

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT TREWERN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2017

Present: Councillors David Morrell (Chair), Judy Evans, Gill Corfield, Ida Hughes, Peter Davies, County Councillor Dawn Bailey (for part of the meeting)

1715 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors John Evans, Tim Hilditch, Colin Jenkins and Fred Mountford.

1716 Minutes of the Meetings from 17 January 2017 for approval

Agreed and signed.

1717 Declarations of Interest – Blanket dispensations have been received for matters relating to wind farms, school modernisation and school transport

Ida Hughes - Houses adjacent to The Fron, Middletown

1718 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

Criggion Lane Lights/30 mph

Various correspondence has been received and some progress has been made.

The cost to erect a single light is £2,000. Powys County Council is not prepared to fund at all as this goes against their street light ethos. Once erected the County Council would take on ownership, maintenance and cost of electricity. The County Council are looking to replace all existing lights with economy LED lights and this will be carried out on their timescale and the Community Council has no influence on this.

Without the additional street lamp, the 30 mph would not be implemented. The wiring would need to be put into place and linked to the existing street light. Chris Lloyd has said that if the additional street lamp is erected then all lights would be switched on.

This issue has been highlighted as a result of the proposed 18 tonne weight limit. DB suggested deferring the decision for 6 months. The general feeling was this was a good idea and that it is monitored each month and that residents be asked for feedback.

DM thanked DB for all the work she had done on this subject.

Middletown Trees

Quotes were to be obtained by JD and TH. GC would follow up.

ACTION - GC

Playgrounds

There are gaps between the matting and the curbs. Middletown has concrete edges and Trewern wooden ones. Charlie Bowen is not happy as possible health and safety issue. Quotation to be obtained from G L Jones & Co for both the resetting the tiles in Trewern and replacing the wet pore in Middletown.

ACTION - DM

Code of Conduct

DB was informed by Head of Democratic Services that putting acceptance of the Code of Conduct in the Border Gossip is not good enough and that it needs to be advertised in one local paper. DM to find out what action other community councils have taken. DM had discussed with the Welsh Government and there was a lack of clarity about what constituted a newspaper.

ACTION – DM

Sale Lane Telephone Wire

It was reported at the last meeting that there was a wire lying in the hedge as a result of recent storms. As Tim wasn't at the meeting, an update will be given at the next meeting.

Clerk Training

The Clerk is due to attend a meeting regarding the upcoming elections on 02-03-17.

Precept

Precept papers for upcoming year have been sent.

Dead Fir Tree, Prior Cottage, Middletown

A letter was put through the door regarding the dead fir tree. However, this needs to be posted as it is believed this is the way that the solicitors representing the house owner will receive it.

ACTION – DM

1719 Playgrounds

Nothing else to report.

1720 Highways

Nothing else to report.

1721 Burgess Land Trust

Nothing to report. Believe the next meeting will be held in April.

1722 County Councillors' Report

Noted and attached as Addendum

1723 Communications not covered elsewhere in Agenda

Kidney Wales are organising a walk for 23-04.17. Look at advertising in Border Gossip.

ACTION – DM

One Voice Wales are inviting TCC to renew membership. The cost for the annual renewal is £169. DM said the amount of information received from them was overwhelming. GC suggested staying in light of what might be happening at Buttington Quarry as some expertise might be required. It was felt that for the time being the renewal would not be made.

North Montgomeryshire Local Council Forum

Still receiving some correspondence.

1724 Finance

Accounts to January 2017

As the bank statements had not been received for January, bank reconciliations were signed to end of December 2016.

Outstanding salary – Karen Weaver

Defer until next month and include amount.

Cheque for Karen Weaver amended to Karen Clark as finance in previous name.

1725 Planning

P/2017/0147 – Change to layout and design of Invertek, Offas Dyke Business Park

It is not clear what the difference is and the Community Council after careful consideration had no comment to make.

P/2017/0117 – 8 Hazel Close, Trewern. Erection of a fence – retrospective

The retrospect application does not show what has actually been erected in that the landowner has positioned the fencing incorrectly. The positioning of the fencing on the plan goes right to the entrance of the school.

DM spoke to PCC Solicitors Department and Planning and it is believed that the land is not registered although previously it was thought to have been owned by PCC or Highways. The home owner claims to be owner of all the land on the planning application.

JudyE pointed out that on the conservatory application, there was a clear line showing the home owners land which didn't include all the land that he is now claiming to own.

ACTION – DM to pursue with PCC

P/2017/0143 – Watery Lane House. Erection of extension and temporary mobile home

Quite a bit of renovation work has already been done. The Community Council agreed to support and the improvements and had no objections.

ACTION – DM to write to PCC

P/2017/0010 – Erection of 25 houses next to The Fron, Middletown

Ida Hughes declared an interest in this as she is involved with the church.

County Councillor Dawn Bailey put a comprehensive response on Powys County Council website saying that the area was outside of the development area and that there was concern regarding the over development of the village as well as right of way issues.

