

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PORTSKEWETT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

HELD AT PORTSKEWETT & SADBROOK RECREATION HALL

TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER 2023

Councillors Present:

Cllr C Carne, Cllr T Fawcitt (Chair), Cllr P Holley, Cllr B Lillie, Cllr P Nurcombe, Cllr G Parker. County Cllr Dymock was also present.

Members of the Public present:

A resident attended the meeting to raise concerns about the work undertaken by Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) along the old Dinham railway line, from The Close to Arthur's Court, as part of the Active Travel Plan. Wildlife habitats were destroyed by the work carried out, mature trees were cut down, the embankments stripped of vegetation and the area was left in an unsightly state. Councillors agreed this should be brought to the attention of MCC to prevent repetition as further work continues along the line.

1. **PUBLIC MEETING**

No issues had been raised with the clerk by residents.

2. **SIGN THE ATTENDANCE BOOK**

The Attendance Book was duly signed.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Thomas, Cllr Wilsher and Cllr Adams who were unwell and Cllr Hubbard following an accident at work.

4. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were made.

5. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

- a. Cllr Fawcitt proposed that the minutes of the November Meeting be accepted as a true record, seconded by Cllr Parker, agreed by all. **Action: clerk to publish on website.**

6. **CLERK'S REPORT**

- a. The report had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no further updates.

The Chair reminded everyone feedback on the Place Plan should be forwarded to Cllr Adams by the end of December. A meeting to review progress will be held on 9th January 2024 at 7pm. **Action: All Cllrs to submit feedback, clerk to invite Craig O'Connor head of planning at MCC.**

7. **ITEMS OF LOCAL CONCERN (FOR INFORMATION ONLY NO ACTION CAN BE AGREED)**

Cllr Holley reported residents had asked when double yellow lines would be installed near Portskewett Pharmacy. MCC have added this to their planned work schedule.

8. **REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVE ON ARW SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY AND OTHER BODIES**

- a. ARW School Governing Body
Nothing to report.
- b.i Give Dog Fouling the Red Card Working Group
No meetings had been held.
- b.ii One Voice Wales – Monmouthshire/Newport Area Committee
The next meeting will be held on 11th January 2024 .
- b.iii Portskewett and Sudbrook Recreation Hall & Playing Fields (P&SRH)
Cllr Dymock will be meeting with the architect on Thursday 14th December 2023. The committee are looking into soundproofing the partition wall between the hall and the committee room.
- b.iv Portskewett and Sudbrook Church Hall
At their November meeting the committee thanked the Council for the grant to acquire a dehumidifier.
- b.v Sevenside Area Committee
Cllr Carne will attend the meeting being held on 14th December 2023.

9. **DISCUSSION WITH COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Dymock reported the consultation on proposed gypsy/traveller sites had been open for 5 weeks and she felt a door-to-door approach would be productive, offering printed questionnaires to residents. An action group will be established, made up of residents prepared to share their views at the Revised Local Development Plan meeting taking place in the new year.

10. **NEW CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS RAISED**

a. **Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) Consultation on Monmouthshire Local Transport Plan**

Councillors felt the plan did not contain any information relevant to the Portskewett area, and that no real information was given on transport proposals. **Action: clerk to submit response.**

b. **Consultation on Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill**

No comments were made.

11. **PLANNING**

a. **Planning Application DM/2023/01504 and DM/2023/01460**

The applications related to 6 Sea View, Sudbrook and the Disused Railway Line, The Pill. Councillors had no concerns with either application, and both were recommended for approval.

12. **FINANCE**

a. **Renewal of Data Protection Registration for 2024**

The renewal fee is due on the 7th January 2024. The amount of £35 will be paid by direct debit. Cllr Fawcitt proposed the payment be approved, seconded by Cllr Parker, agreed by all.

a. **Pink Paper December**

The pink paper for December had been circulated for councillors' consideration. Cllr Parker proposed the following payments be approved, seconded by Cllr Carne, agreed by all:

	£'s
Salaries	1,920.32
Torfaen CBC – Pension contributions	416.19
HMRC – NIC and PAYE	291.45
Merlin Environmental Services (Waste collection November Inv. 1576)	268.80
Portskewett & Sudbrook Recreation Hall (Hire of Hall October Inv. 304)	24.00

Balances held: Current Account £235.57, Deposit Account £13,959.13, and Lloyds Account £0.

Action: clerk to make payments.

Cllr Dymock joined the meeting at this point.

13. **BUDGET 2024/25**

a. **Proposed Budget for 2024/25**

The amended budget for 2024/25 had been circulated. Cllr Carne proposed the budget be approved, seconded by Cllr Parker, agreed by all. **Action: clerk to publish budget.**

b. **Precept Request for 2024/25**

Cllr Parker proposed the clerk submit the precept request of £50,481 to MCC when required, seconded by Cllr Carne, agreed by all. **Action: clerk to submit precept request.**

14. **STAFF APPRAISAL**

a. The Chair had carried out the clerk's appraisal. There was nothing to report.

15. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Place Plan

16. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and gave the date and time of the next meeting as **Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 7pm** at Portskewett & Sudbrook Recreation hall. The meeting was declared closed at 8.00pm.

**Mrs B Young
Clerk**

Chairman's Signature