

Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen Community Council

**Minutes of the meeting of FULL COUNCIL Council Offices, Newport Road,
Bedwas on Thursday 6 October 2016 at 7pm**

<u>Present</u>	<u>Apologies</u>
	E. Aldworth
	E. Davies
	DJ Davies
	J Gale
D Havard	
	B James
L Jones	
A McConnell (Chair)	
C Morgan	
K Regan	
M Williams	
J Winslade	

Apologies also received from: Adam Bird (Youth representative)

Also Present: Jolene Dalton (Clerk), PCSO Jonathon Spokes

Declaration of Interest Councillor Lisa Jones declared an interest in the grant application for Bethel Baptist Church, Messy Church as a relative was active in the Church.

POLICE & ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

- 79.** PCSO Spokes presented the crime figures for the month reporting that there were 46 crimes recorded during September.

PCSO Spokes was unaware of a 'Stranger Danger' text that had been sent by Machen Primary school but he undertook to make enquires as to the concern by the school.

Members requested a Police presence at the site visit to discuss a planning application for new dwellings at East Avenue, Bedwas.

Members asked if the Police had been informed of the scheduled closing of Forge Road by a utility company in Machen. Members were concerned that this would exacerbate traffic problems in the area due to the bridge closure. PCSO Spokes undertook to inform officers at the station.

Members again raised concerns over parking issues in Trethomas near the Fish Shop and Tesco.

Members thanked PCSO Spokes for his attendance at the meeting.

FULL COUNCIL

80. Apologies - The apologies were noted and accepted.

81. Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2016

Minute 61 – it was noted that it should read 'Navigation Street' instead of 'Navigation Road'

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be accepted as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

82. Chair's Announcement and Report

The Chair of Council presented the report making the following points:

- 3 September – Ruperra open day to present the Council's cheque for £300 with Councillors Winslade and Jones.
- 6 September – PCC Jeff Cuthbert presentation for Community and Town Councils.
- 12 September – Speed Watch Session.
- 13 September Workman's Hall Committee meeting
- 15 September – Bedwas High Awards Evening.
- 17 September – Picnic in the Park at Riverside Trethomas & Trethomas Bluebirds Game at Bedwas RFC
- 21 September – Machen Community Road Watch.
- 24 September – BTM Brass Band 100 Club
- 26 September – Shipping Container with a difference scheme in Newport
- 28 September – Machen Community Road Watch public meeting
- 29 September – Machen Primary AGM & Governors meeting
- 30 September – 2 coffee mornings in aid of Macmillan. Thanks to all those involved in organising the events
- 1 October – Rudry Village hall exhibition from a number of organisations.
- 5 October – Machen Community Road Watch AGM
- The Chair's Christmas Carol Service has been provisionally booked for 13 December. Members were asked to consider and approve the promotional poster that Adam Bird had kindly produced. Members agreed the date and asked that the BTM logo be included and that BTM Brass Band be amended to Next Generation Band

83. Youth Representative's Report

There was nothing to report

84. Clerks Report

The Clerk presented her report making the following points:

- The Auditors had completed their review of the 2015/2016 accounts. The audit has highlighted governance issues which the Clerk also shared concerns about. The Clerk will formally present the Auditors letter and the accounts to members at the November meeting as this must be done to complete the process for 2015/16.
- In order to ensure the audit did not find the same problems next year the Clerk would like to begin budgeting process in preparation for the Precept being set for 2017/18.
- A number of small changes had been made to the agenda, this was a move towards improving transparency and openness for members of the public and keeping them better informed about the business of Council.
- Assistance from Members was requested to complete the Subject Access Request in time for the 24 October deadline.

85. Council Insurance

RESOLVED: To instruct the Clerk to renew the annual contract with Zurich insurance with the additional cover as set out in the renewal documents

86. Pension Provisions

The Clerk informed members that due to a change in the law the Community Council must now offer all current and future staff access to a pension scheme. It was explained that there were many different pension providers but it appeared that many of the local Town and Community Council used the Local Government Pension Scheme.

RESOLVED: To instruct the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements to join the Greater Gwent Local Government Pension Scheme

87. Grievance Procedure

RESOLVED: To defer the item to the November meeting

88. Anti-Harassment & Bullying Policy

RESOLVED: To defer the item to the November meeting

89. Staffing Policy

RESOLVED: To defer the item to the November meeting

90. School Governor Appointment

RESOLVED: To defer the item to the November meeting

FINANCE COMMITTEE

91. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that Governor's Wales were looking at taking up tenancy at the building. They would rent the front office and the small back office. It was suggested that the annual fee for both rooms should be £5,500 which would include all utility bills and cleaning costs. The issues of rents and VAT were still being investigated. Members agreed that the suggested fee was representative of the office space and services provided.

92. Clerk's Report

There was nothing to report

93. Payments made since

The payments were noted and approved as set out in the paperwork

94. Ward Project Expenditure

The Ward Project Expenditure was noted and approved as set out in the paperwork

95. Applications for Financial Assistance

RESOLVED: To award £200 to the Messy Church at Bethel Baptist Church

LAND & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

96. Chair's Report

There was none.

97. Clerk's Report

There was none.

98. Bedwas Workmen's Hall

An email request was considered regarding the Hall. Members felt that it was not appropriate to provide smoking bins at the Hall as it is a publically owned building and this would go against the non-smoking policy in operation at public

buildings across the area. It was agreed that the Council could make further enquires about the provision of yellow lines outside the Hall.

99. Bedwas Remembrance Service

Members discussed the World War II plaques and were informed that they would cost £140 to restore and frame both plaques.

Members also discussed the provision of Poppy displays for the alcoves in the Council Chamber in preparation for the opening of the offices following the Remembrance Day Service

RESOLVED: To instruct Councillor Chris Morgan to continue to restore the plaques to the value of £140.

To instruct Councillor Chris Morgan to investigate the provision of poppy displays to the value of £50

To instruct Councillor Lisa Jones to purchase provisions for the Remembrance Day Service refreshments to the value of £100

PLANNING COMMITTEE

100. Application 16/0707/ADV. The Co-Operative Store Bedwas

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/0744/FULL. Rockville, Newport Road, Machen

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/0762/FULL. Shop 3, Newport Rd, Trethomas

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/0763/ADV. Trethomas News, Newport Rd, Trethomas

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/0773/COU. Unit 1C Bedwas Court, Bedwas House

RESOLVED: No objection

Application 16/0782/OUT. The Hawthorns, New Row, Machen

RESOLVED: to defer the item to the next meeting and instruct the Clerk to provide any additional information that was available.

Minutes of the Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE COMMITTEE

101. Chair's Report

The Chair presented her report making the following points:

- Members were informed of the Tina Sparkles evening at the Hall on 29 October.
- A paranormal evening was planned for the future.

102. Clerk's Report

There was none

103. BT Phoneboxes

RESOLVED: To adopt the phonebox and engage with the public for idea.

104. Pride in Your Place

RESOLVED: To nominate the Trethomas Allotment for an award.

Meeting End 9.15pm

.....CHAIR OF COUNCIL

BTM Community Council

Chair's Report: 6 October 2016

- On Saturday the 3 September myself with Cllrs Jill Winslade and Lisa Jones attended the Ruperra Castle Open Day. Extreme wet weather but very enjoyable walk around the Castle Grounds. Had the pleasure of presenting the Council's donation of £225 however due to the extreme weather and not looking our best it was suggested we postpone the photo shoot until the 1 October event.
- On Tuesday the 6 September, myself and Cllrs Lisa Jones & Jill Winslade attended Ty Penallta, where PCC Jeff Cuthbert undertook a Presentation for Local Community and Town Councils. Please see below a few points from the event:
 - I. The biggest Crime Type is Cybercrime.
 - II. Catching criminals remains a Police priority, both nationally and in Gwent.
 - III. Looking to improve further partnership working: Safer Gwent; Community & Town Councils; Local Authorities; Local Criminal Justice Board; Regional Police Forces; Local Health Board; Welsh Government; Public Service Boards and Third Sector.
 - IV. Getting the balance right between provision and reassurance, which includes having well located Police Stations.
 - V. Main priorities are: crime prevention; support victims; Community cohesion; dealing with ASB and effective service delivery.
 - VI. Since 2010/11 up to 2016, the Police have delivered over £42m of efficiency savings.
- Monday the 12 September I undertook a Speed Watch Session with Cllrs Lisa Jones and Jill Winslade (Jill's first session). 8 vehicles exceeded the speed limit.
- Tuesday the 13 September, I attended Bedwas Workmen's Hall Committee Meeting and confirmed that the Community Council did agree to next review the "utility bills" in particular the Cleaning Contract in December 2016.

- Thursday the 15 September, I volunteered at Bedwas Workmen's Hall, as Bedwas High held their Awards Evening.
- Saturday the 17 September, myself and Cllrs Jill Winslade and Lisa Jones attended Picnic in the Park at the Riverside Park, Trethomas. We enjoyed jacket potatoes and salad which was homegrown at the local allotments. We took part in a Hedgehog Question Game. I learnt quite a lot about hedgehogs from a Lady by the name of Janewho is a Rescuer from Newport. In 1950s it was estimated to be 36.5 million and in 1995 estimated to be 1,550,000 in Great Britain. Therefore population decreasing. You could help by setting up a "Hedgehog Street" For more information please visit www.hedgehogstreet.org
- Attended Trethomas Bluebirds Game at Bedwas RFC. Sadly didn't win that day but was very close and a great game.
- Wednesday the 21 September, attended Machen Community Road Watch Committee Meeting. Advised Rob (Chair) and Jo (Deputy Chair) will be standing down from their roles, however, they wish to remain as Committee Members. Announcement of the New Chair and Deputy Chair will be at the AGM on Wednesday the 5 October.
- Saturday the 24 September, attended BTM Brass Band 100 Club Launch Night with Cllr Lisa Jones. It was a very relaxed evening with music played by the Band. We also had a guided tour of the refurbished Band Room building. Informed rooms are available to rent by the public.
- Monday the 26 September, I had the pleasure of seeing a Shipping Container with a difference in Newport. I would very much like to see Caerphilly Homes doing a pilot of their own to help address the ongoing problem of homelessness and meet the need of single/couple occupancy. It is of low and affordable cost £20,000 per shipping container. They are stackable, have limitless up cycle potential and believe it is future living. To know more about this particular project please visit www.amazinggracespaces.org

- On Wednesday the 28 September, Machen Community Road Watch had their public meeting of which around 45 people were present including Cllrs Derek Havard, Lisa Jones, Jill Winslade and Chris Morgan, Sergeant Andy Elias, Inspector Andrew O'Keefe and our AM Hefin David.

I would like to say a huge Thank You to the Volunteers of Machen Community Road Watch for helping to deliver the Public Meeting Leaflet to every household in Machen and Lower Graig y Rhacca. Also to the Sponsor who kindly produced the Leaflets but wishes to remain anonymous.

And to Cllrs Lisa Jones, Jill Winslade, Chris Morgan, Derek Havard, Inspector Andrew O'Keefe, Sergeant Andy Elias and Hefin David (AM) for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend the Public Meeting of Machen Community Road Watch and to Machen Legion for providing the venue.

- I have been liaising with The Highways Department of CCBC for the installation of "School ahead" signs in Machen as at present there are none. On Thursday the 29 September I was informed that the same will be done within the next 6-8 weeks.
- On Thursday the 29 September, attended the AGM & Governors meeting of Machen Primary. Also present was Cllrs Chris Morgan & Mary Williams. Was provided with and discussed the School Development Plan and Post Inspection Action Plan for 2016/2017.
- On Thursday the 29 September, attended BTM Ward LP Meeting as now formally up and running again.
- On Friday the 30 September, I had the pleasure of attending 2 Macmillan coffee mornings, one at Machen Rugby Club and one at Bedwas OAP Hall. Well done to Cllrs Liz Aldsworth, June Gale, Emma Davies, Lisa

Jones, Jill Winslade and Derek Havard's wife Ann for organising the one in Bedwas of which I hope will continue to be a yearly event.

- On Saturday the 1 October, myself and Cllr Jill Winslade attended Rudry Village Hall whereby there was exhibitions from the Ruperra Trust, Local Conservation Groups and BTM Brass Band provided the music. Also undertook a photo shoot with the Community Council's large cheque and Representative for the Ruperra Trust.
- On Wednesday the 5 October, myself and Cllrs Chris Morgan, Lisa Jones & Jill Winslade attended the AGM of Machen Community Road Watch. I was elected as Chair and Jeannette Harding as Deputy Chair.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rob Evans & Jo Brown for their commitment in building a strong and prosperous Committee, whilst working tirelessly to increase the creditability and visibility of MCRW and look forward to their ongoing involvement as Committee Members. I'm sure our second year will be even greater and hope Machen Residents will continue to support and champion our endeavours, as with their help we can accomplish great things.

Reminder: Advice Surgery this Saturday the 8 October 2016 between 10.30am to 12.30pm. I would respectfully ask that Members please let me know if they will be available to attend?

The Chair's Christmas Carol Service with BTM Band Next Generation has been provisionally booked for Tuesday the 13 December, at 6pm at the BTM Offices. Do Members agree and accept the Poster our Youth Rep Adam Bird kindly drafted for the event?

End of Report.

