

## MARSHFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 8 November, 2010 at Marshfield Village Hall, Wellfield Road, Marshfield commencing at 7:30 p.m.

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Present: Mrs R Bashi (Chairperson)  
Mrs S Burke  
Mr G Kemp-Philp  
Mr C Hemmings  
Mr K Bennett  
Mr S Tilley

In attendance City Councillors T Suller & R White, PC A Walters, G C Thomas (Clerk)

Apologies: Mrs S Hood (holiday), Mr N Sullivan (work), Mrs J Charlton (work), Mr G Ham (ill)

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The Council agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2010 were a true record and they were signed by the Chairperson subject to the following deletion:

Min111. ...lack of routine police patrols ~~and attendance to emergency calls~~ has encouraged crime in the area...

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➤ = Letter Written

### 136. Police Matters

PC Adrian Walters updated the Council:

- Gwent Police are suffering severe cuts to finances.
- There will be no decision on a replacement PCSO in Marshfield until December.
- PC Walters finds difficulty attending meetings. There are six community meetings in the area, there is no overtime budget and it is difficult to match meeting times with shift patterns.
- PC Walters was present in the Marshfield area on Halloween and had no anti-social behaviour calls.
- Traffic officers attended the coast road at the end of October and caught approximately 30 vehicles speeding and issued tickets.
- Action has been taken against a cannabis factory located in Marshfield.
- Loose horses in the locality continue to be a serious problem causing 20-30 calls per day.
- LG road in Coedkernew could be subject to covert analysis after a petition from local residents.
- In order to counteract break-ins, an operation to stop any vehicle travelling on the road between 2:00 and 5:00 a.m. will be undertaken.
- A multi-agency operation is also being planned to pull in vehicles and check all relevant aspects.
- The Council noted that parking outside Marshfield Primary School is currently the main problem in the area.

### 137. Marshfield Ward - Newport City Councillors Report

- Details of Community Grants that are available were given to the Council
- The next Neighbourhood Committee for Marshfield Ward will be at Michaelston Village Hall on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

- Councillor White suggested that the Community Council writes to the Environment Agency to ask about their policy to respond to an emergency blockage.
  - The Council agreed to write the EA.
- The machine operating on Broadway is replacing a sluice gate.
- One car has left Broadway and fallen into the reen another has gone into a hedge. Councillor White highlighted to need to drive carefully.
- Newport CC Highways Section is to survey the road in connection with the water pooling near the Cambrian Estate.
- A faulty street light and a missing Belisha beacon top have been reported for attention.
- The bus times missing from the Mallards Reach bus stop have been reported by the Community Council.
- Councillor White had been unable to locate the problems with the road surface at the Coedkenew roundabout on the A48.
- Councillor White encouraged local residents to vote to join BT Race for Infinity Broadband. Maximising the vote in favour will make it more likely that fibre optic cable broadband will be installed in the area.

(Councillors White & Suller left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.)

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

#### **138. Newport City Ward Councillor's Report (Min 111)**

- Wyevale site allotments - The Council agreed to write to the Planning Enforcement Officer of Newport City Council asking for the removal of the articulated trucks parked in the grounds facing the A48.
- Youths congregating in and around the bus shelter opposite the post office – The Council heard that matters are improving.
- Vehicles are parking on the grassed area behind the bus shelter at the junction of Marshfield Road/Marysfield Close –Newport City Council replied on 2 November stating that the area had been inspected and there was no obvious evidence of damage caused by regular parking or manoeuvring on and off it, so preventative measures could not be recommended at this time.  
The Council noted that a resident at the end of Marysfield Close has taken some land from the grassed area to form a driveway.

#### **139. Newport CC – Section 106 Payments –Leisure Facilities (Min 113)**

Mr Hemmings provided details of the Barclays Step Saver account providing 0.95% -1.15%, depending on the amount deposited. The Clerk was asked to make further enquiries.

- The Council agreed to write to Mr Steve Bickerton of Newport CC Leisure Section to inform him that all houses in the new development at 301-302 Marshfield Road are now occupied. The Section 106 agreement for £50,389 should, therefore, now be available. Also, to ask if NCC was successful in obtaining S106 money from the 'in kind' request connected to the Blacktown Farm development and to ask for details of any other Section 106 monies that are currently outstanding.

140. Change of Use of Land (Storage of Building Materials on Non-Domestic Land) Land to the Rear of 118, 119 Marshfield Road, Marshfield, Enforcement E10/0504 (Min 115)

The Council resolved to let the owner of the land, affected by the additional outbuilding, know that this development is occurring if enforcement action by Newport CC fails to stop the development

141. Asbestos (Min 116)

Members noted an e-mailed from Mr Suffield of NCC dated 25 October that responded to three points raised in the meeting with community council representatives.

Council Members agreed to draw-up a response and refer it to the Clerk for issuing on behalf of the Council. The Council agreed to involve the Health & Safety Executive if no satisfactory response is received.

142. Port O'Call (Min 117)

The Council received an e-mail from a resident of Cambrian Estate about disturbance from music played in the Port O'Call.

- The Council agreed to ask Newport CC if the public house has a licence to play music and details of opening hours.

143. Asda Bus (Min 118)

The Council resolved to write to Asda customer services about their bus service. Councillor Kemp-Phip was asked to draft a letter and attach a petition for the reinstatement of the bus for the Clerk to send on behalf of the Council.

144. Village Hall Roof (Min 126)

The Clerk reported that an amended invoice had been forwarded to the insurance company who had reimbursed the full cost of the repairs less VAT and £150 excess.

The Council resolved to donate £150 to the Village Hall Management Committee which, with insurance, will cover the full cost of the roof repairs.

145. Public Footpath in Village Hall Grounds – Update (Min 133)

- The Council wished to see the copy of the application to divert the original footpath, made in the 1970's, before resolving the matter and asked the Clerk to write to Mike Fowler, Newport CC for copies of the document.

146. Tennis Court (135)

The Council asked its Leisure Facilities Committee to collate ideas of additional leisure facilities that could be provided for residents of Marshfield & Castleton.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

147. Play Area Inspection

The Council received a certificate showing that Councillor Ham had successfully completed the RPII Play Area Inspector course to allow him to undertake weekly play area checks required by the Council's insurers.

#### 148. St David's Court

A resident of St David's Court had expressed concerns that some residents are enclosing the open plan ground outside the rear of their bungalows.

- The Council resolved to write to Charter Housing Association stating that it would prefer the land to remain open plan as it was designed for elderly residents to have an open plan communal area to encourage contact between residents.

### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

#### 149. Donations

The Council resolved to deal with applications for a donation, listed on the agenda, as follows:

- Disability Wales – Defer decision until the next meeting
- Bobath Cymru – Noted
- Urdd Gobiath Cymru – Noted
- Wales Air Ambulance – Donate £50
- Victim Support Cymru – Donate £50

#### 150. Request for Donation – Castleton Baptist Church

The Secretary of the Baptist Church wrote on 4 November asking for assistance with a bill to repair and repaint the graveyard wall at Castleton.

- The Council agreed let the Church know that this matter will be on the agenda for the next meeting and to ask if there is any insurance cover against vandalism.

#### 151. Request for Financial assistance from the Village Hall Management Committee

The Council received an e-mail dated 26 October from Simon Evans, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee that requested funding for improvements to refurbish the Committee Room and Meeting Room and new flooring within the toilets and carpet to Committee & Meeting rooms. The e-mail noted the receipt of gas bills going back several years totalling £1200 that reduced the operating profit. Details of the progress the Committee has made in improving the Hall building and its management and fundraising were noted by the Council.

The Council acknowledged the progress being made by the efforts of the Committee and the volunteers and resolved to consider the possibility of donating towards the cost of replacing the flooring in the toilets but asked for more details to be provided relating to the following points:

- Copies of retrospective gas bills totalling £1200 in order to check against the earlier bills that had been paid by the Council and the interim VHMC.
- An officer of Newport City Council has indicated the likelihood of asbestos being present in the fabric of the Village Hall building. Has the VHMC has considered this issue before any alterations are agreed.

#### 152. Hedge Cutting

The Council agreed to pay an invoice from D L Wilde & Partners amounting to £82.25 for cutting the hedge to the allotment site.

Mr Wilde should be asked if he could return and cut the hedge where the road narrows within the existing cost.

### 153. Annual Return

The external auditor, Mazars, provided their comments on the Annual Return for year ending 31 March 2010 and asked for it to be re-approved by the Council.  
The Council noted the comments and approved the Annual Return for submission to Mazars.

### 154. Cheques

101123	G C Thomas – Clerk’s Salary October 2010	£	331.44
101124	G C Thomas – Internet Connection Reimbursement October	£	18.00
101125	D L Wilde & Partners – Allotment Site Hedge Cutting(Min 152 )	£	82.25
101126	Wales Air Ambulance – Donation (Min 149)	£	50.00
101127	Victim Support Cymru (Min 149)	£	50.00

### 155. Planning Committee

The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 22 October were approved and adopted by the Council.

### 156. Retrospective Planning Permission

- The Council resolved to ask Newport City Council for details of its policy on retrospective planning permission.

### 157. Allotment Committee

The Committee reported that negotiations were in progress with Alan Bird to obtain a machine to flatten an area requiring scalping.

The Committee is planning to purchase hedging available via the internet for use in the allotment site.

### 158. Village Hall Management Committee

Councillor Charlton informed the Council that the Village Hall Management Committee has changed its meeting date to the third Thursday each month and she is not able to attend on these days and suggested that the Council nominates another Member to fill the Council’s seat on the Committee.

The third Thursday in the month proved to be difficult to most Members but Councillor Hemmings said he would be able to attend if work commitments allowed and offered to take the position of Community Council representative on the understanding that he will attend Village Hall Management Committee meetings as far as possible.

- The Council agreed to appoint Councillor Hemmings to fill its seat on the Village Hall Management Committee and asked the Clerk to notify the Committee of this change.

## HIGHWAYS MATTERS

### 159. Electronic Speed Sign

- The Council resolved to write to Newport City Council to request repairs to the electronic speed sign on Marshfield Road, near the junction to Mallards Reach.

#### 160. Parking – Marshfield Primary School

The Council considered a proposal to meet with police and highways officers to investigate the possibility of forming a lay-by outside Marshfield Primary School.

Members did not agree with the suggestion to form a lay-by but did agree to request a meeting with police and highways officers outside the school at 3:00 p.m. on a Friday to look at solutions to the parking problems at the beginning and end of school. The Council also wished to inform local politicians of the issue and to invite them to any meeting that is arranged.

The issue of parking outside schools was seen as a city wide problem and the Council agreed to ask Newport City Council to place the matter on the agenda for the next Liaison Committee.

#### 161. Asbestos

This matter had been dealt with under Matters Arising from the last minutes.

#### 162 Any Other Business

The Council briefly discussed details about a Christmas function, a water machine and standing orders for the Council.

**The meeting ended at 11:15 p.m.**