

# LLANVACHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LLANVACHES CHURCH HALL WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2011

Present	Councillors	Tony Rex Andy Harcombe Kay James Lyndon Jones Jenny Scully
		Ward Cllr David Atwell
Apologies for Absence		Community Police
Public Attendance		8

### **2038 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cllr Tony Rex noted the published Minutes had an error in the numbering (items 2034>2037) which had now been corrected. Cllr Jenny Scully proposed that the revised minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Andy Harcombe and agreed unanimously.

### **2039 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

None declared.

### **2040 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**(i) Presentation : Sub Committee.** Following discussions at a previous meeting regarding the formation of a sub committee, Cllr Tony Rex recommended that the whole Council be involved with this matter. By forming this committee it was a way forward to record historical references for future council planning purposes. He suggested that a meeting be convened within the next 4-6 weeks and that resident Clive Bevan be invited to the meeting.

### **2041 MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN**

**(i) The Rock & Fountain.** Cllr Tony Rex reported that a resident had approached the owners of the Rock & Fountain regarding the parking obstruction in front of the pub and had received a rude response. Police were notified as a direct complaint and had since visited the site on two occasions and had not encountered a problem with parking on those visits. Cllr Tony Rex will speak to Richard Lloyd (NCC) to highlight the fact that the land in front of the Rock & Fountain does belong to the Highways Department and is not privately owned. Ward Cllr David Atwell said that a solution to this ongoing parking problem would be for double yellow lines and vertical stripes to be painted on road which would enforce no parking day or night. Any parking on double yellow lines can legally be enforced.

**(ii) Junction Opposite Rock & Fountain.** Cllr Tony Rex reported concerns with regards to the signage at the road junction from St Brides Lane opposite the Rock & Fountain. Drivers are pulling across the road and turning right. Clear road signage is needed to divert this problem. Ward Cllr David Atwell said he was aware of the danger but said unfortunately, as a planning decision, the priority would be marked as low. Cllr Tony Rex has informed Mark Hand (NCC) of Council's concerns. Ward Cllr David Atwell said that there is an existing sign at the junction of A48 but it needs to be made more clearly visible.

Concern was also raised with regards to parking on the green outside Tabernacle Church which restricted the visibility when approaching the A48 from Tabernacle Lane. Cllr Tony Rex said he would send an e-mail to the Elder of Tabernacle Church regarding these concerns.

**(iii) Village Bus Shelter.** This item had been initially raised in 2008 by a group of parents who wanted a bus shelter, the location being identified as the village green. Cllr Tony Rex said that resident Michelle Hayes had requested this item to be included on this meeting's agenda. He said that this was amenity land and a private village green. As there was no public bus route within the village there was no pressure to erect a bus shelter. A bus shelter is looked on as a development and as such planning permission would be needed. The cost of a simple shelter installed by NCC would be in the region of £2000 > £3000. As LCC funds were limited Council would need to decide whether this money was to be spent on playground equipment or a bus shelter. *There then followed a lengthy and open discussion by both residents and Council.*

The outcome of this discussion was : **For** - a bus shelter is not just for the school children but for the whole community. The current 'pick up point' for Grass Routes passengers is outside the telephone box and elderly residents have been seen, when there is bad weather, huddling in the telephone box to keep the elements from them. There are 22 children in the village using the transport to and from school and a shelter for them is needed. **Against** - A shelter would need to be substantial in size, where would it be erected, would it encourage unsocialable behaviour; would there be excess litter around such a shelter, and the location of such a shelter would need to ensure villagers did not have access problems into their driveways.

Cllr Tony Rex said that there are obviously strong feelings regarding the location of any bus shelter. Cllr Andy Harcombe said it was difficult to accept or reject any proposal until we had an accepted site and cost, which would enable us then to move forward. Cllr Jenny Scully said that the views of all residents would need to be sought, not just those with children. Cllr Tony Rex said that the views of both Council and residents had been heard and that a note of these had been made. He suggested that the Clerk and Michelle Hayes investigate cost, design and some possible locations. He said that cost might be the deciding factor. Ward Cllr David Atwell said that he did have some funding available and an extra funding possibility was from 'Safe Schools'. Cllr Tony Rex would talk to Brain Kemp (NCC) with regards to possible positioning of a bus shelter. He stated to those residents in attendance that it was not a 'No' to a possible bus shelter. This was carried unanimously.

**(iv) Village Green Trees.** Cllr Tony Rex reported that the pollard to the ash tree had been carried out and although the ivy remained it was felt that damage could be caused by its removal. The chestnut tree was now showing signs of life. If it did not recover then it would be chopped down.

**(v) Broadband Speed.** Cllr Tony Rex said that that the broadband speed within the village was very poor during the day and especially past 6.00 p.m. Clerk to write to BT to establish if there are plans to update the Penhow Exchange

**(vi) South View and Right of Way.** Cllr Tony Rex reported that work was behind schedule but that the roofing work would be completed this week. The compound would then be removed. With regards to the Right of Way, when the houses were owned by NCC a formal Right of Way was established which is registered with the Land Registry. There is only one house now owned by Newport City Homes and if that property became a 'Right to Buy' the green and car park would not be included.

**(vii) Zig Zag Sanding.** Cllr Lyndon Jones said that a resident on the Zig Zag had a Carer who visited three times a day. In the bad weather they had experienced difficulty in accessing the house because of the ice on the road and the fact that there was no salt or sand in the bins. A grit bin on the corner of the Zig Zag would be helpful. Cllr Lyndon Jones had rang the Highways Department (NCC) for them to correct this problem but was told that it would take up to five working days to rectify. There was always surface water on this stretch of road from a spring and the drain is frequently blocked. Ward Cllr David Atwell reported that they had tried digging a gully but it did not work. The springs appear every year and cause problems, you fix one and it then pushes up in another place. He would support the request for a grit bin. Cllr Tony Rex to e mail NCC with a copy to Ward Cllr David Atwell.

Cllr Jenny Scully asked if a 'Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles' sign could be installed at Pen-y-World Lane. Ward Cllr David Atwell made a note of this request and asked her to send him an e-mail.

**(viii) Lime Kiln Repairs.** Cllr Tony Rex said he had no update to report with regards to the ownership of the Lime Kiln. No reply from enforcement attempts from previous owner. Building contractors have inspected the safety on the Lime Kiln and a report is awaited.

**(ix) Community First.** No report was submitted

**(x) Website Report.** Cllr Andy Harcombe reported the website was up and running but would still like more local information and history to be submitted.

#### **2042 PLAYING FIELD MATTERS**

**(i) Inspection Reports .** Nothing new to report

**(ii) Replacement Table.** The Clerk presented quotes for replacement tables. Council agreed the purchase of (two) six seater picnic tables and two benches. An order will be placed with the supplier. Cllr Andy Harcombe proposed that this quote be accepted. Seconded by Cllr Kay James

**(iii) Additional Equipment.** The Clerk presented the cost and range of equipment suitable for the Playground area and it was agreed by Council that it would not proceed at present with the purchase of any further equipment.

**(iv) Grass Cutting.** Newport City Council had provided a quote and in the absence of any further quotes it was agreed that we accept NCC quote. Ward Cllr David Atwell raised his concerns how Rural Councils were being charged for this service. Residents pay Community Tax and in Urban areas this service is supplied free of charge. He had raised this matter in Cabinet and the discussion was ongoing he would speak again to Cabinet Members tomorrow,

**(v) Annual Inspections.** The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Langstone Clerk who had obtained a quote for Annual Inspection of playing fields for £300. The Company are prepared to carry out up to eight for this cost. Penhow have agreed to share in with this cost. It was agreed to accept this offer which would be a maximum of £100, depending on how many Councils joined in.

#### **2043 COMMUNITY EVENTS.**

**(i) Christmas Party 2010.** Mrs Michelle Hayes organised the Children's Christmas Party and reported that no LCC donation was required as the event had been self funded by the parents.

**(ii) Royal Wedding Celebration–29 April 2011.** Cllr Tony Rex spoke to Insurers and if Council support such an event then a pre-requisite of an event would be the formation of a small sub committee which would need to include three Councillors. Cllrs Tony Rex and Roger George said they would sit on this committee plus one more Councillor. A Risk Assessment would need to take place for the planned street party in Wentwood Drive. The Clerk to speak to Michelle Hayes to establish the numbers involved. Cllr Andy Harcombe proposed that the sub-committee be formed, seconded by Cllr Jenny Scully.

#### **2044 PLANNING MATTERS**

**(i) 10/1089 Erection of new Double Garage and Store - Red House.** Refused on the basis that there had been sufficient development on this site which had had previous permission for storage.

**(ii) 10/1038 Erection of Equestrian Worker's Dwelling – Brook Farm, Pen-y-Worlod** Rejected. Already had permission for agricultural dwelling which had lapsed. Equestrian Worker's dwelling is not classed as Agricultural worker's dwelling. Definition is needed for the future on Equestrian vs. Agriculture.

**(iii) 10/1257 Installation of Manege (Change of Use) – Brook Farm, Pen-y-Worlod.** Accepted as a change of use.

**(iv) 10/1258 Erection of Horse Walker – Brook Farm, Pen-y-Worlod.** Accepted. This is not a building, merely a fence around a circle.

**(v) 10/1339 Entrance Lobby, Dormer Window & Juliet Balcony– Hayloft, Whitebrook.** No objection form L.C.C (following conversation with Mark Stringer)

**Update of Local Development Plan :** Cllr Tony Rex to Lucy (NCC) who said they working towards issuing the Plan in July

### **2045 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

In the absence of Cllr Roger George, Cllr Tony Rex presented the following items for payment which was proposed by Cllr Andy Harcombe, seconded by Cllr Lyndon Jones and was carried unanimously

1	Clerk's salary - January 2011	£ 120.24
	- February 2011	£ 120.24
2	Tax due - 2 months	£ 60.12
3	Football Field rent 2011-02-10	£ 60.00
4	Audit fee for 2009/2010	£ 140.00
5	Churchyard grant – Tabernacle URC	£ 120.00
6	Churchyard grant – St. Dubritius	£ 120.00
7	Fidelity Guarantee – Premium Increase	£ 15.36
	TOTAL	<u>£ 755.96</u>

### **2046 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**(i) Fidelity Guarantee Level .** Following discussion at previous meeting, Council agreed to increase the Fidelity Guarantee Insurance to £15,000. The cost being £15.36.

**(ii) Budget v Actual for 2010-11**

**(iii) Draft Budget 2011-12**

### **2046 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None raised

### **2047 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 19 April 2011

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.