

LLANVACHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LLANVACHES CHURCH HALL
TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2013

Present	Councillors	Clive Bevan Kay James Lyndon Jones Tony Rex Liz Williams
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Public Attendance	9
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2294 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2295 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

2296 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (21 May 2013)

Cllr James proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed unanimously.

2297 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

2280(ii) Rock & Fountain Junction : Cllr Rex stated that the relevant section of St Brides Road was in Monmouthshire CC and not Newport CC also that the land adjacent and to the west, is part of the Penhow Community Council area. Never-the-less, he suggested that the coach operator, Denzil Davies, be contacted and requested not to cross the A48 to Pike Road when exiting St Brides Road but to travel to Llanvaches via the A48 and Tabernacle Road.

2280(i) Police Performance : Cllr Bevan said that the Clerk had sent a letter as requested but due to the recent departure of the Chief Constable, he would e-mail direct to the Detective in charge.

2287 (ii) Police Matters : In response to a question from Cllr Rex, the Clerk said that the Police were invited to meetings but had not attended for more than a year. Cllr Rex asked the Clerk to contact the Police to ensure that they attended the next meeting so that we could discuss issues such as Rock and Fountain junction, speeding and crime figures. The Clerk will contact PC Morgan with this request.

2298 COUNCIL MANAGEMENT MATTERS

(i) Report by Internal Auditor : The Clerk told Council that the Internal Auditor still had items to resolve and would present the Audited 2012-13 Accounts at the next meeting.

(ii) Update of Standing Orders : Cllr Rex said further work was needed.

2299 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Peter Challenger asked if the matter of the refund of Income Tax had been resolved. Cllr Rex said the matter was still in hand but would be progressed.

2300 MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN

(i) Facilities Working Party - Progress Report : Cllr Williams said she had met with Mr McGow. A questionnaire had been taken around the village and more data would be collected at the Big Lunch. It is intended to hold a Community Meeting in September.

(ii) Water on Road at Lower Millbrook : Awaiting report back by Ward Cllr Mogford.

(iii) Status of Road between Church and Church Hall : Cllr Rex said that the road behind the Church is a private road and the sign indicating this is placed at the end of the tarmacked road in front of the Church Hall. This suggests that the tarmacked section is adopted highway but the map shows otherwise. He asked should LCC challenge the map and get it adopted. In answer to a question, Cllr Rex said it was likely that the piece of land was formerly part of the Tredegar Estates – he will follow up and report back.

(iv) Best Kept Village : Cllr Bevan thanked those villagers involved in tidying up for the competition. He added that the recently painted notice board and furniture on Village Green were looking good.

(v) New Notice Board at Whitebrook : Cllr Rex suggested that a spend of £1,200 to buy a new notice board be sanctioned. Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Rex.

(vi) Waterproofing of Gilfach Notice Board : The Clerk would revisit the notice board to establish whether the board was still damp inside.

(vii) Playing Field Inspection : Cllr Bevan reported that the rubbish at the entrance to the playing field had been cleared. The Clerk said that the items highlighted for attention in the last inspection report had been rectified.

(viii) Comment on LEG July Fete : Mr Phillip Bishop was invited to give an update on the forthcoming *Big Lunch* 'Picnic in the Park' planned for 6 July. He said that Ward Cllr David Atwell has been asked to open the event and donations from Asda, Tesco, Greggs, Sainsbury and Waitrose had been received. The South Wales Argus would also attend on the day. Cllr Rex asked whether extended family would be welcome. Cllr Bevan said yes.

(ix) Update on Tabernacle Road – Flooding and Road Safety : Cllr Bevan said that Ward Cllr Mogford would be attending this meeting a little later and would update LCC.

(x) Local Development Plan : Cllr Rex reported that the LDP had been presented to the City Council in deposit plan form. Although the Plan was ready for presentation to the Welsh Assembly, the consultation period has been extended to 26 July, mainly to take into account the Gypsy / Travellers site debate. During this period, developers could put forward new or re-presented candidate sites. If there were extra candidate sites that would affect Llanvaches Community, we would have the opportunity to challenge. Cllr Bevan said that Ward Cllr Mogford had planned to give an update tonight on this matter.

2301 PLANNING MATTERS

12/0827 Brook Farm – Addition al Equine Workers' House : accepted

13/0238 Ty Bach, Millbrook Lane – Rear Extension of Conservatory, Living Room and 1st Floor Bedroom (resubmission after refusal of 12/1071) : refused

13/0509 Red House – Change of condition re conversion of general store to holiday cottage : Cllr Rex proposed that this matter be left to the discretion of the planning authority. The motion was seconded by Cllr James and agreed unanimously.

