

DC/2016/01352 – St Arvans Lodge. NP16 6DN – Council recommends approval as the plans will improve the current appearance of the building.

b) Planning Applications Decided by MCC Planning Dept since last Council meeting:

c) To note receipt of planning applications/permissions received since the preparation of this agenda

DC/2016/00914 – Wyndcliffe Court. NP16 6EY – Amended plans for replacement roof covering
 - The council has 14 days to comment - The council is conscious of the urgent need of repair and would not want to be disruptive. However it must leave it in the hands of the experts.

2495 REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ANN WEBB

Councillor Webb reported

- a) Road safety group has been set up by MCC and meeting was well attended. Speed of motorbikes is a contentious issue.
- b) Business rates letter sent to minister. Village Halls, Nursing homes, Hospitals etc will be impacted – **ACTION: AW to send a copy of the letter to the council.**
- c) Budget 3.95% increase in Council Tax.
- d) A466. A section of rock-face has collapsed. A survey has been requested to try to identify potential areas of slippage in the future. MCC may need to ask for back-up funding from the WG if any serious problems are identified. A survey will be actioned in summer.
- e) Roof/Tiles issue on Wyndcliffe is still ongoing.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Webb for her report.

2496 MONTHLY ACCOUNTS February 2017

a) To review the current bank balance and approve schedule of accounts

i) HSBC Balance

HSBC, Account Number	70724513	£1,412.15
HSBC, Account Number	41440942	£11,373.24
Monmouthshire Building Society Account		£4,084.26
	(a) Sub Total	£16,869.65

ii) Minus £ p, comprising outstanding cheques paid during January and outstanding debt to MCC

To whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc.	Cheque Number	Value £
MCC	Owing to MCC ref. Clerk's salary and expenses	Paid by MCC	385.24
		Total	385.24

The overall true balance of accounts as of February 2017 was £16,484.41

b) Invoices/Expenses and Salary Costs presented for Authorisation and Signature of cheques.

To Whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc.	Cheque Number	Value £
i).HM Clerk	Clerks salary 1/2/17 – 28/2/17	Paid thru MCC	226.67
ii) Nigel Hoskins	Grounds maintenance	101104	144.00
iii) Merlin Waste	Dog Bin emptying	101103	27.12
iv) MCC	Clerk Salary (Oct, Nov, Dec)	101102	815.74

v) One Voice Wales	Finance Training	101101	35.00
vi) TR33	Tree Maintenance	101100	648.00
vii) MCC	Ground Maintenance	101099	754.60
viii) David Finlay	Meeting Rooms Hire	101098	26.80
ix) Marmax Products	Recycled Plastic Benches	101097	1341.60
x) Judith Bolton	Web site maintenance.	1011	54.12
xi) Alan Bolton	Expenses	1011	147.50
		Total	£4221.15

Hall committee will pay half the amount of £270 for the tree maintenance.
VAT will be reclaimed on the bigger amounts.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Councillor VK and seconded by Councillor BH and all present agreed.

2497 Web Update

The council agreed that the web site is important to the village but it is vital that it is kept updated. i.e. bus times tables, events in the village etc. It was agreed that the web should be a standard item each month on the agenda. **ACTION: Clerk.**

J Bolton agreed to continue working on the site for the next 6 months while the council decides on future requirements. The web site requires 3 – 4 hours per month to update and maintain. **ACTION: Web flier to be posted on the notice boards and in the parish magazine, email to be sent to the distribution list looking to generate interest in the community for the website.**

2498 Election Update

8 councillors to be elected. 6 existing councillors will be standing for re-election.

2499 HIGHWAYS GROUP REPORT

Councillor Howells presented the report.

