

## **WENTLOOGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Serving the Communities of St Brides and Peterstone  
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## **MEETING OF THE WENTLOOGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2025**

## **MINUTES**

### **Present:**

Chair, Cllr Judy Clatworthy  
Vice Chair, Cllr Julie Foster  
Cllr Ann Farrugia  
Cllr Ann Picton  
Cllr Lucy Turner  
Cllr Richard White  
Clerk Sara Nurse

3 Members of public  
No Police presence  
Kevin Donovan, Gwent Wildlife Trust  
City Cllr Trevor Watkins

### **Apologies/Declaration of Interest**

Cllr Frank Lovejoy

### **Resignations**

Council reported that with regret Cllr Bidgood has resigned – Clerk will post the role on website

### **Minutes**

To confirm the Minutes of the Meetings of the Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 Proposed Cllr Farrugia Seconded Cllr Turner

### **Matters arising from the minutes**

Chair reported her attendance at the Community Council Chairs Meeting where the growing issue of fly tipping and litter was a key concern. John Rock NRW discussed plans from Welsh Government whilst ambitious will require more funding.

Clerk discussed issues with waste in ditches and lack of funding to tackle this and suggested that the collective Community Council Chairs should write to Welsh Government, Newport City Council and Natural Resources Wales to highlight the issue of funding and the effect on local area.

Concerns were raised regarding the crack in Peterstone gout wall and the effect on Broadway constantly flooding. Request from NRW who is monitoring this in case of breach?

NRW reported 2 new additions to the prosecution team for littering which is most welcome.

Clerk reported most fly tipping is in 1 tonne bags from builders' merchants and in England the bags are tagged with metal to have full traceability – Cllr Watkins will raise at next meeting.

Cllr Foster raised that at the last stakeholder meeting all were encouraged to review best practice from local authorities where there is zero fly tipping – update at next meeting.

Cllr Turner raised the large majority of waste dredged from the ditches falls straight back in when the weather is wet – could the waste dredged be removed at source?

### **Guest Kevin Donovan,**

Chair thanked Kevin for attending and Council were updated on the scheme to reintroduce the water vole onto the Gwent Levels. A successful release has happened on the Magor side of the Levels and now GWT would like to replicate on the Wentlooge side. A Steering Group is being set up and any volunteers to monitor the voles should contact GWT. Presentation attached for full information.

The first water vole steering group meeting will be held at Magor Marsh on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February from 1400 to 1600

### **Police Matters**

Cllr Foster requested a follow up on the planter that was damaged when a vehicle left the road – whilst the damage was not significant the greater concern was the vehicle mounted the verge and could have hit a pedestrian.

Resident who was intimidated and had tyres slashed has not had suitable follow up which is becoming a pattern with intimidation and needs to be addressed.

Clerk raised that no report had been sent since October and therefore not circulated to Council prior to meeting.

Residents from Lighthouse Park noted excessive use of laughing gas cannisters and driving creating a hazard to all road users. Residents requested a follow up to Sergeant Johnsons correspondence with Newport City Council regarding locking the car park daily.

Clerk raised surgeries were being organised and dates to follow presently.

### **City Councillor Report**

Update from City Councillors for Marshfield and Tredegar Ward - Cllr Watkins in attendance

Update required on Council warden's attending Lighthouse Park - Sergeant Johnson has followed up with Newport City Council to ascertain why Lighthouse Park cannot be locked and reopened by a Council warden from dusk till dawn – Cllrs to update at next meeting.

St Peters Sewerage – Cllr Howells working on this and expects an update February

Cllr Watkins updated that the Traffic Survey had been completed and demonstrated that 86% of the traffic along the B4329 was light traffic. Council noted this was conducted over the Christmas period when HGV traffic was lighter but these results do not concur with individual surveys – Cllr Howells to share the results with Clerk.

Cllr Watkins noted the Transport for Wales/Welsh Government consultation was due and recommended feedback due to the road condition locally and continued risks.