2301 CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr Rex questioned why a Local Entertainer's letter had been included in the list (*cold advertising can be filtered out at the Clerk's discretion*). It had been listed for completeness.

2302 FINANCIAL MATTERS

(i) 2013/2014 Precept and Concurrent Grate Update : The Clerk reported that correspondence had now been received confirming the Precept and Concurrent allowance.

(ii) Insurance Review : Cllr Rex reported that the premium had increased due to the increase in cover requested but he had successfully negotiated a reduction from £480 to £457 and a 'three year deal' where the rates stay the same.

(i) Payment of Accounts – Payments Due and Payments Confirmed

The Clerk presented the following items for payment

	£
1 Clerks Salary June 2013 (by Standing Order)	143.10
2. Tax Due: re Clerks salary June 2013	35.77
3. M. Pimm (Work carried out-Village Green Furniture)	150.00
4. Aon Insurance Premium	457.55
5. Clerks Expenses :	96.97
Plants for Village Green	£60.59
Minus £20 gift voucher (Best Kept Village)	£40.59
Pebbles under Notice Board	£11.16
2 New Hinges for Village Green Rear Notice Brd	£4.76
Weed Killer for Playing Fields	£33.26
Book of First Class Stamps	£7.20
TOTAL	£883.39

Cllr Williams proposed that the above payments be approved, Cllr Rex seconded the motion and it was agreed unanimously.

2303 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Closure of Trostry Lane and Windmill Road : Ward Cllr Mogford had shared with LCC the Highways Work Schedule for July and surface works on Trostry Lane and Windmill Road were included. The Schedule indicated that both lanes would be closed concurrently. Cllr Rex said that it would be better if they closed the lanes consecutively to allow easier access from Millbrook Lane to the 'top road'. Cllr James responded by saying that surely it would be better to leave plans as they are as any request to alter the Highways' Schedule could result in more delays for the work to be done. Cllr Rex said that there was no suggestion of a change of Schedule just efficient planning within the Schedule. Cllr James asked if residents affected had been notified of the road closures and as no clear answer could be given, she said she would photocopy the e-mail and deliver to those residents concerned.

(ii) Tabernacle Road Issues : Cllr Bevan raised the question on how best to approach the speed limit on Tabernacle Road. Cllr Williams asked whether it was a Police matter or one for NCC and recalled that a number of years ago speed and volume monitoring took place. The findings were that the top speeds were not excessive and a large majority travelled at less than 30 mph. Mr Challenger interjected saying that Tabernacle Road had become a focal point for discussion. Cllr Bevan responded that specific obstructions on Tabernacle Road had been discussed and he understood that NCC was writing to all residents on the position of bins on the highway. Cllr Williams said that if bins were left on an individual's property there was no problem and Mr Challenger added that there were no conditions relating to bins, residents could put them where they like on their property. Cllr Rex observed that there would be no benefit in going through these arguments again. Cllr James felt strongly about this matter and said that 'a line' should be put under this matter. Cllr James, supported by Cllr Jones, proposed that no further discussion take place. Cllr Bevan said he was 100% against the image that the bins were giving the village and we could not ignore the issue. A vote on the proposal resulted in 2 votes for and 3 votes against the motion.

(iii) Ward Cllr's Report Back : Ward Cllr Mogford apologised for his late arrival (9.00pm) from a meeting in the Langstone Ward regarding the LDP. He then updated Cllrs on the Langstone meeting and the LDP content. He recommended that if resident of Llanvaches were happy with the proposed LDP, then they write individually to NCC to record their support. Cllr Rex said it would be a good idea to invite Ms Lucie Taylor back to Llanvaches to update residents about the whole of the plan at a 'Community Meeting'. Cllr Bevan updated Ward Cllr Mogford on what had been discussed regarding Tabernacle Road - speed and obstruction by bins. Resident Mrs Sheelagh Challenger stated her anger at how her family had been subjected to a form of bullying with regards to their bins on their driveway. She claimed that Ward Cllr Mogford was not aware of the facts. Cllr Bevan said he would gather and present all the facts regarding this issue if that helped resolution. A heated debate followed after which Mrs Challenger left the meeting. Cllr Rex said that this matter was on the border of discrimination as there were other similar problems elsewhere in Tabernacle Road. Ward Cllr Mogford said this was a legality issue where someone had had an accident in the past. Mr Challenger said that the facts of this 'accident' were that someone was reversing out of their drive and hit a post on their driveway. There had been no 'accident' and the incident was being used as a 'red herring'. The Chairman then closed the meeting.

2304 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 16 July 2013 at 7.00 pm

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.