

LLANVACHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT LLANVACHES CHURCH HALL
THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2013

Present	Councillors	Clive Bevan Liz Williams Kay James
In Attendance		Ward Cllr Ray Mogford (from 8.20 p.m.)
Public Attendance		2

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Tony Rex, Ward Cllr David Atwell, PC Tony Williams (Gwent Police)

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING (16 July 2013)

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

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING (23 July 2013)

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

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING (12 September July 2013)

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

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

2280 (ii) Rock & Fountain Junction : Cllr Bevan said that at the last meeting, Gwent Police informed Council that the signs at Rock and Fountain junction were advisory, not compulsory. Cllr Bevan said there had been an accident recently at this junction, involving a lorry and delivery van. The accessing to the village from St Brides Road needs to be followed up further.

2303 (ii) Tabernacle Road Issues: Cllr Bevan wished to thank those residents of Tabernacle Road who have relocated their bins. He also said that Council needed to summarise the situation with regards to pull-ins on Tabernacle Road, in that we understand what areas are pull-ins and what is adopted by NCC. Does this take precedent for access over ownership of land.

2300 (ix) Flooding on Tabernacle Road : Ward Cllr Mogford was following through with this issue and a meeting is to be arranged with Richard Lloyd (NCC). Cllr Rex is arranging this meeting.

COUNCIL MANAGEMENT MATTERS

(i) Risk Assessment : Cllr Bevan said that Cllr Rex had suggested a fourth page be added to the current Risk Assessment schedule as a trial. In the absence of Cllr Rex. Cllr Bevan suggested that this matter be discussed at the next meeting.

(ii) Byelaws : Cllr Bevan said that the current Byelaws in the playing field need to be addressed as, following the summer community event held in the playing field, there seemed to be some violation of the current Byelaws displayed. It was suggested that the Clerk investigates the Byelaws displayed and how they compare to current Byelaws. If there were Byelaws to be changed, what would the cost be? The Clerk to report back.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Eileen Wood asked what was happening with the Lime Kiln. She had noticed all the growth on top and said that if this was left we were in danger of losing the Lime Kiln with it collapse. Cllr Williams said that this problem had been tackled before but the owner was not willing to take ownership of the Lime Kiln and there was little else we could do. Mrs Monica Randal said that the street light outside her house was on, on some nights, and off on others. Cllr Bevan said previous enquiries to NCC had found that intermittent lighting was all part of the cut backs within NCC.

MATTERS OF LOCAL INTEREST OR CONCERN

(i) Community Defibrillator : Cllr Bevan welcomed Mr Peter Richards (CFR Co-ordinator) to the meeting. Mr Richards gave a presentation to Council informing them that a Defibrillator Machine could be installed in the village, free of charge. He explained it would be supplied with a box, to keep the weather from it, and would be accessible to anybody. He said that if someone, young or old, was having a heart attack, every minute you wait reduces the survival rate by 10%. He recommended three possible places it could be installed – on the wall of the Church Hall, Village Green or by the telephone box. He would run training courses for residents on how to use the defibrillator, these sessions would take place in the Church Hall. He answered quite a few questions, both members of the public and Cllrs had. He said that this defibrillator was being funded by the Church in Wales. Cllr Bevan said this was a brilliant idea and how we publicise these training sessions within the village and nucleus, is very important. Cllr Bevan also said that perhaps we should consider one for the outside the village but within the village nucleus. Cllr Bevan accepted, on behalf on LCC, the offer of this free defibrillator, thanked Mr Richards for attending and demonstrating the machine and said that communication to all villagers was very important, along with training sessions.

(ii) Update on Progress of New Notice Board at Whitebrook : The Clerk said that the notice board had been delivered this week and that it was hoped to finish installation by the end of the week.

(iii) Playground Equipment : Cllr Williams had distributed her report to Cllrs which concluded that following the survey carried out within the village, a climbing frame with poles, ropes and one that was easy to maintain, was the main contender. A pathway around the perimeter of the playing field was also popular. The next stage would be to go to tender for the climbing frame. Proposed by Cllr Bevan and seconded by Cllr James.

(iv) Review of Standing Orders : Cllr Williams said she had produced a set of Standing Orders. She suggested that an Extraordinary Meeting be called for her to go through the Standing Orders with Cllrs on a way forward that would work for us. The public would be invited to this meeting. This action was proposed by Cllr Bevan and seconded by Cllr James.

(v) Update on St. Brides Road onto A48 : Cllr Bevan said that Ward Cllr Ray Mogford would be joining the meeting later and suggested we wait for his update on this matter.

