Clerk

Councillor Yvonne Price had visited Mrs Sue Senekal, from Rockfield, and presented her with a bunch of flowers. This was to show the Council's appreciation for her dedication and hard work over the last 24 years in keeping the grass cut at the Rockfield triangle by the former Post Office.

Councillor Des Pugh and the Clerk attended a reception for Commander King of HMS Monmouth at the Shire Hall, Monmouth.

17. Llangattock Churchyard

The charity "Friends of Friendless Churches" is in the process of adopting St. Cadoc's Church. The Clerk had enquired if they might also consider adopting the closed part of the Churchyard, for which the Community Council is responsible.

18. War Memorials

Nothing to report.

19. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Wednesday, 5th September at 7.30 pm, at Hilston Park.

20. Announcements and Comments of Interest.

The Llangattock Vibon Avel & District Ploughing & Agricultural Society will hold their ploughing match on the 3rd Sunday in September.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.