

MARSHFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 19 September 2011 at Marshfield Village Hall, Wellfield Road, Marshfield commencing at 7:35 p.m.

Present:

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

Apologies: Mrs Hood (ill) Mr S Tilley (work)

In attendance: City Councillors R White & T Suller, PC 45 Darren Morgan, PCSO 50 Huw Moses one member of public, G C Thomas (Clerk)

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on 11 July were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chairperson.

➤ = Letter to be Written

70. Newport City Homes

The Chairperson welcomed Pat Hill of Newport City Homes Community Involvement Team. Councillor Kemp-Philp proposed that a more united community could help to reduce incidences of anti-social behaviour.

Pat Hill explained that NCH are setting up groups for their tenants but these can involve all residents. NCH will help with setting up the groups, for example with printing of flyers and art work; they can assist with projects involving children in the school holidays. It can be difficult to get groups off the ground and they may be small initially but they can bid for grants up to £1000. It was suggested that enquiries are made to gauge the interest for setting up a group.

It was noted that the Village Hall with charity status could get involved with group links. Councillor White noted that the youth club had not got off the ground because of problems recruiting volunteers and saw that the link could help with this. PC Morgan agreed to consider whether anyone in the Duffryn area may be suitable and willing to work with the youth club.

- The Council agreed to write to Newport City Council to ask what training they are able to provide for volunteer youth workers who help with the youth club.

71. POLICE MATTERS

- PCSO Moses told the Council that PCSO Joanne Lewis has left her post to go to a civilian post. There will be a new intake of PCSO's in the next couple of months.
- The Council resolved to write to the Chief Constable to highlight the effects that the loss of the local PCSO has on the mini-PCSO scheme being developed with Marshfield Primary School pupils and ask what will be done to make a replacement. It was noted that currently there are two PCSO's in the Pill area and none in Marshfield.

- Comparing with the same period last year, crime is down 16.7%, anti-social behaviour is down 37.5% and the detection rate is up 3.9%.
- The police stations at Castleton and Duffryn have closed and officers will continue to book in at Pill Police Station although staffing reviews are due. There is only one vehicle between five officers so officers may need to use public transport, bicycle or walk to patrol the Marshfield area.
- The Council resolved to write to the Chief Constable to ask for information about police cover in the Marshfield CC area before and after the staff review and to highlight the need for a vehicle to transport officers to avoid the wasted time that would otherwise occur.
- Speed enforcement action is continuing and vehicle checks and fly tipping enforcement operations are being planned.
Councillor Bashi asked for the 20 mph speed limit on Marshfield Road to be checked.
- The Council discussed with the police officers a problem with vehicles parking on land owned by the community council at Groes Corner. The Council resolved to notify the drivers of the parked vehicles about the situation in a notice to be left on the vehicles. The Clerk was asked to contact Newport City Council about installing barriers to prevent the parking.

72. NEWPORT CITY WARD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

- Councillor Suller said he has reported pot holes in Church Lane at the request of the verges in St Mary's Church.
- A request has been made to Newport CC for the direction sign at Groes Corner to be refurbished.
- The faulty Belisha beacons near Church Lane and the Shires have been reported. Councillor Bashi referred to the 30 mph sign in Church Lane that is lying on the ground that should be added to the list of matters requiring action.
- Councillor White told Members that the planning appeal in connection with the decision at The Paddocks, Coal Pit Lane had been won.
- The planning application for a development in a field above Station House, just over the railway line in Coedkernew, to include places for four touring caravans, six chalets, bird watching platform and caretakers residence has been refused.
 - The Council resolved to ask Newport CC to provide details of any planning application outside the Marshfield and Castleton area that would have an adverse effect on this locality.
- The local BT telephone exchange is to be upgraded to allow super fast broadband.
- The Local Development Plan will be deposited from December 2011.
- Anti-social behaviour in the area has been highlighted to Newport City Council safety wardens who will attend when possible.

73. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

There were no additional highways matters.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

74. Society for the Welfare of Horses and Ponies (Min 57)

The Society wrote to thank the Council for its donation towards their work.

75. Castleton Baptist Church (Min 61)

The Church wrote on 21 July to thank the Council for its donation towards the upkeep of the Castleton Baptist Church graveyard.

76. Painting of Galvanised Play Area Railings (Min 64)

The Clerk reported that the steel railings with flaking paint were not installed by Wicksteed Ltd but were in place before they constructed the Toddler's Play Area. Councillor Ham said that in his opinion the flaking paint did not make the railings unsafe.

The Council agreed to ask Councillor Hemmings to discuss these railings with the Village Hall Management Committee to clarify how they can be improved.

CORRESPONDENCE

77. One Voice Wales Councillor Training

Members were made aware of the programme of training for councillors being provided by One Voice Wales including courses being held in Usk and Cwmbran.

78. Play Area Annual Safety Check

Playsafety Ltd carried out the annual safety check on the Council's Junior and Toddler Play Areas on behalf of RoSPA. The safety report concluded that the play areas were low risk. The report was passed to Councillor Gareth Ham to be read in conjunction with the weekly safety checks he currently undertakes.

79. Zig-Zag Twister Repair

The Clerk reported that Wicksteed had e-mailed offering to send someone to check the zig-zag twister to decide if the fault is covered by their warranty. Councillor Ham had met Gary Parker, the local sales manager for Wicksteed, on site and discussed the problem with him.

The Council asked the Clerk to chase up Wicksteed about the decision on warranty cover and to incorporate the possibility of their engineers carrying out repairs to the faulty gate at the Wellfield Road corner of the Junior Play Area.

80. Church Farm Track Ways

The Council received a copy of a letter dated 10 August from Miss E Ballinger to the Glamorgan & Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd in relation to planning application Conex 11/0570.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

81. Donations

The Council considered applications for a donation from Shelter Cymru, Victim Support Cymru, Shopmobility Newport, City of Newport Gymnastics Club, and NSPCC Wales & Welsh Borders and resolved to make the following donations:

- NSPCC Wales and Welsh Borders - £50
- Shopmobility Newport - £50

82. Refurbishment of Village Hall Committee Room

This was to be dealt with during the Village Hall Management Committee representative's report.

83. Statement of Accounts 2010/11

The Clerk presented the Annual Return for year ending 31 March 2011 to be sent to Mazars Ltd the external auditor. Section 1 presented the statement of accounts which were approved by the Council. An internal audit had been carried out by Kathryn Richards-Moore MAAT who had prepared the financial statement of Marshfield Community Council and declared that in her view the statement presents fairly the activities of Marshfield Community Council. The Council considered the annual governance statement and acknowledged that there is a sound system of internal control.

The Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairperson certified the annual return ready for despatch to Mazars.

84. Invoices

The Council agreed to pay the following invoices:

Newport City Council – Rent of allotment site -	£105.00
Playsafety Ltd – Annual playground safety check -	£ 93.50
GAVO – Photocopying charges -	£ 4.81

85. Income

The Council received the following income:

Newport City Council – Concurrent functions payment 2011/12 -	£5900
Newport City Council – Precept 2011/12 (second instalment) -	£7195

86. Cheques

101161	G C Thomas – Clerk's Salary, August	£ 331.44
101162	G C Thomas – Internet Reimbursement, August	£ 36.00
101164	K Richards-Moore – Internal Audit Fee	£ 100.00
101165	Playsafety Ltd – Playground Inspection Fee	£ 93.50
101166	Newport City Council – Allotment Site Rent	£ 105.00
101167	GAVO – Photocopying Charges	£ 4.81

87. Planning Committee

The minutes of the Planning Committees held on 15th and 18th August were approved and adopted by the Council, subject to changes in attendance.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

88. Refurbishment of Committee Room

Councillor Hemmings provided the three quotes for refurbishing the larger committee room in the Village Hall with the final prices; all were confirmed to include VAT. Councillor Hemmings asked the Council to consider providing financial assistance towards this project.

Councillor Hemmings declared an interest as a member of the Village Hall Management Committee and took no part in the decision.

The Council noted that work had been started and agreed to ask Councillor Hemmings to refer back to the Village Hall Management Committee to ask which contractor had been appointed with a view to, possibly, the Council being invoiced for the whole job.

89. Picnic Benches

Councillor Hemmings reported that PC Walters has given the opinion that picnic benches at the rear of the Village Hall should not be much of a problem and he would deal with any issues if they arose.

The Council discussed this idea and felt that the facility would be likely to encourage anti-social behaviour and vandalism and decided not to donate towards the cost of providing benches.

90. Risk Assessment

A risk assessment has been done for the Village Hall and has identified a need to improve the car park area access to the Hall and the provision of handrails.

91. Leisure Committee Report

Councillor Hemmings said a meeting is planned around the first week of October and asked Members to state their availability before a date is set.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

92. Asbestos Marshfield Primary School

The Council was updated on the draft letter referred to in the July meeting, minute 53.

93. Allotment Committee

Mr Ken Honey was in attendance and said he would be willing to be co-opted to the Council's Allotment Committee. He would be willing for his details to be circulated to other allotment tenants so that he could bring matters to the Committee. Mr Honey asked if the Allotment Committee minutes could be recorded under the Allotment tab in the Council's web site.

The Council agreed to ask Mr Honey to make a written request to be co-opted which would be dealt with by the Allotment Committee.

Meeting ended 10:50 p.m.