It was felt the access was one of the biggest concern regarding the development as there is quite a big hump in the road which can obstruct visibility for oncoming traffic. With the number of houses proposed, a play area would need to be erected or the applications would need to put money into an existing play area. There is provision for a car park for the church which was felt to be a good thing as this would take traffic off the main road when weddings and funerals take place at the church.

No comments or letters have been received from the community regarding the development.

ACTION - DM to write to PCC accordingly

1726 Trewern Community Council Website

It was agreed that Jane Shaw would be asked to pay for the continued use of the domain name and the TCC would then reimburse her.

(Chairs' Note – this has been done)

The Clerk and JudyE to look further regarding the website itself.

ACTION - JudyE/KW

1727 Community Matters

Notice Board in Trewern

The notice board used currently is in the reception area of the Community Centre and this is not the ideal location. It is believed that to purchase a noticeboard would be approximately £400.

ACTION - GC

Fox Lane

There are some concerns about Fox Lane. The right hand side of the road is giving way due to lorries have used it following the recent A458 road closures. It would also appear that out of the some 17 drains along the lane, that only 4 or 5 can be seen. There has been an incident recently where raw sewerage ended up all over the lane. The owner of Golfa Dale would be able to walk along the lane with a member of the Community Council. DM said he would pursue.

ACTION - DM

The pot holes in Hope Road and Stonehouse Lane also need looking at.

1728 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 21 March 2017 at Middletown Village Hall

Report for Trewern Community Council on 21st February 2017

Criggion Lane – County Classified road numbers C2039 and C2040 within the communities of Llandrinio and Trewern

Since Trewern CC last met, the Montgomeryshire Committee of Powys CC agreed to publish an Order which will introduce an 18 tonne amenity weight limit (with exceptions for local access) along the length of Criggion Lane.

The Montgomeryshire Committee took into consideration all representations received including those from residents and the agricultural industry and also from Bausley with Criggion CC whose Members expressed a wish that the Order should exempt all agricultural vehicles from the amenity weight restriction. Whilst the representation from Bausley with Criggion CC met with a good deal of support from members of the Montgomeryshire Committee who sympathized with the agricultural industry and the resulting lengthy diversions, the majority Committee vote supported the original proposal for an 18 tonne limit with exceptions for local access.

Criggion Lane - 30 mph speed limit and street lighting criteria

Full detailed correspondence relating to this issue has been forwarded to all Community Councillor's for their consideration and decision on whether to fund the installation of a new street lamp at the junction of Pentre Gwyn in order to satisfy the necessary criteria for a 30 mph speed limit.

Former Little Chef premises

Successful dialogue between myself and Halls estate agent has seen the site owner finally taking responsibility for making safe the premises in addition to maintenance and tidying up of the site.

Consultation on future of Van Gorau unit at Newtown Hospital

Powys teaching Health Board are currently consulting on the future options for this facility following temporary enforced closure on safety grounds since last summer. Primarily the unit looks after those with dementia and other mental health related conditions. Since the temporary closure, a staffing team has been deployed into the community to deliver a Dementia Home Treatment Team that provides intensive support to patients in their own homes, nursing/residential homes and community hospitals. The service operates 7 days a week and since it has been in operation appears to have met with support from those most affected.

A public consultation is currently underway in order to determine the future of the service, full details can be viewed on the Powys teaching Health Board website.

Mount Pleasant estate, Middletown

The two end derelict garages have now been demolished enabling much needed expansion to the car park. The remaining garages have been re-roofed following extensive damage caused by storms.

Ownership of trees

In recent months I have been contacted by several residents across the community regarding disputed ownership of trees between themselves and the council. A number of cases are now ongoing with individual home owners pursuing their complaints in the first instance with the council.

A458 trunk road

The A458 trunk road re-surfacing is coming to an end and having forwarded relevant correspondence as received by myself over the last few weeks to all Community Councillor's in order to keep them abreast of how the work programme has been progressing, it is disappointing to note Railtrack was unable to align the necessary Buttington level crossing 72 hour closure to coincide with the A458 trunk road re-surfacing work.

Local diversion along Leighton Road will be implemented during the 72 hour temporary closure.

Pot holes and general highway issues

A number of local highway issues including pot-holes and 'dropped man-hole covers' and eroded highway verges have all been forwarded on to be included in county highways forward work programme.

Planning issues

A number of planning applications have been received over the last month or so and as Local Member my full comments can be viewed on the Planning Portal.

The Ivy House Hearing by the Welsh Government Planning Inspectorate took place last week (15th) and now awaiting the inspector's decision.

Powys County Council - Budget 2017-18

Full council meets on Thursday 23rd February to agree a balanced budget for the forthcoming year. Council then meets again on 7th March to set the Council Tax level.

Prime Ministers Rural Dementia taskforce

As my term of office on Powys County Council comes to an end, so too does the work of the former Prime Ministers Rural Dementia taskforce that I have been privileged to be a member of for the last 2 years representing a rural Welsh authority. This important work will still continue but with Plymouth University in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Society taking it forward.

Cllr Dawn Bailey
20th February 2017