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| **MARSHFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  Minutes of the Monthly Council meeting held on 11 December 2018 at Marshfield Village Hall, Wellfield Road, Marshfield, commencing at 7:30 p.m.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Present: Mrs Catherine Grady (Chairman)  Mr Mike Rigby  Mr Mark Dawkes  Mrs Linda Southworth-Steven  Mr Ronald Carrie  Mrs Rachel Johnson-Poulsen    Apologies: Councillor Susan Davies (personal), City Councillor Richard White (ill), PC 1621 Billal Hannon (Gwent Police).  In attendance: 1 member of public, City Councillor Tom Suller, Ms Angie Sykes & Ms Caroline Antoniou (Marshfield Village Hall Management Committee), G C Thomas (Clerk)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th November 2018 were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chairman.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **184. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**  No interests were declared.  **POLICE MATTERS**  185. A48 – Road Safety  Councillor Grady told the Council that she has been corresponding with Gwent Police requesting accident statistics. Members noted that two serious accidents had recently occurred on the local stretch of the A48 on the same day.  186. Police Report - November 2018  Members noted receipt of the November police report for Marshfield Ward.  **187. MARSHFIELD VILLAGE HALL**  The Council welcomed Marshfield Village Hall Management Committee members Caroline Antoniou and Angie Sykes. Ms Sykes explained that four elected members have given notice of their intention not to seek re-election in May 2019. This was to allow new members to be sought and a satisfactory transition in May 2019. The Events Team will continue, although the members will not be part of the Management Committee.  The Council discussed the funding arrangements for the VHMC including contributions from the Community Council. The recent removal of concurrent functions payments by Newport City Council has resulted in no concurrent functions block grant for maintenance and upkeep of the village hall for 2019/20.  The Council was informed of a recent roof leak that was found to have been caused by stolen lead. The Council asked the VHMC to liaise with the Clerk to investigate a possible insurance claim against the cost of repairing the roof and any consequential damage.  The Council asked for the audited accounts for the VHMC to be issued for information. The members agreed to send accounts for year ending 31st March 2018.  **188. CITY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**  City Councillor Tom Suller reported the following matters to the Council:   * Marshfield House had now been boarded-up for safety reasons. * Repairs to street lighting, * Councillor White had attended the recent meetings with Newport CC concerning their removal of concurrent functions payment.   **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  189. Hedgerow – Pentwyn Terrace  A member of public told the Council that the hedgerow separating Wellfield Road and Pentwyn Terrace had been cut down and was not happy with the standard of work.  ***Councillor Dawkes agreed to contact Newport City Homes to find out if they were responsible for the work.***  190. Vandalism to Fencing (Min 157)  The member of public who had reported the matter told the Council that there had still been no contact from the police, although the Council had been asked by PCSO Doidge to provide an incident number to follow up the matter. No number was known to pass on, but the complainant’s address was provided.  (*Councillor Suller left the meeting)*  **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING**  191. City Councillor’s Report – Rover Way (Min 154)  A reply from South Wales Police on 27th November informed the Council that they had no prior notice of the gathering that occurred on Rover Way and following a risk assessment by officers the road wad closed for safety reasons. Vehicles were towed away, and other prosecutions are ongoing.  192. City Councillor’s Report – Church Farm (Min 154)  Councillor Rigby reported that the gate to the field was now shut.  193. Police Attendance (Min 157)  Councillor Grady said that PC Hannon had given apologies for not attending the meeting but will be present at the January meeting. Councillor Grady had asked Rowland Giles of Gwent Police to provide quarterly accident statistics.  194. Vandalism to Fencing (Min 157)  See minute 189  195. Village Hall Grounds Hedging (Min 158)  Councillor Johnson-Poulsen told the Council that she had reported the matter during the Village Hall Management Committee.  196. Speed of Traffic – Ty Mawr Lane – Marshfield Road (Min 164)  The Clerk reported that there had been no reply from Newport CC, to date. The Council asked the Clerk to chase-up the matter.  197. Bench Seat Marshfield Road (Min 167)  The Council reported that the repair had been carried out. The standard of repair was not completely satisfactory but is functional and brought the bench back into use.  198. Village Christmas Trees Min 168)  Councillor Dawkes told Members that he had purchased solar lights and has been liaising with L&R Landscapes to get the tree in place. A 25’ tree was erected on land opposite the post office on Marshfield Road on 10th December, but the lights have not been installed yet.  199. Electricity Supply to Groes Corner (Min 168)  Councillor Dawkes told the Council that Western Power had quoted £900 to provide a domestic electricity supply and contractors to install the equipment would cost around £2500. If planning permission is required, this would cost around £150. Councillor Dawkes will add the matter to the agenda of a future Council meeting for further discussion.  200. St Mary’s Church Christmas Tree Festival (Min 169)  Councillor Grady told the Council that she has purchased decorations and is arranging to decorate a tree for the festival.  201. Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Min 170)  The Secretary of the Marshfield branch of the Royal British Legion wrote to thank the Council for its donation to this year’s Poppy Appeal.  202. Wales Air Ambulance (Min 171)  The Regional Development Manger of Wales Air Ambulance wrote on 16th November to thank the Council for its donation.  **FINANCIAL MATTERS**  203. Finance & General Purposes Committee  The minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 20th November were approved and adopted by the Council.  