

WENTLOOGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Date: 20th October 2020

Venue: The meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020

Present Cllr B Miles (Chairman)

Cllr J Foster

Cllr A Picton

Cllr J Clatworthy

Cllr A Birch

City Cllr R White

Cllr T Witchell

Cllr D Birch

Apologies: Cllr F Lovejoy

In attendance: Mrs M Mulcahy (Clerk)

MINUTES OF MEETING

- 1 Meeting was held directly after Annual meeting which had to be postponed earlier in the year due to COVID19 restrictions.
- 2 Apologies received from Cllr Lovejoy
- 3 No declarations of interest
- 4 Previous Minutes - The minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2020 were accepted by the Council and duly signed by the Chairman.
- 5 Police Issues
Marshfield Ward Police surgeries every 1st Sunday of the month.
5.1 Chairman has asked Councillors to encourage people to phone the police during their Sunday surgeries to report matters of concern and to be reassured that details are kept confidential.
The NCC noise and pollution officer is currently working with NCC Trading Standards on complaints received in the area.
Cllr Foster has thanked Gwent Police for their support and has also questioned when white lines can be placed back on road.
The Council has noticed that the speed of vehicles has increased and dangerous driving has been witnessed since COVID. The Chairman advised the Council that the recent police chase which took place between Peterstone Gold Club and Peterstone was for a film.
Speedwatch - Due to COVID and lockdown restrictions sessions cannot take place.
Coordinators will contact Police coordinator to determine exact position on current restrictions and what action police take on the information provided by the coordinators.
Cllrs AB and TW to action
- 6) Public Participation- No members of the public present
- 7) Review of actions arising from Council meetings
7.1 Chairman discussed the latest communication from DNS about the proposed Solar Farm application with the council. Firstly, their request to engage through the process as the Council had agreed in previous meetings not to engage and formally submit objection letter to DNS application.
Secondly, Savills have asked whether or not the community council would consider whether there is scope for a "community benefit package" to be progressed and if the Council would agree to having a video call.
Council discussed matter fully and were surprised that a package is now available as Savills

representatives advised that nothing was available at the public exhibition. In order that the public can be fully informed Council agreed that the Clerk should ask Savills to forward the information that they had not sent in respect of community ownership and community benefits and also arrange an online meeting in order that Savills can present the information to Council but it would not be an online discussion. [Clerk to action](#)

7.2 Council discussed Precept for 2021/22

Chairman outlined the budget that had been formulated by information given by the clerk and the discussions held by the finance working group at a separate meeting. The only change being since the meeting is that the IT budget has been increased from £500 to £700 to take into account replacement of lap top which is failing, acquisition of a WCC printer as clerk currently uses their own printer and the purchase of new safety and software packages.

City Cllr White raised the question of how much money allocated in last years budget would not be spent by the end of the financial year. A precise figure could not be provided by the clerk due to the uncertainty of whether or not Councillors will opt out of Councillor allowances and the potential of other costs.

Since the Concurrent Grant being withdrawn by NCC, the community council have been using reserves. The council are therefore having to increase the precept by 100% next year in order to cover costs and expenses. The first year without the current allowance the increase was 40% and then 50% for this current year which made no allowance for reserves to be held.

Next years budget will not have a reserve but during future budgets the council will look at building the reserve. Overall the figures for a Band D calculation is less than additional £1 a week.

Proposed by Cllr Picton and Seconded by City Cllr White. Everyone in favour and budget ratified. [Chairman and clerk to action](#)

7.3 Cllr Birch to forward defibrillators details and costs that she has collated to rest of Council. Cllr Witchell and Cllr Miles to make enquiries into where the defibrillators could be sited and who would be responsible for them. [Cllrs AB, TW and BM to action](#)

7.5 Council unanimously agreed additional work by Chairman has been required due to Coronavirus and Chairman should be reimbursed in full for printing ink as well as the purchase of 365.

Proposed by City Cllr White and seconded by Cllr A Birch.

7.6 Remembrance service is going ahead on Saturday 7.11.20 and Chairman has wreath.

7.7 Council to adopt WCC virtual meeting policy and no amendments required to any WCC policies or procedures.

8) Council received latest monthly bank statements and reconciliation.

Account	Bank Balance as at 12 th September 2020
Council Current Account	7571.99
Council Saving Account	1294.96

8.2 Council noted and approved payments:

Method	Payee	Description	Amount
Cheque	Lady Haig Poppy Factory	Remembrance Poppy wreath	£42

Cheque	Mr B Miles	365 Software and printer cartridges	£72
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9) Planning

9.1 No Planning Applications for WCC to consider

9.2 Council noted delegated decisions made by Newport Planning

Newport Planning Reference	Site	Proposal	Decision
19/1302	Blue House Farm, St Peters Crescent, Peterstone	Retention of hard standing and erection of stables	Granted with conditions
20/0621	Ty Mawr Farm, Lighthouse Road,	Partial discharge of condition 8 (Photographic survey) of planning permission 15/1275 for the conversion of a barn to agricultural workers welling	Approved
19/0993	PEN-Y-WAIN FARM, TY MAWR LANE, CARDIFF, CF3 2YF	Lawful development certificate (proposed) for motor MOT, Sales, Repair and valeting work as part of mixed B2 Motor salvage and timber yard.	Refused

10) Environment

10.1 Peterstone - Chairman advised council that Living Levels are aware the only item outstanding from the Living levels grant is the lectern.

St Brides – Cllr Picton has advised Living Levels that the cost of the fence, posts and gates have increased. AP will copy clerk in on email sent to Living Levels. [AP to action](#)

11) Correspondence & Matters of Interest

11.1 Chairman advised council that he has responded to Bassaleg school preapplication consultation advising WCC support the application..

11.2 Council discussed white lines missing from B4239 – Cllr Miles and Foster to go out and video problems in the area. [BM and JF to action](#)

11.3 Council discussed overgrowth and hedge cutting. Councillors to supply details of any major hedge problems in order that Chairman can record and report them on Newport CC App. [All councillors and BM to action](#)

11.4 Speeding and dangerous driving on B4239 earlier in meeting under police section.

11.5 Council unable to discuss the St Peters Crescent sewerage scheme as City Cllr White had no update. City Cllr White will forward information to Cllr Foster when received. [RW and JF to action](#)

11.6 Council discussed the increased tipping and burning of waste in Peterstone. A number of sites are being investigated and Cllr Miles will send out an update after his meeting with NRW on Thursday. [BM to action](#)

11.7 Council were advised by Cllr Foster that all the livestock have been taken off the seawall. Cllrs Miles and Foster to survey damage and send it off to NRW. **BM and JF to action**

11.8 Council discussed the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales draft annual report consultation. Councillor allowance forms still need to be completed for this year. Clerk to send out forms for this year and next year. Allowance is still subject to tax at present. **Clerk and all Councillors to action**

11.9 Council discussed the appointment of the new Community Safety Warden to cover the Marshfield Ward. City Cllr white confirmed the warden will be dealing with anti-social behaviour.

Chairman has been advised recently that if anyone is reporting noise disturbance to Newport City Council ie dogs barking, please make sure you give the times, duration of noise and site and note that if there is a 10day lapse in between reporting to NCC they will set up complaint as a new case.

12) Communication

12.1 Chairman is placing an article in Marshfield Mail promoting Keep Wales Tidy and the new pollinator garden in the grounds of St Brides hall. Chairman has requested Councillors consider what other items could go in there.

13) Training/conferences

13.1 Chairman and Vice Chairman attended OVW remote online meeting which was held on 1.10.20

Matter arising:-

Councillor Allowances – The Councillor annual allowance of £150 is currently taxable but Welsh Government are currently considering whether or not it should be taxable. OVW will send out confirmation as soon as they have official confirmation.

COVID 19 issues – Annual meetings/elections/co options

Community and Town Councils were reminded that Welsh Government required annual meetings to be held before 31.12.20. The Coronavirus regulations 2020 which are in place until May 2021 allowed for all councils to hold annual meetings remotely and carry out all business remotely.

Monmouthshire Ambassadors – The concept was that individuals knowledgeable of their local communities be recruited and trained as ambassadors to engage with local people and visitors returning to the town and community centres after the lockdown.

Guest speakers for OVW future meetings – A representative of HM Land registry who wished to encourage all community and town councils to register their lands and leases in the land registry and someone representing South Wales metro to give an update on the project.

13.2 Chairman and Vice Chairman have used the two free training places to attend the OVW advanced online finance training.

13.3 Councillors to identify any training required and advise the Clerk.

14) Items for inclusion in next Agenda

Cllr Clatworthy to provide a copy of the St Brides Charity Governance document to clarify Wentlooge Community Councils role.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 21.54 with the next meeting being agreed and confirmed as Tuesday 17th November 2020.

Chairman's signature..... Date

