

LLANVACHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Ordinary** Meeting of Llanvaches Community Council held via Zoom remote meetings on Tuesday, 19th March 2025 at 7pm

Present:

Chair: Cllr C Wynn
Councillors: K James, D Kew, I Norrie
City Councillor: R Mogford, W Routley
In Attendance: Mrs Lucy Allen (Clerk)
Public Attendance: 1

3830 Apologies for absence

None.

3831 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None.

3832 Minutes

Subject to the following amendments, Cllr Wynn proposed that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Council on Tuesday, 20th February 2024 be accepted as a true record, seconded by Cllr Norrie and agreed unanimously. The minutes will be signed at the next available opportunity.

Amendments:

Remove: Cllr Routley is meeting with Highways

Replace: *We are meeting with Highways*

Remove: Cllr Routley advised that the City Council were not consulted on the placement of signage

Replace Cllr Routley advised that we (as City Councillors) were not consulted on the placement of signage.

3833 Matters arising from the minutes

None.

With the consent of the meeting the Chair varied the order of business to take agenda item 3836 Ward Member Report as the next item of business.

3836 Ward Member Report

Highways Meeting: Met with highways to discuss approximately 30 points of action and are waiting for the minutes of the meeting to be published. Highways have been down to Whitebrook Lane as it was closed for a period of time but there is no evidence of anything having been carried out. The slides given by the Community Council were discussed which covered flooding, village signage and wear and tear on the lanes. NCC have been asked to address and prioritise all issues along with what may or may not be carried out. There is a frustration that issues are taking time to be resolved. NCC response is substandard and this has been fed to higher management. Report will be shared as soon as received with the Clerk.

Community Council Liaison meeting: The Community Council were reminded about the liaison meetings held periodically by Newport City Council specifically for all Community Councils to attend. The Clerk advised that the Community Council had only just been placed onto the mailing list and therefore been unaware that these meetings had been re-instated following Covid.

Newport Charter is out for consultation for Community Councils.

Communications – happy for individual Councillors to contact the Ward Members directly; is it possible to amend the way the Ward Members are listed on the website to avoid potential confusion of people assuming that they may be members of the Community Council.

Woodchippings: NCC had not been forthcoming with these therefore a local contractor has agreed to provide them for the village.

3834 Financial Matters

a. Payment of Accounts

L Allen	Clerks Salary – March	Standing Order	£268.62
L Allen	Expenses claim	001087	£41.54
Zoom	Hybrid meeting January	PAYPAL BACS	£15.59
Zoom	Hybrid meeting February	PAYPAL BACS	£15.59
NCC	Grounds Maintenance Q4	001088	£508.50
Total			£849.84

Proposed by Cllr Wynn, seconded by Cllr James and approved unanimously.

b. Receipts, Payments and Bank Reconciliation

- i. The adoption of the receipts and payments February 2024.
- ii. The adoption of the bank reconciliation for February 2024.

c. Churchyard grant – Llanvaches PCC

Members considered correspondence from Llanvaches PCC requesting an increase to the annual grant.

Resolved:

To write to Llanvaches PCC thanking them for the letter and that the Community Council will consider an increase during the next budget setting process. Proposed by Cllr Wynn, seconded by Cllr Kew and agreed unanimously.

d. Grounds Maintenance Contract 2024 – 2025

Members considered renewal of the Grounds Maintenance Contract for 2024-2025 with Newport City Council.

Resolved:

To approve the renewal of the Grounds Maintenance Contract with Newport City Council at a cost of £1,892.75 (*LG (MP) 1976, s19*). Proposed by Cllr Wynn, seconded by Cllr Norrie and agreed unanimously.

3835 Council Management Matters

a. Outstanding queries from previous meetings

Members received and considered the list of outstanding queries awaiting completion following Community Council meetings and noted the following:

Min Ref 3640 - Council Management Matters b. Trees in Glebelands Field

Update: quote received of £900 for removal of ash tree near road – hold until required – hold until required.

Min Ref 3643 – Public Participation

ii. Uneven pavement in Castle Rise is dangerous.

