

ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF ST ARVANS COMMUNITY COUNCIL held at THE MEETING ROOMS, ST ARVANS on TUESDAY 8th July 2014 at 7.15 pm

Present: **Chairman:** **T. Vickers**
 Councillors: **B. Howells**
 A. Bolton
 V. Kennedy
 B. Howell
 M. Davies
 S. Gilbey

In Attendance:

 CO70 Andy Jones
 Councillor Ann Webb

2050 APOLOGIES

Apologies from Councillor Jarrett, Councillor Kennedy, Clerk Judith Bolton

2051 REPORT FROM PC LOUISE THORPE

St Arvans and Howick incidents between 10th June and 8th July 2014.

13/06 – a call was received about the music volume at the racecourse event as the caller could hear it over the television.

15/06 – report of a house break (at the very bottom of the B4293), entry was via patio doors and laptops were stolen.

17/06 – report received that there were wild boar running around on the A466 between St Arvans and Wyndcliffe car park. None found on Police arrival.

18/06 – what was believed to be an old mortar was dug up in the woods in the racecourse grounds. Bomb disposal were called and carried out a controlled explosion.

19/06 – report of a large number of teenagers having a party in the grounds of the racecourse – alcohol was taken off several attendees.

21/06 – report of concerns for people using the old Livox Quarry as leisure facilities. We also took a call from the manager of Marshalls who run the site. They have been advised that at this time it is civil trespass and were asked to see if they could improve on their security. We will try and monitor the situation.

The chairman thanked CO Jones for his attendance and the report

2052 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

2053 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10th JUNE 2014

These were approved, proposed by Councillor Bolton and seconded by Councillor Davies. All agreed.

2054 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 10th JUNE 2014 (for information only)

- a) Ref. Minute 2041. Thanks to Councillor Webb for asking for clarity when road closure orders are circulated. A recent order was received with identification of the officer to whom queried could be addressed.
- b) Ref 2045 f) Thanks to Councillor Webb for requesting verge cutting on Grange Road. Verge and part of hedge has been cut and visibility is much improved.

2055 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Considered by Planning Group since last meeting
There were none
- b) Planning Applications Decided by MCC Planning Dept. Since last Council meeting:
There were none
- c) To note planning applications/decisions received since the preparation of this agenda
There were none.
- d) To delegate authority to the Planning Group for recommendations to MCC Planning Department during the August recess.
It was agreed that the Planning Group should have the authority to make recommendations on any Planning Applications received during the August recess so that applicants are not delayed in the Planning process. Proposed by Councillor Davies, seconded by Councillor Gilbey.
All agreed.
- e) Councillor Howell reported that he had attended the site meeting of the Planning Committee at Glasserton House to review application DC/2013/00253.

2056 REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR ANN WEBB

- a) Councillor Webb reported that the MCC was becoming concerned at the number of wild boar in the forest of Dean/Wye Valley and the damage that they were causing. A cull is planned to reduce the numbers from c800 down to c400.
- b) The Williams report recommends that the number of Local Authorities in Wales be reduced from 22 to 12. Monmouthshire will join forces with Newport (not the first choice of options). Council elections will be postponed until 2017 as a result.
- c) There has to date been no progress on local boundary determination.
Councillor Vickers thanked Councillor Webb for her report

2057 ACCOUNTS

a) To review the current bank balance

The overall true balance of accounts at 25th June 2014 is £12,404.32 and is made up of:

- i) HSBC Balance
 - Money Manager Account £ 560.39
 - Community Account £ 7808.25
- ii) Monmouthshire Building Society £4035.68p
- iv) No cheques outstanding

b) To approve schedule of accounts
Invoices/Expenses and Salary Costs presented for Authorisation and Signature of cheques

To Whom	Reference to Work Done/Expenses/salary etc.	Cheque Number	Value £
Nigel Hoskins	Grounds maintenance including purchase of varnish & weedkiller (£30)	100943	302.00
Judith Bolton	Clerks salary, SCP 18 £151.28 + 3 hrs website work £27.03 + postage of accounts to Mazars £2.03	100944	180.34
Merlin Waste	Dog Bin emptying	100945	20.34
Clerks Association	Membership	100946	76.00
St Arvans Village Trust	Hire of Meeting Rooms inc. electricity	100947	36.77

L G Davis	Printing of Welcome Post Cards £30 + VAT	100948	36.00
		Total	£651.45

It was agreed that the above accounts be accepted and payments made, proposed by Councillor Davies and seconded by Councillor Kennedy. All agreed.

2058 COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (C & CE) GROUP REPORT

The chairman presented the report.

- a) **The Community Led Plan.** Councillor Gilbey to draft the questionnaire for next Tuesday's meeting of the CLP group.
- b) **Web Site**
The papers for the trading post pages of the web site and details of the system to be used have been circulated to all Councillors by email. The chairman thanked the clerk for the work put into the careful preparation of the documentation and recommended that trading post go live. This was proposed by Councillor Gilbey and seconded by Councillor Howell. All agreed.
- c) **Welcome Card.** The first welcome card has been handed out to purchasers of a residence in the village. The Chairman expressed the wish that cards should be handed personally to new residents. It was agreed that Councillors should be diligent in identifying when new residents move in.

2059 HIGHWAYS GROUP REPORT

Councillor Howells presented the report

- a) Update of the Steve Lane MCC work programme
Penterry Lane drainage and damaged kerbs in the village as well as the pavement around the Woodlands have been completed. The dropdown kerb outside Trelawney is complete.
- b) Proposed A466 footpath
It is understood that, as a result of meetings between the MCC and the group of residents working on this project, it has been decided to revert to the original plan to remove the hedge. Councillor Gilbey, who, as a resident, is part of the group, updated the meeting on progress. She also sought the views of Councillors on her proposal to try to get MCC to do the complete works supported by grant funding. The Council considered that this would be a very sensible way forward.
- c) Racecourse liaison
The Racecourse Facilities Manager has said that preparation for the forthcoming Tom Jones concert had delayed the removal of the brambles along the cycle/footpath but it was hoped to carry out this work in the near future. There was no further news on the formalising of the Memorial Hall playing field
- d) Devauden Road and Grange Road. Junction Pavement
Councillors have attended a meeting with residents on this subject. It is proposed that a scheme be sent to Steve Lane of MCC for comment.
- e) Community Speedwatch
After discussion it was decided to obtain the views from other local communities with experience of Community Speedwatch.
- f) Poor visibility due to uncut verges.
Some verge cutting has been undertaken around the village. MCC has stated that cutting is nominally carried out twice each year, but safety was the main concern so that winding routes with many bends were prioritised. It was also said that verges could be cut at a specific time if requested.
- g) Porthcasseg road potholes
The roadway from Penterry Lane towards Porthcasseg has been reported to be heavily

potholed. Clerk to be requested to send a pro-forma to MCC.

- h) Councillor Howell reported that a bollard near the fountain has been damaged. Clerk to send pro-forma to MCC.
- i) The road signs on the approach to the village along the A466 have been cleared by Councillors Bolton and Howells.

The report & recommendations were accepted and chairman thanked the Highways Group.

CLERK GROUP

2060 ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION GROUP (ERAG)

Councillor Davies presented the report:

a) Report of an on-site meeting with Nigel Leaworthy of MCC at the KGV Field on July 4th 2014

i. KGV: Sand treatment of Safety Matting

The Council was advised that the sand should be brushed further into the surface. Sand treatment minimises wear & tear and provides a more resilient surface. It also protected the surface against arson. The treatment is necessary every 2 to 3 years and NL can provide the right type of sand when needed.

ii. KGV: State of the Slide and Assault Course

- NL considered that the slide could be repaired. His team could do the work at an estimated cost of £400 - £500. NL also said that the under-side bolts should be cropped to 12mm.
- On the assault course, all the wood is in urgent need of appropriate wood treatment.
- There is a high screw on the Balancing Pole which needs attention.
- A new stump is needed on the Balancing Log.
- The Balancing Roller needs a new grommet and the roller bearings need greasing.
- On the Transverse Chains, the hole housing the holding bolt needs rebating to allow a large washer to be fitted to stop the bolt being pulled through and slackening the chain.

The Council agreed to submit a formal request to MCC for a schedule of work and quotation for work on both the assault course and the slide to ensure that all health and safety requirements are met. . It was resolved that c £750-£1000 be set aside for the work, £500 of which would be funded by the monies set aside for the longer term replacement of the slide

iii. Wild Flowers

NL is looking for sites to plant wild flower seeds as part of his pollinator programme. However, he does not want to do this on verges. St. Arvans already has some flowers planted in Forge Gardens but MCC is prepared to consider any other areas that the council might nominate.

b) Results of Community Best Front Garden & Hanging Basket Competitions

- Best Hanging Basket. Ann Morgan, Devauden Road
- Runner Up / Best Hanging Basket, Mr & Mrs McArthy, Wyndcliffe View
- Best Front Garden, Mr. & Mrs Hall Grange Park
- Runner Up/ Best Front Garden, Mr. & Mrs Weaver, Grange Road

The Council would like to express its thanks to the judge, Mrs. Avril Branch and congratulations to the winners and runners up. Also thanks must go to all who participate and, in so doing, contribute to the attractiveness of the area.

Mrs Branch kindly provided a brief synopsis on each of the gardens/baskets and these will be posted on the website.

c) Regular Equipment Checks of KGV.

These have been carried out by Councillors Bolton & Vickers. Councillor Jarrett isolated an infant swing when damage was reported by a resident. Repairs will be undertaken.

d)Dog Litter Bin

Following representation from a resident, the Group recommends that an additional bin be provided near the entrance to the KGV for dog-walkers using the footpath alongside. This was proposed by Councillor Gilbey and seconded by Councillor Howells. All agreed.

The report and recommendations were accepted. The chairman thanked the group for the report.

2061 CORRESPONDENCE

To note and consider correspondence received since the previous meeting,

a)Circulated by e mail and originating from;

- i.MCC: Road Closure Order. Angiddy Valley, July 7th, Bridge repairs
- ii.One Voice Wales: Newport One Voice Wales AGM Papers : July 10th at 7.30pm at Llandenny
- iii.Community Police: Road Traffic Speed Report
- iv.Resident: Enquiry about orange liner bag in rubbish bins.
- v.Residents: Enquiry about flyposting.
- vi.2 residents: comments on overhanging shrubs.
- vii.One Voice Wales Training Programme
- viii. Gwent Police: Information about policing for NATO conference at Celtic Manor on Sept 4 &5
- ix.Inspector Roland Giles, ref. attendance at SACC meetings
- x.Resident: Report of damaged swing
- xi.MCC: Enforcement Lists
- xii.Wyndcliffe Court: Temporary 'flag' sign has been removed on Penterry Lane, the A frame is no longer hung on the crash barrier and the business is in consultation with MCC over all signage
- xiii.Report of road accident on A466 at Redbrook: Circulated on email distribution list

b)In Hard Copy for circulation after meeting and originating from;

GAVO. Request for nominations for Volunteer Awards

2062 ITEMS FOR PARISH MAGAZINE

The August magazine is combined with the July edition. The results of the Front Garden/Hanging Basket Competition will be in the September magazine. Chairman and clerk to liaise on other subjects nearer the deadline date for submissions.

2063 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none

2064 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday September 9th at 7.15pm in the Meeting Rooms. The recently appointed Inspector for the Lower Wye, Inspector Roland Giles will be attending the pre-meeting at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 9.01pm

Signed: Clerk

Date

Signed: Chairman

Date