

Michaelston-y-Fedw Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 1st February 2023 at Michaelston Village Hall

Members Present:

Councillor Mr C Rowlands

Councillor Mr D. Schofield

Councillor Mr L. Meringolo

Councillor Mr N. Hallett

Councillor Mrs L Cohen

Councillor Gareth Davies

Newport City Councillor Mr T. Watkins

Apologies for absence

Councillor Mr C. Walford

Mr Lawrence Russell

02/23/01 – Minutes of the previous meeting

- The minutes of the January meeting with proposed as correct by Councillor Hallett and seconded by Councillor Schofield.

02/23/02 – Matters arising

- It was identified that the pothole situation on Began Road needs to be followed up, it was confirmed that the road had been repaired, however it was agreed that the repairs would not last long and that the road needs to be resurfaced from the village to Cefn Mably Farm Park.
- Action – for the email sent to Councillor Howells to follow up the request for the resurfacing.
- First Aid Group – There was discussion regarding the WhatsApp group that has been established given the difficulty in obtaining ambulance service, no one has yet requested the support of the group. Councillor Cohen suggested that the details of the group be re-circulated. Councillor Schofield advised that those individuals with training could be taken on by Welsh Ambulance.
- NCC Councillor gave an update on the 20mph speed restrictions but confirmed that there is no reference to Michaelston-y-Fedw. Newport City Councillor agreed to follow up on this matter and report back to committee at a future date.
- It was also confirmed that the speed gun currently on loan to the committee will remain with the committee for the foreseeable future.

02/23/03 – Police Matters

- There were no Police in attendance at the meeting this evening and therefore no matters arising.

02/23/04 – Planning

- No new planning applications at present.
- Update given regarding Neuadd Wen – This is still ongoing due to a conflict with the entrance and changes required to the splay of the driveway. Newport City Councillor advised that NCC have confirmed the highway belongs to them and that the applicant would usually contribute to the change of the junction, however no decision has been reached at present.
Councillor Schofield suggested that one solution that the committee suggested was that the speed through the village of Pen-y-Lan be reduced to 30mph reducing to 20mph approaching the entrance to Neuadd Wen.
- Councillor Davies updated on the Judicial Review and advised that he had received notification that this was progressing and was with a London judge who was making inquiries into the decision.
- Newport City Councillor will also follow up and enquire further as to why this wasn't put in front of the committee given the high number of objections (120/90).
- Councillor Schofield added that the Terms of Reference clearly state that contentious issue should go to committee.

02/23/05 – Roads, Hedges & Rights of Way

- Pothole situation on Began Road addressed in Matters Arising.
- It was acknowledged that some of the roads had been gritted once or twice following -- direct requests to NCC (Stefan Harris), including through Pen-y-Lan, however not all. The committee were advised that a lorry had got stuck between 2 hedges on Began Road and that a car had over-turned in Pen-y-Lan, where the roads had not been gritted. It was agreed that the committee need to establish if we are on a schedule for gritting and the previous email needs to be followed up as there was understanding that this suggested that it was not going to be re-assessed as there is no public bus route or community centre. It was agreed that Newport City Council need to be reminded of their obligations under the Road Traffic Act.
- Councillor Davies added that families within the village use a school bus to collect and return their children from school, however, as this is not a public route or a community centre, this could be the reason for Michaelston-y-Fedw not being identified as on the Gritting Schedule. Councillor Davies also added that he along with other neighbours had manually gritted parts of the village from the grit bin to enable residents to safely travel in and out of the village.
- Action – for the Clerk to seek clarification if the gritting was a “one off” and to highlight the importance of being included on the Gritting Schedule.

02/23/06 – Correspondence

- Previous legal advice regarding the need to publish a register of councillors' interests on the web site was wrong, there is no such requirement as long as each councillor declares any relevant interest when matters are discussed. It is inappropriate to publicise personal details in that way and it will be removed from the web site. Councillor Davies stated that he had no objection to this. Councillor Schofield asked if there could be a standing order at the beginning of each meeting to address this.

02/23/07 – Other

- It was reported that Councillor Brian Miles, Chair of Peterstone has resigned from his Community Council.
- Newport City Councillor advised the committee that Democratic Services had met and that it had been agreed that 2 Ward Meetings will be held, the first to discuss the budget and the second to follow up and review how the budget was being managed. There will then be a further 2 meetings, but these will be open and therefore minutes will not be taken but these will be an opportunity for questions and answers, these meeting will commence at the beginning of the new financial year in April 2023 and will be advertised on Newport City Councils website.
- Councillor Schofield advised that the Consultation Process is currently open for the Local Development Plan which will run from 2021-2036. This can be accessed online via the Newport City Council website or alternatively there are 3 sessions being held in February. It was agreed that members of the committee would attend one of these sessions and it was provisionally agreed that this would be on 16 February at Rhiwderin Village Hall and that Councillors Hallett, Rowlands and Schofield would attend.

02/23/08 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st March 2023