- a) Racecourse – A meeting will be arranged with the Racecourse for an update on the Dog Show building and to review the traffic arrangements for the Welsh Grand National and complaint(s) arising.
Concerns raised at the visual impact from the A466 of storage of materials: to be discussed at the next highways meeting.
- b) Speed sign near the Piercefield on the A466. This had been reported to MCC and was thought to have been repaired but it is showing intermittent operation.
- c) Traffic speed on Grange Road. A response had been received from MCC which indicated that they do not intend to do anything further on this matter. It was agreed to thank MCC for its response and to advise it that the Council consider the matter closed.
- d) Picket fences to define entrance to the village. The Chairman said that he had spoken to AONB manager who were happy with the suggestion and requested that a “Welcome to the ANOB” sign to be added. It was agreed to request a site meeting with MCC/P. Keeble.
- e) Speed data. No further information has been received from MCC. The Speedwatch team has supplied their latest data. The latest police survey identified speeding as the most important item of concern for villagers.
- f) Advertising Posts. An email has been received from MCC/Steven Lane saying that use of the advertising post (including those on the A466 near the Racecourse) now had planning consent to go ahead. Comments were requested and it was agreed that their use should be trialled for 12 months to determine their viability. **ACTION: Letter to be sent to MCC/S Lane. Planning application information to be revisited.**

The report was accepted and the chairman thanked Councillor Howells and the group members.

2500 ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION GROUP REPORT from meeting 9/2/17

Councillor Davies presented the report.

- a) **KGV**
 - i. **Picnic Benches:** 2 recycled plastic benches ordered from Marmax Products
 - ii. **Mole Hills:** AB has raked the mole hills but reported that the field surface is very uneven and may benefit from chain-harrowing. BH subsequently discussed the issue with Mr Luff, his advice was that the tractor would do more damage at this time as the ground was still soft. He recommended that the field might better benefit from rolling later in the year. Meanwhile, AB to contact MCC/Nigel Leaworthy for advice on dealing with the Moles **ACTION AB**
 - iii. Councillor AB carried out weekly checks on playground equipment.
- b) **Defibrillator**
 - i. 2nd training event to take place on Feb 9th and a 3rd will follow on Feb 15th. 40-50 persons have expressed interest to date. The council thanked Councillor Howells for all his work.
 - ii. Further publicity will be enacted e.g. at the film night, church notice board, web site. Also an invitation to be to Racecourse personnel and Oakland Stud and any from outside the village who express an interest in the training. **ACTION BHs**
 - iii. VK has spoken with the manager of the Piercefield PH for a final decision on the location of the 2nd unit. It will be installed in the next few weeks on the side wall of the pub.

AB/BHs/VK

a) Playing Field/ Hall Trees Update

- i. No Dogs allowed sign has been fitted to the sports pavilion. AB informed the football club in advance. The club was in agreement.
- ii. Trees have been pruned and there was general agreement that the tree surgeons had done a good job.
- iii. BH to resume work on the Wigloo when the weather is a little warmer. **BH**

d) Replacement Notice Board, Devauden Road

Order placed with Caldicot Joinery and awaiting manufacture/installation at a cost of £438+VAT.

e) Best Kept Village and Garden Competitions

- i. A member of the gardening club has agreed to carry out the judging in 2017. Agreed that the specification for the judging needs revisiting to ensure that it is up-to-date. **ACTION: BH to email updated spec to the group for approval.**
- ii. Community Plan Steering Group has been approached for an expression of interest in managing extra flower boxes around the village (to be funded by SACC) and awaiting reply. **AB**
- iii. Andrew Ker to be asked for information on the sourcing of the boxes at the Hall. **MD**
- iv. Further consideration to be given to the general tidying of the village i.e. extending it to beyond the usual fountain area, street signs etc.

DONM 9th March @ 9.45am at Church House.

The report was accepted and the chairman thanked Councillor Davis and the group members.

2501 CORRESPONDENCE

To note and consider correspondence received since the previous meeting,

Circulated by email and originating from:

- i. Journalist Ref: Cockshoot lane.
- ii. Resident Ref: purchase of house on Cockshoot Lane.
- iii. Resident Ref: Possible rail at the Bus Stop.
- iv. One Voice Wales course list – 4 booked
- v. Resident Ref: Fly tipping in Wyndcliffe

2502 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE AND THE WEB SITE:

- a) Defib Training in the Meeting Rooms.
- b) Dog litter
- c) Fly Tipping – Environmental Health
- d) Web site village hub advert

2503 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

2504 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday 14th March at 7.15 pm in the Meeting Rooms.

The meeting closed at 8.02 pm.

Signed: Clerk

Date:

Signed: Chairman

Date: