

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, 11 th March 2020 at 8.00 pm
Venue	Hilston Park Lodge, Newcastle, NP25 5NY
Chair	Councillor Yvonne Rees
Also present	Councillors: Graham Edmunds, George Edwards, Len Lane, Yvonne Price, Desmond Pugh, & Robin Wintour. County Councillor: Ruth Edwards
In attendance	Mark Nicholas, Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Steve Morgan.

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 February 5th 2020 were confirmed as being a true record of the proceedings.

4. Guest Speakers.

None

5. Questions and Comments from Members of the Public.

Rob Hoggins, one of the Cross Ash School Governors, informed the meeting about a plan to improve safety and alleviate traffic congestion at the start and end of the school day.

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Councillors Len Lane proposed, and Des Pugh seconded, a motion that the Council should give its support to the plan, subject to an acceptable written version of it being received. Passed unanimously.

6. Resignation of Community Councillor Ray Bowen.

Following the resignation of Ray Bowen, a Notice of Vacancy was published. The Returning Officer did not receive a request for an election.

7. Vacancies for Councillors.

There have been no requests for elections for the vacancies in the Llangattock, and Rockfield & St Maughans wards. The vacancies may now be filled by co-option. The Clerk has sought advice from Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) and One Voice Wales (OVW) about the co-option process.

8. Review of Community Council Boundaries.

Following the unanimous decision at the last meeting, the Clerk contacted OVW on the 6th of February, and requested that they contact the LDBC and ask for the review to be done again.

2nd March, an email from OVW to community councils in Monmouthshire to inform them that they have formally requested a new review of community council boundaries, also a copy of their letter to MCC.

9. Review of County Councillor Wards

No further news from the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission about this matter.

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

None.

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

10th February, the OVW news bulletin for February. Also, an email describing the benefits of belonging to OVW, and the work that OVW do on behalf of member councils.

11th February, a reminder from OVW about a training event, "understanding the Law", to be held at Caldicot on Monday, 24th February from 6.30 to 9.00.

13th February, from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, a copy of the draft Supplementary Report. [Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales](#)

Also, from Aneurin Bevan Community Health Council, notice of an executive meeting to be held on the 27th of February.

25th February, from MCC's Communications Officer, Kelly Keyse, news of a "Power of Community" event at Cwrt Bleddyn, to be held on Wednesday, March 4th, between 9.30am and 1.00pm.

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5th March, news about the new round of grants available from the Calor Rural Community Fund. Applications may be submitted from the 10th of March onwards –

[Calor Rural Community Fund](#)

10th March 2020 – from MCC, details about the “The Council’s corporate plan receives makeover”

12. Planning Matters

6th February, an email from MCC Planning, asking for views as regards the retention of any remaining phone boxes. It was thought beneficial to retain the phone box at Skenfrith due to the poor mobile phone signal in the area.

Temporary Access to Charles Church site off B4233, Monmouth to Rockfield. The Clerk contacted MCC Highways and Planning on February 9th to ask for an update, and also on the 3rd of March.

DM/2019/01801 Demesne Farm, NP7 8UF, amended plans (12th Feb 2020)

2nd March, from MCC, the itinerary for the Planning Committee site inspections for Monday, March 2nd. This included Application DC/2017/01335 - Full planning application for demolition of existing buildings and residential development with associated works. Cross Ash Garage. The application has been approved, amended so as to include slate roofs in keeping with the local building style.

DM/2020/00312, South Villa B4347, Newcastle, Monmouth NP25 5NU Proposed two storey domestic extension and new detached double garage. Councillor Yvonne Rees declared an interest, and will not take any part in examining the proposal.

LDP Engagement Opportunities – an email was received from MCC’s Mark Hand, with a list of “engagement opportunities” about the new Local Development Plan.

10th March, from MCC, more information about the Replacement Local Development Plan.

DM/2020/00241 Coxstone Farm, St Maughans, NP25 5QF. Householder application for the adaption of the farmhouse, including the demolition and replacement of a rear extension and the demolition of a front porch and its replacement with a more appropriate canopy.

13. Financial Matters

The meeting agreed to authorise the following payments:

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

£322.07 Net Salary for the Clerk

£159.00 Annual membership for One Voice Wales.

£241.60 Tax and National Insurance on the Clerk’s salary for the previous quarter.

£1000.00 to be transferred to the Nationwide Churchyard and War memorials Account. (approved at meeting of February 5th)

£20.00 Monmouth Town Council – For hosting of training on responding to planning applications.

£285.71 To Creative Solutions, for the supply of two more noticeboards.

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£1000.00 – transfer from the Community Council’s Lloyds Bank account to its Nationwide Churchyard Account, holding Council’ allocated reserves.

Wales Audit Office – a consultation about future audit arrangements.

<https://www.audit.wales/about-us/consultations> responses by Thursday, 19th March.

It is proposed to have a three year audit programme from 2020/2021 onwards.

14. Highways, footpaths & transport

B4233 – drains as the road enters Rockfield downhill from the north-west. These have been the subject of extensive work by MCC. They now seem to be working more effectively, but will need close attention to keep them clear of debris during periods of heavy rain.

15. Environment, recycling, waste

Sunday, 16th of February. Skenfrith was flooded again, following heavy rain locally together with record river levels on the Monnow and Wye. The flooding was more severe than that which occurred on the 29th of October last year.

MCC will host a meeting at Cross Ash Village Hall on Thursday 19th March to discuss the flooding at Skenfrith.

11th February, from OVW, news of Spring Clean Cymru, to be held from 20 March to 13th April.

16. Education and lifelong learning

See also item 5.

Cross Ash School – parking placing children at risk. The Clerk had received a response from MCC’s Car Park Technical Assistant, that Enforcement Officers had advised motorists to “park appropriately”, but no fines had been issued.

5th March, from MCC, a press release - Council sets a budget for children and vulnerable people in the face of continuing financial challenges.

17. Health and Wellbeing

10th February, from WAG, information about the introduction of a minimum price for alcohol on the 2nd of March.

6th March, from Aneurin Bevan UHB, an invitation to a “Talk health” event to be held in Abergavenny on the 3rd of April.

18. Visits by Councillors and Clerk

The Clerk attended a Planning Aid Wales training event at the Shire Hall, about Responding to Planning Applications.

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19. Llangattock Churchyard (the “closed part”)

It is likely that grass cutting will be resumed in the near future

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20. War Memorials

Councillor Len Lane is investigating placing safety rails alongside the steps at the Skenfrith Memorial.

21. Date of Next Meeting

Due to current government advice on the coronavirus situation, all future meetings are postponed until further notice.

22. Announcements and Comments of Interest.

10th February, Councillor Robin Wintour was contacted by the Manager of the Nationwide Bank in Monmouth, to inform him that the branch will re-open on the 23rd of March.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm