

# *Michaelston-y-Fedw Community Council*

**Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 at Michaelston Village Hall**

## **Members Present:**

Councillor Mr C. Walford  
Councillor Mr C Rowlands  
Councillor Mr N. Hallett

Councillor Mr D. Schofield  
Councillor Mr L. Meringolo  
Newport Councillor Mr T Watkins

## **Apologies for absence**

Councillor Mr G. Davies, Councillor Mrs L. Cohen

## **11/22/01 – Minutes of the previous meeting**

- The minutes of the July meeting were proposed as correct by Councillor Walford and seconded by Councillor Davies.

## **11/22/02 – Matters arising**

- The move to Metro Bank is still to be actioned.
- There are still some oak saplings available for people to plant.
- Nothing further has been heard from Newport Council regarding our request for a speed limit. A loan of speed monitoring equipment has been obtained.
- The training plan has been drafted, subject to confirmation from individual councillors about their training preferences.

## **11/22/03 – Police matters**

- The Chairs of local community councils are due to meet with PCSOs bi-monthly. They are reviewing the effectiveness of the local surgeries which are poorly attended.

## **11/22/04 – Planning**

- Residents of Neuadd Wen are having trouble getting an agreed view from Planning and Highways regarding their road access. City Councillor Watkins will take this up with Highways.
- Permission was recently granted by Newport Council for a wind turbine at Clearwell Farm, despite a delay of 8 years since the application was submitted. There is considerable disquiet at the way this has been approved. It was resolved to write to Newport Council setting out the community council's concerns.

## **11/22/05 – Roads, Hedges & Rights of Way**

- Nothing to report.

## **11/22/06 – Correspondence**

- Father Ross Maidment has been appointed as a governor of Marshfield Primary School, representing all the local community councils.
- The Independent Review Panel which decides salary scales for public servants has produced a draft report mandating that councillors be paid £156 pa towards the costs of working from home and a further £52 pa towards office consumables. There is no apparent way to opt out of these payments. All the community councillors currently decline their annual £150 allowance, and the Clerk will ask the IRP to also include an opt out for these new payments.
- Caerphilly Council are holding a public consultation on their Replacement Local Development Plan. Comments can be submitted online.

## **11/22/07 – Finance**

- £360 has been paid to Myfi, being 50% of the cost of the defibrillator cabinet and backpack. A power supply needs to be installed in the phone box for the defibrillator and the cost will be split 50/50 with Myfi.
- £60 is to be paid to the Cefn Mably Arms for remembrance poppies.
- Councillors reviewed and agreed expenditure for the remainder of the financial year.

## **11/22/08 – Meeting Reports**

- A report from the community councils liaison meeting has already been circulated.
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### **Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Michaelston Village Hall**

#### **Members Present:**

Councillor Mr C. Walford  
Councillor Mr L. Meringolo  
Councillor Mr G. Davies

Councillor Mr D. Schofield  
Councillor Mr N. Hallett

#### **Apologies for absence**

Councillor Mr C Rowlands

### **Planning application 14/0460 - Wind turbine at Clearwell Farm**

The meeting was convened to discuss Newport Council's response to the Community Council's pre-action protocol letter. Planning consent has recently been granted under delegated powers, 8 years after the application was submitted and without any further local consultation. The community council contends that the decision process was flawed; the pre-action protocol letter was sent as a precursor to an application for a judicial review. Newport Council's legal department have replied, setting out why they believe their actions were technically legal.

The community council believes that granting permission after such a long delay without any further local consultation is fundamentally wrong, and that a judicial review is warranted. However, there could be significant cost implications for the community council, and councillors therefore feel unable to continue with that action.

A formal complaint is to be lodged with Newport Council, after which the matter can be raised with the Public Services Ombudsman. The planning consultant who acted for the community council at the time of the original application will also be contacted for her opinion.