

Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council
Cyngor Cymuned Llangatwg Feibion Afel

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 Proper Officer to the
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Minutes of the Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council Public Meeting	
Date	June 5 th , 2019, at 8.00pm.
Venue	Hilston Park, Newcastle, NP25 5NY
Chair	George Edwards
Also present	Councillors: Ray Bowen, Graham Edmunds, John Kennedy, Len Lane, Steve Morgan, Yvonne Price, Desmond Pugh, & Robin Wintour. County Councillor: Ruth Edwards
In attendance	Mark Nicholas, Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Yvonne Rees and County Councillor Ruth Edwards.
 Councillor George Edwards, Vice-Chair of the Community Council, chaired the meeting in the absence of Councillor Yvonne Rees.

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. Councillors George Edwards and Robin Wintour declared an interest as regards MCC planning application DM/2019/00593, construction of an agricultural storage barn, as being respectively, a relative, and a friend of the applicant, County Councillor Ruth Edwards.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, 1st May, were confirmed as being a true record of the proceedings.

4. Guest Speakers

None.

5. Questions and Comments from Members of the Public.

None.

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

Emergency Contacts - The Clerk has confirmed the on-going status of the Community Council's emergency contacts with Julie Pinnell, Emergency Planning Officer at Monmouthshire County Council (MCC).

Broadband – Residents of Rockfield and the Hendre continue to experience problems with poor coverage and insufficient bandwidth. BT Openreach have been observed carrying out work in the area over the last few days. Councillor Robin Wintour made enquiries but was unable to determine the intended impact of the works, and if it would benefit the wider community.

Stone Cross at Rockfield, standing on the grass triangle formed by the junction of the B4233 and B4347. The Community Council was asked to contribute towards the cost of repairing the Cross. Unfortunately, after seeking advice, it has been determined that the Council has neither the legal power or a legal duty to pay for repairs to the Cross.

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

8th May, a News Bulletin from One Voice Wales.

20th May, from MCC, news of the election of County Councillor Sheila Woodhouse as chair for the next 12 months.

24th May, from MCC Community Employment Officer, Steve Cooper, an invitation to MCC's Employability Day on 21st June.

From One Voice Wales, details of training opportunities in June.

From MTC, email correspondence requesting information about the Community Council's precept and grants policy.

8. Planning Matters

The Clerk has submitted a response to the Planning Officers Society for Wales (POSW) town and community council survey. Details about this survey were sent to the Clerk by Joan Lockett, Local Government Partnerships.

3rd May, from MCC, a list of new and completed enforcement cases.

DM/2019/00593 Whitehall Farm, Rockfield, NP25 5NH. Construction of storage barn for hay & straw. Councillors George Edwards and Robin Wintour took no part in the discussion about this application. It was agreed by the remaining councillors that a comment will not be placed on the Planning Portal. MCC will take this as being a stance of no objection to the proposal. MCC have advised that the application will go before their Planning Committee due to the applicant's position within the county council.

DM/2019/00714 The Bryn, Llanvolda Road, The Hendre NP25 5HQ. Single storey extension, front porch, new windows, additional external cladding. Detached garage with a games room above.

DM/2019/00776 Pen Y Lan House, The Hendre, NP25 5NL. Demolition of existing single storey lean-to and construction of new two storey extension.

9. Financial Matters

The meeting agreed to authorise the following payments:

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

£365.32 nett salary for Clerk - £322.27 for May 2019, plus balance of £43.05 from April. (£322.27 - £279.22).

Insurance – Confirmation from BHIB that the Council's insurance has been renewed, together with certificates of Employer's Liability and Public Liability.

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10. Highways, footpaths & transport

Completed:

Nantygern, between Newcastle and Rockfield, water on road, "Gully cleared".
Entering Newcastle from NW/Hilston Park direction, drains cleared.
Hairpin on B4233 above Rockfield, the missing bend sign has been replaced.

On-going

B4233, drains blocked on approach to Rockfield.
B4521, between Cross Ash and Norton, near Trebella Farm, traffic lights limiting road to one lane above partially blocked culvert.
Graig View, Cross Ash, query over unadopted road.
Newcastle, unofficial signs.
Crossways to B4347, drains blocked – "scheduled"
R12.2 travelling westward from Skenfrith towards the B4347- potholes "under review"
Cross Ash School – parking on zig-zags outside the school. (The My Monmouthshire app now has a "Transport & Parking" field).
River Wall at Skenfrith, no further updates.

New

Rockfield - Following concerns from residents about impeded visibility of oncoming vehicles, the Clerk has requested that MCC resume cutting the grass at the Junction of the B4233 and B4347.
R36 approaching its junction with the B4374, travelling towards Hilston Park. The Monmouth/Skenfrith direction sign has been moved so that it is parallel to the road rather than facing oncoming traffic.
Crossway, a firmly embedded metal bar/pipe is projecting from the verge near the letterbox.
Newcastle – residents have contacted the Clerk with their concerns about speeding, in particular as regards child pedestrians. The Clerk has raised this with MCC again, having done so most recently in 2018, 2017, and 2016. A speed monitoring check had been done in 2017, but the vehicles were "not travelling fast enough" (max 60mph, average 39mph) to put a speed trap in place.
Welsh Water - Signage of roadworks. Welsh water has been active around Newcastle and Skenfrith. There have been numerous instances of conflicting and incorrect signs, and signs left in place days after works have been completed.

11. Environment, recycling, waste

31st May, from Monmouth Town Council, information that the Council had passed a "Climate Emergency" motion, aiming to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. A meeting to be held on Thursday, 6th June, from 7 to 9 pm, at Bridges Community Centre.

12. Education and lifelong learning

Nothing to report.

13. Health and Wellbeing

24th May, from Aneurin Bevan UHB, "Your Local Health Newsletter".

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14. Visits by Councillors and Clerk

None.

15. Llangattock Churchyard (the “closed part”)

The grass is being cut fortnightly at present.

16. War Memorials

The grass has been cut around Skenfrith War Memorial. Councillors George Edwards and Graham Edmunds are to conduct a small trial of re-pointing the setts at the memorial with a resin compound kindly donated by George.

17. Date of Next Meeting

There will be a meeting on Wednesday, June 26th at 8.00pm at Hilston Park, when the 2018/2019 Annual return and accounts will be reviewed following their inspection by the Internal Auditor. The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, 11th July.

18. Announcements and Comments of Interest.

As reported at previous meetings, discussions to wind up the Llangattock Vibon Avel United Charities, and distribute the remaining assets in accordance with the Charities aims are still ongoing.

There is no connexion between Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council and the Llangattock United Charities. However, it so happens Councillor Ray Bowen is also a trustee of the Charity. Correspondence for the Charities has been sent in error to the Community Council. The clerk will pass this to Ray Bowen in his role as a charity trustee.