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**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting held at Gilwern Community Centre on May 10th 2021 at 7pm– Llanelly Community Council**

Present: Cllr R Dixon (Chair), Cllr J Pratt, Cllr G Nelmes, Cllr N Curtis, Cllr P Bell, Cllr F Morgan, Cllr K Rose, Cllr A Thomas, Cllr H Stockham, Cllr D Williams.

Attendance:

Clerk – N James,

1. **Apologies:**

Cllr L Dainton, Cllr H Jarvis, Cllr T Corfield.

1. **Declaration of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **Open Session**

There were no members of the public able to attend due to Covid restrictions and no items had been forwarded to the Clerk for discussion.

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting of the 12th April were approved with the one amendment for the date of the next meeting to 10th not 11th May.

**5. Matters Arising from 12th April meeting**

* 1. Para 10l – a local resident had requested the Council considered enforcing dogs on leads on the Gilwern Playing fields and this was deferred from the last meeting. It was noted that there were no hard and fast rules on this issue. Some councils had offered designated areas for dogs to be exercised where that was feasible, some had put up notices for all dogs to be on leads although this had little effect and it was acknowledged that it would be impossible to enforce any such ruling in practice, as other councils had found. In addition, for some the playing fields provided an invaluable area to exercise their dogs. The MUGA has a sign prohibiting dogs and the upgraded cycle track would have a similar sign. After a long discussion it was acknowledged that it would not be possible to enforce dogs on leads on the playing fields. However, the Clerk would put up polite notices around the fields advising that dogs were not allowed on the football pitch and asking for dogs to be kept under control in all other areas. **Action: NJ.**
  2. Gilwern towpath – Cllr Curtis advised that the resurfacing was now complete and, contrary to initial thinking, the new surface which was the standard finish now used by the Canal Trust, had bedded in well and was very effective.
     + 1. **Planning**
  3. 20/19481/OUT – construction of one affordable dwelling within the ex-coal yard site – application withdrawn.
  4. 21/19692/FUL – construction of ground floor extension at Brynhyfryd, 11 Usk Drive, Gilwern – permission granted.
  5. 21/19776/FUL – demolition of existing house and replacement with new dwelling at Seltirk, Station Road, Gilwern – no comments received.
  6. 21/19837/FUL – wooden hut/summerhouse adjacent to family home at The Poppies, 5 Allerford Grove, Gilwern– no comments received.
  7. 21/19868/FUL – construction of first floor extension at Grosvenor, Crickhowell Road, Gilwern – comments awaited.
  8. 21/19813/FUL – removal of oil tank, addition of roof to tank wall and installation of solar panels at 1 Troedyrhiw, Lower Station Road, Clydach – comments awaited.
  9. 21/19637/FUL –“one household and all the requirements to enable the applicants to live on site, deliver a viable land based enterprise and meet ther requirements of a One Planet Development” at Tir Awen, Church Road, Gilwern. Although there was support for the development idea within the Council, councillors had some concerns and had received many examples of concern from local residents. In the main there was significant apprehension about the road safety; cited in particular were: dangerous access, narrow but busy road affected by delivery lorries, vehicles with trailers as well as a large increase in other vehicles, and poor visibility in/out the area and property. Cllr Pratt advised that local MCC councillors had also received many contacts from residents about this proposed development. MCC’s intention was to ask BBNPA to call it in so that a full debate on it could be held by the Planning Committee. LCC agreed that it would respond to the BBNPA with its support for such a local initiative but highlighting the significant opposition from local residents, in particular because of the access issues, lack of entrance/exit visibility, narrowness of the already busy road, and ask that these concerns be addressed by the Planning Committee. **Action: NJ.**
     + 1. **Finance**

a. Cheques –the following cheques had been signed by Cllrs Dixon and Nelmes on behalf of the Council from 12th April: **3151**(cheque book up to and including 3101with the auditors) –Merlin Waste – 600.00; **3152 –** HMRC Apr – 199.80; **3153 –** Timpson/N James – key cut for GCC – 7.00; **3154** – EON -20.73; **3155** – Betterclean – 691.72; **3156** – E Keen Security – 366.67; **SO** – CountryBookkeeping – 5.00; **SO –** Salary – 799.25.

1. **Waste**

Cllr Pratt had been approached in her role as county councillor by a local resident enquiring about the waste produced from Gilwern Community Centre and the recycling policy of the waste collection company. The Clerk had approached Thomas Waste and received a response which confirmed their aim to recycle as much waste as possible including that from the bin outside GCC. However, although the Centre tended to produce only paper and cardboard waste as a rule, it was acknowledged that the bin was available for general public use also. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the different costs in MCC collecting the Centre’s waste on a commercial basis and the current provision. **Action: NJ.**

The Clerk also gave an update on the dog waste bin situation. Four new dog bins had been allocated by MCC: two would replace damaged bins in Gilwern and two new ones would be placed in Clydach South following requests from local residents. A further bin had been made available and, provided access was feasible, would be located on Station Road.

1. **Office Space Gilwern**

Cllr Pratt had been approached by a local resident regarding the lack of suitable office space in Gilwern for small companies and even homework classes. Whilst it was felt that a library was perhaps more appropriate for homework classes it was also acknowledged that the Community Centre was now booked out virtually every weekday by local groups. It was therefore agreed that, for the time being, there was no feasible available space within the Centre to offer to any local companies.

1. **Reports from Members on Outside Bodies**

There were no reports from outside bodies.

1. **Reports from County Councillor**

Cllr Pratt reported on the following issues:

* 1. The new large, green waste bins had been successfully rolled out with a large take-up from Monmouthshire residents, and already they had become cost neutral.
  2. MCC would be holding its AGM this week at which the new Cabimet would be elected.
  3. She had been concerned at the continuing number of closures on the A465 and would be raising this issue at the next Liaison meeting.
  4. The cost of the work to reopen the Glangrwyney road was high but MCC was hopeful that work would begin on this very shortly.
  5. MCC was about to announce a change in the booking rules for its recycling centres which would enable them to take bookings on a 24hour basis.
  6. She was delighted to report that the vaccination roll out continued to go well and Monmouthshire had now one of the lowest case rates for Covid in the UK.

1. **Correspondence received**
   1. Notices of temporary road closures in Miners Row, Llanelly Hill and the A465.
   2. MCC notification of a weight limit to be imposed on various sideroads off the Heads of the Valleys Road in the LCC area.
   3. Email from the applicant of the One Planet Development planning application.
2. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held at Gilwern Community Centre at 7pm on **Monday 14th June**.

**R DIXON N JAMES**

**Chair Clerk**