(vi) Playing Field Margin : Cllr Bevan said a letter had been received from resident Mrs Ruth Bishop regarding planting wild flower seeds along the playing field margin. Council embraced the idea. The Clerk would approach NCC regarding preparation work and obtain a costing for the right type of seed. Proposed by Cllr Bevan and seconded by Cllr James.

PLANNING MATTERS

13/0509 Red House – Change of condition re conversion of general store to holiday cottage : no update

12/1090 Expansion of existing Dog Breeding and Training Facilities including Retail Sales and Provision of a permanent Managers/Staff Dwelling, Visitor Accommodation, Reception, Admin and Dog Viewing Facilities and Associated Car Park : Cllr Bevan said an appeal had been received this week from NCC regarding this application but Council had not received the original planning permission application which was issued in December. He suggested that due to the size of this development, a meeting of the Planning Committee be arranged to discuss any appeal, which would have to be lodged by Thursday 24 October

Ward Cllr Ray Mogford joined the meeting at 8.20 p.m.

LDP Update : Ward Cllr Mogford updated the meeting on the LDP submissions on the alternative site register. He said that plans for the Rock and Fountain and Long Meadow development had been re submitted. NCC was opposed to settlement boundaries and green field site and that they had enough housing stock. Ward Cllr Atwell would advise LCC on any updates. Cllr Bevan said that there were no changes to the proposed development at the Rock and Fountain but Long Meadow had submitted revised plans. He recommended that residents attend the October LCC meeting if they had any views or objections on these two developments.

Flooding – Tabernacle Road : Ward Cllr Mogford said that he had met with Richard Lloyd (NCC) this week to inspect the flooding problem on Tabernacle. It was concluded that the two drains on the road that were letterbox style, needed to be blasted which would involve using heavy machinery. The road would need to be closed and Richard Lloyd was arranging for this to happen as soon as possible.

Rock and Fountain Road Junction : Ward Cllr Mogford said he had spoken to both the Police and NCC regarding signage at the junction. NCC owned the current signage. Cllr Bevan suggested that a compulsory 'Llanvaches Turn Right' sign be displayed. He also suggested that NCC visit the junction to give some advice on a way forward. Cllr Williams suggested that the Traffic Planners might have a resolution.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST

The Clerk had e mailed the correspondence list to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. No matters arose from the list for discussion.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

The Clerk presented the following items for payment

	£
1 Clerks Salary August 2013 (by Standing Order)	143.10
2. Salary Adjustment – No Tax Due August 2013	35.77
3. Clerks Salary September 2013 (by Standing Order)	143.10
4 Salary Adjustment – Completes Tax Rebate	14.76
5. Tax Due September 2013-09-17	21.01
6. Mrs S Hancock (Internal Auditor)	100.00
7. Greenbarnes Ltd (New Notice Board for Whitebook)	1344.08
TOTAL	£1801.82

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

(ii) Tax Return : The Clerk explained that due to a misunderstanding regarding on-line submission of tax returns, we had imposed a £300 'late return penalty'. A letter of appeal had been submitted and a reply was awaited.

(iii) Review of Audits Internal/External : Cllr Bevan said that the report received from the internal auditor and comments made had been addressed. The external auditor's report was still awaited.

(iv) Annual Return : The Clerk said that the Annual Return had been sent to Mazars and we were awaiting their response.

(v) VAT Return : The Clerk had submitted LCC's VAT return to HMRC.

(vi) Financial Management Accounts to 31 August 2013 : Cllr Bevan and the Clerk presented the accounts that were distributed to Councillors at the meeting. Cllr Bevan explained that the net balance brought forward was a healthy £16,604.87 but forecast receipts and payments would give a year end balance of £3,135.67. £10,000 of this expenditure is for the climbing frame replacement. Receipts for the period April – August were £5,635.48 which included the Concurrent Grant and two stage payments of the Precept from NCC. Our payments were £2,374.55 which results in a £3,260.93 cash flow balance.

(vii) Website Grant : Cllr Bevan reported that Cllr Rex had contacted NCC regarding the £500 grant that Community Councils could apply for, to establish/update their website which could included training As we had a hosted website Cllr Rex asked NCC if the money could be used to invest in a new computer system. NCC said this would be an acceptable use for the grant. Proposed by Cllr Williams that the grant be applied for and used in this way. This was seconded by Cllr James and agreed unanimously.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr James said that Community First showed that LCC met every 3rd Tuesday of the month. This needed to be updated. The Clerk would contact Penny Lawrence.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING : 15 October 2013

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.