Update: 23.11.23 - NCC inspector attended, advised that it did not meet intervention level but that the area will be monitored.

Action: keep on file and chase periodically

Min Ref 3657 - Council Management Matters, c. Warning signage re

heavy/wide/long vehicles on Gilfach Lane.

Update 25.7.23 – NCC response - location is on the traffic sign maintenance list and remains a location for considering future work. Unfortunately, other areas have been deemed of a higher safety critical status.

Action: keep on file and chase periodically

Min Ref 3674 - Public Participation

Wentwood Drive: path surface is in a bad state of repair and the resin coating has eroded.

Action: see action under 3643 above

b. Website

Members considered changing the website from http to https.

Resolved:

To approved changing the website from http to https (a more advanced and secure website) at a cost of £125.00 plus VAT for the first 2 years and £50.00 plus VAT for every 2 years thereafter (*Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications No2) Accessibility Regulations 2018*. Proposed by Cllr Wynn, seconded by Cllr Kew and agreed unanimously.

c. Newport City Council

Members reconsidered a response to the draft Shared Charter for Newport City Council and Community Councils.

Resolved:

Not to submit a response to the draft Shared Charter for Newport City Council as it is satisfied with the contents. The Clerk confirmed that all issues are raised either directly with the officers or via the Contact Centre.

d. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

Members received the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales's Annual Report, February 2024 and the summary.

e. Ward Member communications

Members discussed an appropriate method of communicating officially and effectively with Newport City Council Ward Members.

Resolved:

That all formal communications for the Community Council to the Ward Members will be via the Clerk only.

3836 Ward Member Report

See above.

3837 Playing Field Matters

a. Fortnightly Inspection Report

Members received the fortnightly inspection report and noted the following:

Children's Playing Field:

- 1) Birchfield hedge border 'Right of Way' into the Children's playing field the gap is closed.
- 2) Only one grass cut in April 2023 - one extra cut by NCC has been promised in March 2024.
- 3) A number of bricks on left hand side of playing field near boundary hedge in children's playing field are still in Children's Play Area. The bricks should be removed for Health and Safety reasons. A pipe (maybe a water pipe) is also next to the bricks. *Clerk to contact Welsh Water for clarification if the pipes are connected to the mains.*
- 4) Zip Wire is quite low to the ground when a child sits on the seat.
- 5) Grass has not been cut in March 2024. *Chase NCC for grass cut.*

Note: The hedge at the right hand side of the main entrance into the Children's Play Area has now been trimmed. Moss around wooden climbing frame and swings has been sprayed.

Sport's Field:

The grass needs to be trimmed.

b. Annual Inspection

Noted that the annual play inspection has been instructed and will be completed in the next 8 weeks.

3838 Public Participation

None present.

3839 Planning Matters

a. Newport City Council - Replacement Local Development Plan

No update.

b) Planning applications

Members considered a response to the following:

24/0159 – Avarla, Tabernacle Road, Llanvaches

S73 application to vary condition 2 (boundary treatments) of 20/1193 retention & completion of replacement dwelling and annex / garage. Amendments include removal of pre-commencement trigger and approval of requested details under condition 2.

Resolved:

To object on the basis that a garage has been converted into a house and should be reinstated as a garage. In addition it feels that this is in breach of a covenant that is in place for a second dwelling on this land.

The Community Council understand that the use of the garage as a temporary home whilst Avarla was rebuilt was necessary, its continued use as a dwelling should change.

3840 Correspondence List

Received and considered correspondence set out in the schedule.

3841 Matters of local interest or concern

None.

3842 Further comments for future consideration

None.

3843 Date of next meeting

Confirmed that the next Ordinary meeting of Llanvaches Community Council on Tuesday, 16th April 2024 at 7.00pm will be held via Zoom.

3844 Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved:

To exclude the press and public for the discussion of **Item 3845 Playing Field** owing to the confidential and sensitive nature, this is in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

3845 Playing Field

Resolved:

To write to the resident requesting reinstatement of the non-public right of access and install a gate.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

SignedCHAIR

Date.....