Cllr Watkins update Council on budget priorities:

- £600k for Primary schools
- £600k for Secondary schools
- £500k for Leisure Centre
- £300k for Transporter Bridge
- £100k for bridge at University

More funds are being set aside for Highways, Fly Tipping and repairs to Civic Centre also.

### **Public Participation**

Residents from Lighthouse Park noted excessive use of laughing gas cannisters and driving creating a hazard to all road users. Residents requested a follow up to Sergeant Johnsons correspondence with Newport City Council regarding locking the gates overnight.

Resident requested a remedy to the excessive water on the bridge at the Village Hall which when cold freezes causing a major hazard. Two cars have aquaplaned at this point. Clerk to add to transport strategy group actions.

Resident has reported a waste dump on Eastern end of Walnut Tree Farm Park – Chair/Vice Chair to visit – Clerk to set up a meeting with residents.

## Planning

Ref	Applicant	Detail	Update
23/0320	Greenmoor Farm	Retrospective application for Cattery and associated buildings	Refused
24/0772	Blas Gwent	Extension of existing polytunnel, erection of an agricultural barn with a photovoltaic array on the roof and installation of a sewage treatment system	Awaiting Decision
24/0555	Land To South West Of Ty Mawr	Hay storage barn and for the retention of new site access, farm tracks and yard area with CCTV poles	Refused

## Council Finances

Examination and Payment of Accounts including reconciliation at 31.12.24.

## Finance and General Purposes Meeting 07.01.25

Minutes approved and synopsis of actions reported:

- Audit result recorded and all agreed further clarification required
- Draft budget presented to be ratified at full Council Meeting 21.01.25 – Proposed Cllr Clatworthy Seconded Cllr Turner
- Precept submitted to NCC and reduced due to strong financial controls.

Method	Payee	Description	Amount
BACS	Clerk	December Salary 32 hours	£***
BACS	Vision ICT	Website Provision	£42.00
BACS	Green and Co	Payroll	£122.47
		*** Redacted GDPR	

## Matters to note or review and agree including correspondence and consultations

Item	Detail	Responsible
Formal resignation of Clerk	Clerk position advertised on website and with One Voice Wales. Handover in place including budget and full audit	Clerk/ All
Welsh Government Appropriate Sum under Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 - Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2025-26 to discuss	Clarification needed on appropriate sum and amount available for grant funding – Clerk liaising with OVW and will update next meeting	Clerk
Draft Budget and precept for 2025/26	Agreed at F&GP Meeting held 07.01.25 and ratified by Council	All
Council to review WCC review of grant funding and review of applications	Cllr Foster to complete training Clause to be added to determine a threshold of funds held before payments can be considered.	Clerk
Council to consider funding for signage and planters	Clerk in discussions with NCC to provide planters and signage and then they will fit and maintain. Council to consider positioning.	Clerk
Digital procurement policy from One Voice Wales	Circulated for comment.	Info
IRP Statement of payments published on notice boards	Emailed as feedback due 17.01.25	Info
The Planning Directorate invited feedback on their consultation	Emailed as feedback due 17.01.25	Info
Police and Crime Commissioner survey	Circulated for review and posted on website	Info
Government reforms on compulsory purchase	Emailed as feedback due 13.02.25 Cllr Turner requested a copy	Info
Review of Senedd constituencies	Emailed as feedback due 13.01.25	Info

## Correspondence/Consultations

Invitation from Save the Six Bells to a Business Breakfast Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Re-opening of St Brides Village Hall and dedication to Lyn Harding Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February

**Any Other Business - Correspondence not specifically referenced on the agenda**

(Decisions cannot be taken in relation to matters raised under this agenda item).

- Cllr Foster requested a meeting to discuss constitution of St Brides Village Hall and confirm custodians

The Meeting concluded at **22.05** The next meeting is scheduled to be held at St Brides Village Hall on Tuesday 18.02.25

*All minutes are posted on the notice boards at St Brides and Peterstone as well as the website within 3 days of approval at Council meeting.*

**Clerk to the Council**

**clerk@wentloogecommunitycouncil.co.uk**