

LLANVACHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LLANVACHES CHURCH HALL TUESDAY 20 APRIL 2010

Present	Chairman Councillors	Cllr Tony Rex Andy Harcombe Kay James Lyndon Jones Jenny Scully
In Attendance	Ward Councillor	David Atwell (to end of Item 1966)
Apologies for Absence		Cllr Samantha McFadzean Cllr Roger George
Public Attendance		4

1961 MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Kay James proposed that the circulated minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Lyndon Jones and agreed.

1962 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Cllr Tony Rex welcomed Andy Harcombe and proposed that he be co-opted as a Councillor. The proposal was agreed unanimously by Council and the Acceptance of Office form was completed.

1963 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman asked for any declarations of interests: none were declared.

1964 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

(i) Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – a copy has now been received.

(ii) Standing Orders for Local Councils - Cllr Tony Rex said he had just received a copy of OVW's Model Standing Orders. So, he would now compile a version relevant to Llanvaches Community Council in time for presentation and discussion at the October Council Meeting.

(iii) Concurrent Grant - Cllr Tony Rex confirmed the Concurrent Grant for 2010 as £1702. He also confirmed that the Precept for 2010 had been increased to £20 and he reminded Council that the increase would enable fund building for replacement of the climbing frame 3-4 years hence. Previously, Cllrs had received (for information purposes) a list of the Precepts and Concurrent Grants for the 14 Community Councils in the Newport CC area.

1965 MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN

i) Pavement Maintenance. Cllr Kay James reported the results of her inspection saying that there was an area in Castle Rise that had not been treated and weeds were also visible in several areas. South View in particular is in a bad condition with many weeds coming through the pavement seal. Ward Cllr David Atwell reiterated that the weed killers that could be used were not potent enough and Highways intended to use strimmers. Ward Cllr Atwell said that he would ensure that Highways gave a high priority to inspecting the work that had been done and the rectification, by the contractors, of any faults.

(ii) School Bus Turning. Cllr Tony Rex reported complaints about the Magor School bus reversing into driveways to turn. He added that he had spoken to the company owner and the practice has now ceased.

(iii) Road Cleaning. Cllr Tony Rex commented on the state of the roads in the village, Tabernacle Lane and Llanvaches Lane - all needed sweeping. He claimed that it was nearly three years since they were last swept. Highways will programme the work and they will be pressed to complete it before June when the Best Kept Village judging will take place.

(iv) Best Kept Village Competition. Cllrs agreed that Llanvaches would enter the 2010 Best Kept Village competition. The Clerk will submit the application form to GAVO (the organisers) by 17 May. A resident mentioned that the sign on the green had not been updated with wins in previous competitions.

(v) Gray Hill Patients' Consultative Group. Cllr Tony Rex said that he attended the last meeting and felt that there was a benefit in attending. He said that there is a problem in attracting new members to the Group partly because, in general, the patient satisfaction with Gray Hill Practice is better than most others.

(vi) Parking at Wentwood Drive Junction. Questions had been raised with regards to the dangers of parking close to the junction of Wentwood Drive and Rectory Road. Cllr Tony Rex explained that it was an offence to park within 10m of a junction also alongside a dropped kerb. There was discussion of the causes and incidence of the perceived problem. Cllr Andy Harcombe said that if the Highway Code was abided by, there would not be a problem, and everyone has a duty of care. It was decided that no specific action would be taken.

(vii) Dogs off Leads in Playing Fields. Complaints had been received that a dog was being exercised regularly off the lead in the Recreation Field. Cllr Tony Rex said he had taken advice from the Dog Warden. Ward Cllr David Atwell said that the Dog Warden visited the Penhow area. It was also suggested that the PCSO might get involved to remedy the problem. Cllr Andy Harcombe asked whether the dog was running free or fouling. Cllr Rex said that he had been informed that the dog was running free at a distance where it was unlikely that the owner could locate any fouling. Cllr Rex reaffirmed the law (which applies across Newport CC area) that dogs must be on a lead in public places and any fouling must be removed by the dog's controller.

(viii) Community First Report. Ward Cllr David Atwell announced that the new Llanvaches Editor for *Community First* is Penny Lawrence. The magazine is now in its eighth year, revenue is coming in from advertising and over £3000 has gone recently to good causes. Cllr Tony Rex commented on the problem that by the time the magazine is published, some diary dates have passed.

1966 PLAYING FIELD INSPECTIONS

Cllr Tony Rex reported that weekly inspections of the playing fields were currently being carried out. On recent inspections it was observed that there are two concrete blocks in the football field which were being used as tension props for the goal nets. Cllr Andy Harcombe and the Clerk will remove the blocks. It was also suggested that the previous stagnant water matter in the Recreation Field be inspected to see if it has returned.

1967 PLANNING MATTERS

No new applications had been received since October 2009.

(i) Groundwork's at Talgarth. Works at Talgarth had appeared to be outside the designated area. Planning Enforcement disagreed but will keep a close watch to ensure that there is no encroachment onto the areas with special archaeological interest.

(ii) Barn at Talgarth – Gilfach Road. Cllr Lyndon Jones said that no application had been received for the agricultural shed that has been built at Talgarth and Newport Planning was not responding to his questions. Cllr Tony Rex said he would provide Lisa Evans (NCC) with a plan of the area.

(iii) Councillor Training. Cllr Tony Rex presented to Council potential dates of forthcoming training on a) Enforcement and Planning Law and b) The Planning Process. Once dates are confirmed, Cllr Rex will notify Councillors.

1968 COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cllr Tony Rex suggested that if the village were to hold a *2010 Village Day*, a letter be published in *Community First* asking for a volunteer to lead and put together a team to organise an event that could be part funded by the Community Council.

1969 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

In the absence of the Responsible Financial Officer (Cllr Roger George), Cllr Tony Rex presented the following items for payment

1	Clerk's salary April 2010	£ 120.24
2	Tax due April 2010	<u>£ 30.06</u>
	Sub Total	£ 150.30
3	Printer Cartridge x2 *	£ 32.64
4	One Voice Wales Annual Membership Fee	£ 39.00
5	Purchase of OVW Model Standing Orders	£ 25.00
6	Re-postage Cost - OVW Practitioners Guide	£ 5.17
	TOTAL	<u>£ 252.11</u>

* Paid in advance under Standing Order provision

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

1970 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the correspondence list to Council. A request from the local *Extend* class requesting a donation to help with funds was read out. After lengthy discussion, Council agreed that a donation should not be made but instructed the Clerk to respond to the Secretary of *Extend* and recommend several possible contacts for financial assistance.

The Village Appraisal questionnaire and the Newport Charter were also on the correspondence list but are for discussion in Item **1971** and **1972**

1971 VILLAGE APPRAISAL

The LDP Planning Policy Team's Village Appraisal questionnaire had been distributed to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllr Tony Rex suggested that there should be a formal response from Council and that each individual Cllr and residents present at the meeting ought to respond. After brief discussion it was agreed that this matter be discussed after the AGM meeting on 18 May 2010

1972 THE NEWPORT CHARTER

The Welsh Assembly Government, via OVW, is encouraging Local Authorities to each agree a Charter which defines the working relationships between the Authority and its related Community Councils. A Draft Charter has been drawn up by Newport CC's Monitoring Officer (Gareth Price) and the Clerk has distributed a copy to all Councillors. The Chairman recommended that this Draft Charter be discussed after the AGM.

1973 FINANCIAL MATTERS

In the absence of Cllr Roger George this item was postponed to the next meeting.

1974 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No business was raised

1975 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 18 May 2010 with limited Agenda.

1976 DATE OF A.G.M.

Tuesday 18 May 2010

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.