

LLANVACHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LLANVACHES CHURCH HALL TUESDAY 17 August 2010

Present	Chairman Councillors	Cllr Tony Rex Roger George Andy Harcombe Kay James Jenny Scully Lyndon Jones
Apologies for Absence		Cllr Samantha McFadzean Ward Cllr David Atwell
Public Attendance		4

1996 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Andy Harcombe proposed that the circulated minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Jenny Scully and agreed.

1997 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared

1998 CORRESPONDENCE ITEM

Cllr Tony Rex said that resident Clive Bevan, who had had spoken at last meeting on flooding and boundaries, was due to make a presentation to Council this evening. Due to incapacity he was unable to attend. Councillor Tony Rex recommended this topic be postponed until next meeting, when Clive Bevan could make his presentation.

1999 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

(i) Pavement Maintenance. Cllr Kay James reported that the work in Wentwood Drive had been completed and the pavement that had been missed outside a resident's home had now been completed.

(ii) Church Hall Renovations. Cllr Tony Rex reported that the renovation with decorating the Church Hall was costly. The Clerk read a letter out to Council that had been received from Rector John Heales in which he explained that the Llanvaches Parochial Church Council had applied for help to the Welsh Church Fund and to Community First for financial help and was asking the Llanvaches Community Council to consider making a contribution, however much, to help the cost of this expensive work. A proposal from the Chair was made to offer support in the sum of £150. This was agreed by Cllr Roger George and seconded by Cllr Lyndon Jones and was unanimously agreed.

(iii) Noise Nuisance. Following complaints received from a number of residents of a noise nuisance from a house in the village, at the meeting in June, Cllr Sam McFadzean said she would find out the legal aspects with regards to noise and report back. Due to her absence at this meeting, Cllr Sam McFadzean would report back on her findings at the next LCC meeting in October

2000 MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN

(i) Village Website. Cllr Tony Rex raised this item, which Council had debated some time ago. He felt it was now time to readdress this matter. Both Langstone and Penhow had a website which proved very interesting. Cllr Kay James raised her concerns that there were people in our village who did not have access to computers and that if we did have a website we would need to ensure they still received the same level of information. Cllr Roger George agreed with this concern. Cllr Jenny Scully had visited a couple of Community Council websites recently and noticed that the minutes displayed on their website were not up to date. If we do have a website we would need to ensure that our Minutes were displayed soon after our meeting. Cllr Roger George suggested that we could display our Draft Minutes straight after our meeting had taken place. Cllr Andy Harcombe said that there were many benefits to having a village website and kindly offered his services to build a website at no cost to the LCC. Cllr Tony Rex thanked Cllr Andy Harcombe for this offer and asked him to come back with a proposal on the layout of the website.

(ii) Road Cleaning. Cllr Tony Rex had contacted NCC who had said this will be done, but at present the priority was on road surfacing. The road by Whitebrook House was particularly bad.

(iii) Gray Hill Patients Consultative Committee. Cllr Tony Rex felt it was still worthwhile in attending these meetings. The topics up for discussion currently are : **Disabled Access** at Caldicot Surgery, Formalising a system how to obtain an urgent **repeat prescription service** and **Out of Hours services**. Cllr Roger George raised his concerns that there was no post box facility at Caldicot Surgery on a Saturday/Sunday to put repeat prescriptions into.

(v) Llanishen Reservoir. Cllr Tony Rex said that residents had expressed concerns over the future of Wentwood Reservoir and reminded Council that the reservoir at Llanishen which has been redundant for about three years is going to be drained and housing built on the site. He hoped that this did not pose the same risk to the Wentwood reservoir. In the 1970's, because of the poor water quality at that time at Wentwood Reservoir, there had been talks of a creation of a Centre Park type development but this had been cancelled when it was decided that the water could be used for industry.

(vi) Proposed Gipsy Encampment – Roget / Usk. Cllr Tony Rex reported that Monmouthshire CC were not pursuing this proposal. Monmouth were still trying to find a site in this county. The community tip had been considered because they felt it was in the wrong place being on the border of Newport and Monmouthshire. This needs to be closely watched for the future.

(vii) Village Green Trees Cllr Tony Rex said that there were dead tree problems within the community. The tree at Gilfach Triangle has died and needs to be removed. The chestnut tree on our Village Green appears to be dead and David Parson of NCC will have a look at this within the next couple of days. The ash tree on the Village Green had grass cuttings in the hollow of the tree which the Tree Officer had asked be removed. The ash tree is thought to be around 400 years old which is quite unique in Wales. Pollarding of the tree took place about three years ago and this now needs to be undertaken again. NCC will do this in the autumn.

(viii) Community First Report. Cllr Tony Rex stated that no meeting had taken place and therefore no report. Cllr Roger George suggested that our minutes be printed in the Community First but Cllr Tony Rex said that this would not work because of the long period between deadlines and publication of the magazine, the minutes would be 'old news' by the time they were read.

2001 PLAYING FIELD INSPECTIONS.

The Clerk had carried out an inspection and reported that the two picnic benches in the Playing Field were in need of repair. Because of the age and condition of the benches it was suggested that prices would be obtained for renewal of benches and seats. This was agreed by Cllr Jenny Scully and seconded by Cllr Roger George. Cllr Roger George, on behalf of Council, proposed a vote of thanks to Monica Randal for emptying the waste bins in the Playing Fields. This was seconded by Cllr Andy Harcombe.

2002 PLANNING MATTERS.

(i) Replacement of Concrete Lap Walls at 1 South View. Cllr Tony Rex reported that despite Council's conditions that had been submitted to NCC, these had been ignored. Renewed drawings had been submitted which now showed a render finish to the property which NCC had approved. Cllr Tony Rex said, as a matter of courtesy to the adjoining neighbour of 1 South View, he would contact Newport City Homes, who are the contractors for this work, with regards to limiting the number of hours of work being carried out in a day.

(ii) 09/1219 Appeal : Refusal of Retention of Hard Standing – Rock & Fountain.

Cllr Tony Rex reported that an Enforcement Order had been served regarding a turning circle that had been built. This had been rejected because NCC felt it was outside the build area and in the countryside.

(iii) 10/0718 Retention of Proposed Completion – Hillside Barn (see 07/0103). A letter was read out on behalf of Mr & Mrs Bailey who were the owners of Hillside Barn. Retrospective planning permission was being sought for a cellar which was needed to house the storage tanks and heat exchange units. Councillors agreed that a site meeting would need to take place this week.

(v) 10/000814 Single Storey Extension, Stables, Garage & Store – The Cayo. Cllr Tony Rex said there had been a reference made to a Right of Way. He handed Cllr Kay James the submitted plans which she would look at and pass to fellow Councillors.

2003 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Cllr Roger George presented the following items for payment

1	Clerk's salary – July 2010	£ 120.24
2	Tax due – May/June 2010	<u>£ 30.06</u>
	Sub Total	£ 150.30
3	Annual Playground Inspection (NCC)	£ 80.00
	TOTAL	<u>£230.30</u>

Cllr Andy Harcombe proposed that the above payments be approved. Cllr Kay James seconded the proposal that was agreed unanimously.

2004 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the correspondence list to Council and highlighted two items.

(i) Community Council Liaison Group Working Party. Following a meeting of this Group in July, a recommendation had been made to form a small Working Party Group to discuss the methodology for the allocation of concurrent monies. It was agreed that Cllr Roger George would represent Llanvaches CC.

(ii) Invite to Presentation Evening for Gwent Best Kept Village Competition 2010. Volunteers to attend the Presentation Evening were asked for. It was agreed that Cllr Roger George would attend.

2005 THE VILLAGE APPRAISAL for the 2011-2026 LDP

Cllr Tony Rex wished to give a vote of thanks to all those who distributed the Appraisal Forms. The Llanvaches Village Appraisal Summary 2010 had been sent to Cllr Tony Rex who went through the responses by residents. Councillors found this interesting and NCC had reported back that they had found the whole questionnaire exercise very useful.

2006 THE NEWPORT CHARTER

Cllrs Tony Rex said that the final version issued did not show a great deal of difference. There had been a suggestion that the signing of the Charter might be carried out with some publicity ceremony.

2007 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Cllr Roger George informed Councillors that a *Guidance of Submitting the 2010 Annual Return* had been received from 'One Voice Wales'. The Regulations have an impact on the timing of the discharge of certain community councils and audit responsibilities. Our Internal Auditor had audited our Accounts and approved them. Cllr Roger George presented the accounts for approval which were seconded by Cllr Andy Harcombe.

The Annual Governance Statement required signature which was proposed by Cllr Jenny Scully and seconded by Cllr Andy Harcombe.. Cllr Roger George then presented the Annual Variances and Bank reconciliation Reports for 2009/2010. This was proposed by Cllr Andy Harcombe and seconded by Cllr Lyndon Jones. Cllr Tony Rex, on behalf of all Councillors, expressed his thanks to Cllr Roger George for his work carried out in preparing the accounts for presentation.

Risk Assessment Cllr Tony Rex presented to Council a draft copy of a Risk Assessment that he had produced (Tony – not sure how much detail you want to put into this)

2008 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Cllr Tony Rex said that a question had been raised on the recent Questionnaire with regards to developing the playing fields for recreational purposes, such as a Tennis Court and Playing Equipment for older children. He suggested LCC contact previous Councillor Michelle Hayes and ask her to talk to Mums for ideas.
- Cllr Kay James reported that there were still problems at the Rock & Fountain with regards to obstruction to visibility with a JCB parked in front of Rock & Fountain. Although the drivers, when asked, move to the car park, she is concerned that a serious accident could happen in the future. Cllr Kay James was also concerned by vehicles crossing from the St Brides Lane straight across the road to the Rock & Fountain. There is a sign that prohibits this, but drivers are ignoring the sign.
- Cllr Andy Harcombe reported that the new sty by the Telephone Box has only one step to climb up and over, which is very difficult. The previous one had two steps. Cllr Tony Rex responded by asking the Clerk to contact the Countryside Wardens about this.

- Cllr Roger George said that many residents were complaining on visibility at the top of Tabernacle Lane being restricted due to the overhanging bushes from the bungalow of the left hand side of the Lane. The Clerk will talk to the residents regarding pruning the shrub.
- Comments from residents raised concern with regard to the overgrown verge alongside a resident's stone wall opposite the Church. The long grass was causing visibility problems when exiting from Wentwood Drive.
- Cllr Roger George reported that there was a tree growing out of the Lime Kiln and that grass cuttings had been placed inside the Kiln which should be discouraged.

2009 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 19 October 2010

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.