

WENTLOOGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Date: 15th December 2020
Present Cllr B Miles (Chairman)

In attendance: Mrs M Mulcahy (Clerk)
Apologies: None

Cllr J Foster
Cllr J Clatworthy
Cllr A Picton
City Cllr R White
Cllr F Lovejoy
Cllr T Witchell
Cllr D Birch
Cllr M Birch

MINUTES OF MEETING

- 1 Meeting started at 7.20pm
- 2 No apologies received
- 3 No declarations of interest.
- 4 Previous Minutes - The minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2020 were accepted by the Council and duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Foster and Seconded by Cllr Witchell
- 5 Police issues
Chairman advised that there has been an increase in criminality and Police are very active in the area.
There are still issues with speeding and traffic. Recently, a further commercial vehicle went into the ree by Cosy Corner. Council has previously sent emails to local companies regarding the speed of their vehicles. Council agreed that due to number of recent incidents further letters should be sent to local companies reminding them of speed limits etc.,
[Chairman and Clerk to action](#)
Due to Covid guidelines and proposed lock downs, Speedwatch sessions are to be postponed until further notice.
- 6 Public Participation-
No members of the public present.
- 7 Review of actions arising from Council meetings
7.1 Chairman advised Council that the Councils response to the additional information on the proposed Solar Farm had been submitted. Inspector has acted on points raised and requested response from Savills.
Further email received this week from Planning Inspectorate asking if a hearing statement is to be submitted or if Council is relying on information already submitted. Council agreed, Chairman should represent WCC at the hearing and that there is no need to expand on information or further statements required. [Clerk to action](#)
Consultation on Community Fund – Chairman advised council that 37 people replied to survey. 7 were in favour and 30 against WCC accepting the community fund on behalf of the community. Council agreed no further action to be taken on this matter at this stage.
Whilst speaking about DNS applications the Chairman advised Council that due to taking the lead on the proposed solar farm hearing he is unable to deal with the DNS Mor Hafren Bio Power Ltd case. The chairman has asked councilors to consider volunteering to take over this matter on behalf of the council. A hearing statement needs to be put together and also a councillor would have to attend the hearing on behalf of the Council. [Action Councillors to consider volunteering and to let Clerk know.](#)

7.2 Council to note that Peterstone Hall Committee have arranged insurance for the obelisk situated at Peterstone Hall which was purchased by Living Levels through WWC on behalf of Peterstone.

7.3 Chairman advised council that current bank do not meet criteria under WCC Financial regulations for cheque authorisation if council wished to change to online banking arrangements. [Action Chairman and vice chairman to make enquiries into alternative banks.](#)

7.4 Chairman advised Council of the facilities on the proposed website upgrade. Council agree to clerk finalising matter with website provider once Chairman has done final checks. [Action Chairman and Clerk](#)

7.5 Chairman thanked Councillors for some council objectives which have been submitted but stated that Council should concentrate on Communication and public consultation at present time. Consultation during this current pandemic has proved difficult and has highlighted the need for different ways to engage with the public, especially with number of national significant planning matters in area at present. Initial discussion suggested placing information on facebook, but not for any interaction to take place on the site. Anyone visiting site would be advised to contact the Council directly or refer to the council website.

Council currently place items on website and in Marshfield mail but council agreed that direct communication is limited due to only monthly editions.

Recent council leaflet drop to highlight WCC survey proved time consuming for WCC but it was the only way of making sure that all community were aware of offer within timescales. Council is considering further ways of interacting with residents via social media or collecting residents email addresses in order to be able to do mail drops. [Action – Cllr Foster to make enquiries into processes and GDPR implications.](#)

7.6 Chairman advised Council at his recent OVW meeting annual councillor allowances were discussed and it was confirmed that any payments are still subject to tax at this present time.

8) Finance

8.1 Council to receive latest monthly bank statements and reconciliation.

Account	Balance as at 12.11.20
Council Current Account	6652.43
Council Saving Account	1294.96

8.2 Council to note and approve payments:

Method	Payee	Description	Amount
Cheque	Mrs M Mulcahy	Clerks Pay including overtime payment	£1226.60
Cheque	Mrs M Mulcahy	Printer Cartridges (XL x2)	£29.00

8.3 Audit opinion has been given on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales. Council received, approved and accepted the annual return. Details on WCC website. Proposed by City Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Clatworthy

9) Planning

9.1 Council to note Newport Planning Decisions

Newport Planning Reference	Site	Proposal

19/0244	<i>Ty Gwyn Coast Road Peterstone Wentlooge Newport CF3 2TN</i>	<i>TWO STOREY SIDE AND REAR ANNEX EXTENSION</i> Decision: GRANTED WITH CONDITIONS
20/0854	<i>Ty Mawr Farm Lighthouse Road Newport South Wales NP10 8SF</i>	<i>PARTIAL DISCHARGE OF CONDITION 02 (MATERIALS), 03 (JOINERY), 04 (LANDSCAPING), 05 (STRUCTURAL CONDITION), 06 (ROOF LIGHTS), 07 (BATS), 08 (PHOTO SURVEY), 09 (ARCHAEOLOGY) AND 10 (BOUNDARY TREATMENTS) OF PLANNING PERMISSION 15/1275 FOR CONVERSION OF BARN TO AGRICULTURAL WORKERS DWELLING</i> Decision: APPROVED

10) Environment & Matters of Interest

10.1 Clerk advised council that a copy of the annual WCC Biodiversity Report has been sent to Welsh Government.

11) Communication

11.1 Chairman has submitted an article relating to St Brides Hall garden to Marshfield Mail.

11.2 Council to discuss the use of Social media. This had already been discussed under section 7.5.

11.3 Council discussed the donation request received from the charity Sparkle. Council resolution is that they only consider donating to charities based in the WCC area.

12) Training/conferences

12.1 Council were reminded to identify any training required and to advise Clerk. Chairman attended the Planning Aid Policy Consultation course last week online and picked up some useful tips. [Action Clerk and Councillors](#).

12.2 Chairman advised council that he is going to attend the online OVW Understanding the Law training.

12.3 Chairman monitors clerks work throughout the year and conducted an annual review on clerks work with councillors prior to meeting. Clerk was advised that all responses were positive and will be kept on record.

13) Items for inclusion in next Agenda

13.1 Council to make enquiries into Newport City Councils proposed solar development on land west of the River Ebbw

Cllr Clatworthy advised Council that there are cases of Avian Flu in area. It is a type of influenza that affects birds including domestic chickens and in rare cases is capable of infecting humans. From 14 December, there will be a legal requirement for all poultry and captive birds to be housed, or otherwise separated from wild birds.

Members of the public are advised not to touch any dying or dead birds and report cases to DEFRA on 03000 200301.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 8:40pm with the date of the next meeting being confirmed as Tuesday 19th January 2021.

Chairman's signature..... Date