204. Budget 2019/20  The Council received the recommended budget for 2019/20 from the Finance & General Purposes Committee. The Council took regard to the withdrawal of concurrent functions payments by Newport CC and examined the amount of income from council tax precept and the level of reserves to be used to balance the budget. There was general support to increase the precept per property notified to Newport City Council to £20 and to move an additional £5414 from unallocated reserves to the Donations/Wellbeing heading in the budget.  ***The Council resolved to finalise the budget and precept requirement at the January Council meeting when the 2019/20 Tax Base should be known.***  205. Concurrent Functions Withdrawal - Barrister’s Advice  The Council received an email from Councillor Rob Hepworth of Bishton Community Council suggesting that community councils affected by Newport CC’s decision to withdraw concurrent functions payments should take legal advice on the legality of the decision with a view to applying for a judicial review.  ***The Council resolved that it is happy to further consider taking barrister's advice but would need more detail on the costs and the initial legal view before making a commitment.***  206. VGA Cable for Use in Village Hall Meeting Room  Councillor Southwood-Stevens suggested purchasing a cable to connect a computer to the television screen in the village hall meeting room. To be used to display information to people attending meetings. The price was estimated to be around £10.  ***The Council agreed to purchase a 10m long VGA cable to be used for this purpose.***  207. Stamps, Printing, Stationery  The Clerk submitted a claim for reimbursement of £71.13 spent on stamps, printing and stationery purchased for Council business during the period July-December 2018.  ***The Council resolved to reimburse this amount.***  208. Invoices  The Council agreed to pay the following invoices:   * Pureideal Ltd, t/a Saldo Pipe & Construction Services – Contribution with Newport City Homes to fencing at Pentwyn Terrace - £2050.46 * Newport City Council – Contribution with Newport City Council to repairing bench along Marshfield Road - £100 * Christmas Tree World – Reimbursement to Mark Dawkes - 5 sets of 300 LED Solar Powered String Lights, Multicolour - ££94.95 * Wales Audit Office – Fee for 2017/18 audit - £281.70 * One Voice Wales – Introduction to Community Engagement Course 4th December – R Johnson-Poulsen - £40 * The Range, Home Bargains, What Stores – Reimbursement to C Grady - £40.05 - Various Christmas tree decorations for St Mary’s Church Christmas Tree Festival.   209. Admiral City of Newport Half Marathon  St David’s Hospice Care wrote on 6th December to ask if the Council would help with the cost of hosting the event taking place on 3rd March 2019.  ***The Council noted the request.***  210. Cheques    101797 G Thomas – Salary November (net) 452.00  101798 HMRC – PAYE November 113.00  101799 G Thomas – Internet connection reimbursement November 18.00  101800 Saldo – Pentwyn Terrace fence contribution (Min 208) 2050.46  101801 Newport CC – Marshfield Road bench repair contribution (Min 208 ) 100.00  101802 M Dawkes – Reimb. Christmas Tree World – Tree lights (Min 208) 94.95  101803 Wales Audit Office – 2017/18 Audit fee (Min 208) 281.70  101804 G Thomas – Reimb. stamps, printing, stationery (Min 207) 71.13  101805 One Voice Wales - Training course fee (Min 208) 40.00  101806 C Grady – Reimb. St Mary’s Church Christmas tree decorations (Min 208) 40.05  101807 St Mary’s Church Christmas Tree Festival donation ( Min 169) 29.00  **211. ADDITIONAL BENCH SEATING MARSHFIELD ROAD**  The Council received a suggestion to provide additional seating along Marshfield Road.  Members were generally in support of this suggestion and considered locations where benches could be located. These included on Marshfield Road near Mallards Reach and outside Castleton Village Hall, at Blacktown Gardens and on St Mellons Road near the Gateway Christian Centre.  ***The Council agreed to further investigate the suggested locations to identify land owners and consider the style of bench that would be appropriate to determine the permissions required and the costs involved.***  *(Councillor Carrie left the meeting)*  **PLANNING MATTERS**  212. Planning Applications  The Council approved and adopted the observations sent to Newport City Council for the following planning application:  **MCC 888 – Conex 18/0794 - Full**  **Proposal: Installation of doors to car port.**  **Site: Ty Carreg, 133a Marshfield Road, CF3 2TU**  ***Marshfield Community Council has no objections to this application. However, they would make the observation that the house fronts onto the busy main road through the village. The house itself has a small amount of frontage; consequently, it is considered that the doors would benefit from being electronically operated.***  **213. VILLAGE PLANTERS**  This matter was deferred until next month.  **214. COMMUNITY PROJECT CONSULTATION**  Members discussed the merits of various projects that have been suggested.  ***Councillor Grady is to circulate a final list of the suggested projects to all Members before the January Council meeting when the Council will select projects to receive further action.***  **CORRESPONDENCE**  215. Grounds Maintenance  The Council received an invitation from **B M James Grounds maintenance & grave digging services to quote for any ground maintenance work.**  ***The Council agreed to let the company know that it is awaiting detailed requirements of ground maintenance before a schedule of works is agreed for submission to potential contractors.***  **216. COMMUNICATION**  The Council agreed the following matters to be included in the Marshfield Mail:   * Council vacancies   **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**  217. Welsh Government Grants  Councillor Southworth-Stevens proposed that the Council investigates whether Section 129 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 would permit the Welsh Government to make a grant to assist with the funding of concurrent functions. Since the withdrawal of concurrent funding by Newport City Council the responsibility for them has effectively been handed wholly to the Community Council by the unitary authority.  ***The Council resolved to contact One Voice Wales for further advice before contacting the Welsh Government.***  **Meeting ended 22:45** | **Actions**  **MD**  **GT**  **GT**  **GT**  **CG**  **GT**  **GT** |