

MARSHFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 May 2011 at Marshfield Village Hall, Wellfield Road, Marshfield commencing at 8:00 p.m.

Present: Mr R Bashi (Chairperson)
Mr S Tilley
Mr G Ham
Mr C Hemmings
Mr G Kemp-Philp
Mrs S Hood

Apologies: Mr K Bennett (ill), Mrs S Burke (holiday), Mrs J Charlton (work), City Councillors R White & T Suller,

In attendance: PCSO Joanne Lewis (Gwent Police), G C Thomas (Clerk)

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 April were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chairperson after the following change –Present: *Mrs* Bashi.

➤ = Letter to be Written

POLICE MATTERS

1. Neighbourhood Policing Services

The Council noted an e-mail dated 14th May from PC Walters that stating that the police station in Castleton is going to close and inviting Members to a brief meeting at Pill Police Station on 17th May to answer any questions / concerns and to show the approach to the closure by way of the “Mobile Police Station”.

PCSO Lewis gave further information about the meeting and reassured the Council that if closure goes ahead the Ward officers will be patrolling just as much as before. PCSO Lewis will need to be trained before she can drive the mobile police station but may be able to use a room in St Brides Village Hall.

The Council asked for consideration to also use the Gateway Christian Centre in Marshfield and to site a permanent secure unit somewhere in Castleton or Marshfield, e.g. in the allotment site or the Village Hall car park.

2. Update

- The seizure plan by Gwent Police and Newport City Council to address the stray horse problem is now in place and calls have dropped from 160 to 2.
- The mini PCSO scheme at Marshfield Primary School is being restarted in September by PCSO Joanne Lewis following training and risk assessments.
- Timetables have been arranged to provide cover to allow attendance at every community council meeting until December.
- The youth club is taking shape.
- PACT priorities – tickets have been given for illegal parking outside Marshfield Primary School, the closure of the Marshfield Village Hall car park gate has helped to reduce anti-social behaviour, six drivers stopped for speeding along Marshfield Road in an exercise at the end of April.

3. Marshfield Road

The Council raised concerns about vehicles driving partly on the pavement along parts of Marshfield Road when the road is busy with parked cars. PCSO Lewis considered placing cones on the kerbside and will check with police traffic management whether this would be allowed. Councillors Bashi, Ham and Hemmings offered to attend a site meeting with the police to overview the problem.

4. NEWPORT CITY WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The City Councillors did not attend the meeting but Councillor White provided an e-mail with information on a number of matters.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

5. St Mellons Road Bridge

The Council heard strong concerns about the safety of the current traffic management arrangements at St Mellons Road bridge.

Councillor White had been informed by the Highway Authority that there is no traffic order on this part of St Mellons Road restricting speed, the 30 MPH zone finishes where the signs are near the junction of Wellfield Road.

- The Council agreed to write to the Highway Authority to state that it is still concerned about speed limits at the bridge and the reports of numerous near misses. The Council wished to request that the 30MPH zone starts before the bridge, travelling eastbound to slow down drivers at this dangerous part of the road, alternatively, provide traffic lights at the bridge.

6. Speed Awareness Signs

- The Council agreed to write again about the electric signs on Marshfield Road near the Shires require attention. The southbound sign has some failed characters and the sign near the allotments has failed completely.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 April 2011

7. Grit Bin St David's Court (Min 246)

Councillor White suggested that as St Davids Court is owned by Charter Housing Association they may agree to provide a grit bin.

- The Council agreed to write a further letter to Newport City Council and Councillor White to point out that the grass verge outside St Davids Court is part of the highway and a grit bin had previously been located in the area. This is a safety measure for residents using the highway.

7. Marshfield Road/Marysfield Close Bus Shelter & Bench (Min 247)

The Council again considered the problems caused by youths congregating on the bench and in the bus shelter. Members noted the changes to the bus shelter being proposed by Newport City Council and heard about measures by Newport City Homes that are hoped to provide a solution to anti-social behaviour.

- The Council agreed to wait until September to judge the effect of these measures and asked the Clerk to write to residents affected by the problem with details of the Newport City Homes initiative.

8. Play Area Safety Inspections (Min 248)

Newport City Pest Control Officer visited the play and believes the holes are made by bank voles that have taken up residence in an old mole tunnel system. The voles are harmless and pose no threat to children.

Councillor Ham told the Council that the Spinney in the junior play area had become loose and had been removed for safe keeping. The Council agreed to contact SMP Ltd, who installed the equipment to find out about repair.

9. Marshfield Primary School Governor Min 249)

The Clerk reported that it is Coedkernew Community Council's turn to have first refusal to select a member of their council to fill the single community council seat on Marshfield Primary School Governing Body and Councillor Mark Pearce, a Coedkernew resident, has been nominated.

10. Marshfield Primary School Asbestos (Min 257)

The Clerk reported that the Health & Safety Executive and Newport City Council had responded to the last letter. The HR Manager of Newport CC has asked for a meeting with the Council and the HSE has asked to be kept informed and for a response from Newport CC. The Council agreed to arrange a convenient date to meet with Newport CC.

CORRESPONDENCE

11. Western Power Distribution

An invitation was received to attend the stakeholder workshop on future investment to be held at the Millennium Stadium on 19th May.

12. Proposed Incinerator

The Council noted an e-mail from Martyn Kellaway, the Newport City Councillor for Llanwern ward. The chair of the community council was invited to attend a meeting on 17th May at 18:00 concerning the possibility of an incinerator being built just south of Llanwern steel works site. This meeting clashed with the meeting called by the police concerning the closure of Castleton Police Station and no one was able to attend.

- The Council asked the Clerk to let Councillor Kellaway know the position and to request more information from the meeting.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

13. Request for a Donation – Mencap Cymru

The Council noted the request for a donation.

14. Insurance Policy

Aon Ltd through Alliance Insurance plc wrote to invite the renewal of the Council's annual insurance policy at a premium of £1967.79
The Council agreed to renew the policy.

15. Audit of Accounts 2010/11

Mazars LLP wrote on 7th April enclosing details of the Annual Return they require to audit the Council's accounts for year ending 31 March 2011.

Mazars also enclosed an information leaflet from HMRC about changes to the taxation of Clerk's pay which must be taxed under PAYE for year 2011/12.

16. Income

Newport City Council – Precept 1st Instalment - £7195.00
HM Treasury – Consolidated Stock Interest - £3.76

17. Cheques

101149	G C Thomas – Clerk's Salary April 2011	£ 331.44
101150	G C Thomas – Internet Reimbursement April	£ 18.00
10151	Aon Ltd – Council Insurance Policy	£1967.79
101148	Marshfield VPMC - Donation	£ 1362.55

PLANNING COMMITTEE

18. Planning Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Planning Committees held on 1st and 22nd April 2011 were approved and adopted by the Council.

19. Change of use of land (storage of building materials on non-domestic land) land to the rear of 118/119 Marshfield Road, Marshfield - Enforcement Notices E10/0504 & E10/0733

The Council agreed to write to Newport City Council to ask if the Planning Enforcement Officer has been in touch with Lemberg Ltd and decided on the correct line of the proposed garden fence. It is feared that the owner of the property has gone beyond the property boundary and is using green wedge land to burn rubbish. Since the Enforcement Officer's site visit paraphernalia has been put back to its previous position at 118 Marshfield Road.

The Council agreed to ask that strict enforcement is continued as there are concerns that planning policy and instructions are not being complied with.

20. Report of Village Hall Management Committee Representative

Councillor Hemmings reported that the VPMC had decided to ask the Community Council for financial support on a case by case basis and have produced a 'wish list' of items that it would like to see put in place. Councillor Hemmings will e-mail the list to Community Council Members.

Councillor Hemmings forwarded details of £1362.55 incurred by the VPMC to renew the flooring to the ladies and gents toilets in the Hall and asked the Council to consider assisting with the cost. The Council agreed to donate £1362.55 to the running costs of the Village Hall.

Councillor Kemp-Philp said he can arrange for a Disability Access Statement to be issued for the Village Hall, if requested.

21. LEISURE COMMITTEE

Councillor Hemmings told the Council that a Committee meeting is planned for next week.

ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE

22. Allotment Sheds

Councillor Bashi reported that a recent allotment tenant had asked if the Council can supply a shed to rent for her allotment.

The Council agreed not to provide any further sheds for rent at this moment in time.

23. Tenant's Handbook

Councillor Kemp-Philp agreed to make arrangements for the latest version of the Handbook to be printed and given to the Clerk as soon as possible for sending out with the pending invoices.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

24. Groes Corner

The Council agreed to chase-up the offer from Newport CC Highways, to fix posts at the perimeter of the Community Council's land to prevent parking on the land. Details of any costs should be circulated to Members for approval.

Meeting ended 11:08