

Michaelston-y-Fedw Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Michaelston-y-Fedw Village Hall
Wednesday 13th July 2016

Members Present:

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

Ward Councillors Present:

Councillor Mr R. White
Ward Councillor Mr T. Suller

Apologies for absence:

Councillor Mr G. Morgan
Councillor Mrs A. Huckle
Councillor Mr V. Davies

07/16/01 – Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1st June 2016 were proposed as correct by Councillor Walford and seconded by Councillor Rowlands.

07/16/02 – Matters arising

- Additional price quotations are still awaited for strengthening the grass areas of the Village Hall car park.

07/16/03 – Police matters

- The monthly police report for June was circulated at the meeting. The detection rate in this ward last month was 5.2%.

07/16/04 – Planning

- 16/0567 Cefn Wood – conversion from domestic garage to holiday dwelling. The council has no objection to this provided that the neighbours do not object.
- 16/0674 Ty Hir Farm – domestic extension. The council has no objection.
- 16/0348 Re-submission of 15/1459 for Ty Hir Newydd. Newport Council refused consent because the location is “in an isolated, unsustainable location, in a village which lacks convenient access to any local services or facilities and is not served by a bus service”. Councillor Rowlands expressed his serious concern to Ward Councillor White at this decision as it implies that no new dwelling can ever be built in the village, thus rendering it moribund. Councillor Rowlands also complained that Councillor White had voted against the application despite not speaking to the applicant. Councillor White said that he had voted that way because of the objections from neighbours; if the village had a Settlement Boundary then permission would probably have been granted, but it is designated as Open Countryside.

07/16/05 – Roads, Hedges, Verges & Bridges

- There is to be a public inquiry in September regarding the M4 relief road. Two Wentlooge councillors had written asking us to object to the short notice given for the pre-inquiry meeting on the 18th July. Members declined, saying that they wish to see progress made as soon as possible.

07/16/06 – Correspondence

- Community Councils are invited to register interest for the national Fly a Flag For The Commonwealth event on 13th March 2017. Members agreed to register interest.
- Invitation received from the Gwent Police & Crime Commissioner to a discussion re police strategy and local policing on 14th September. Councillors Rowlands and G. Davies will attend.
- Invitation received to attend the Water Level Management Forum on the 18th July. Councillors Walford and Meringolo will attend.

07/16/07 – Finance

- The Internal audit report for the 2015-16 accounts was received too late to meet the deadlines set by the external auditors. The Clerk has agreed revised dates with the external auditors. The accounts have been published for public inspection on the village website. Copies of the accounts were circulated at the meeting and were approved by the members.
- The Model Financial Standards adopted at the last AGM were subsequently withdrawn as defective by One Voice Wales. New standards have now been received – members agreed to formally adopt the revised standards.
- Invoices have been received for the Queen's 90th Birthday medals and for the internal audit. An invoice is to be sent to Wentlooge Community Council for their medals.
- The following cheques were written:
 - Cheque No 458 - £55 clerk's wages
 - Cheque No 459 - £307.50 Queen's Birthday medals
 - Cheque No 460 - £166 internal audit

07/16/08 – Meeting Reports

- Newport Council community councils liaison meeting – Councillor Rowlands and the Clerk attended. The community council raised 2 agenda items, the poor attention given to road maintenance in rural areas and the poor targeting of consultations for planning applications.
 - Road maintenance has been subject to severe budget cuts – local roads have recently been repaired using a jet patcher but there is little prospect of more permanent repairs being carried out.
 - Targeting of Planning consultations is defined by standards and will not be changed. Members discussed whether the Community Council should inform neighbours about planning applications, but to do this for every application would be burdensome and immediate neighbours would be consulted by Planning anyway. The Clerk already checks the weekly planning list and will flag up any application that looks as though it should receive attention.

06/16/08 – Chairman's Business

- Keep Us Rural will be pursuing their action against the solar farm in the Court of Appeal.
- Ward Councillor R. White has received noise complaints concerning Mr D. Phillips' wind turbine. He advised the complainants to consult Environmental Health.
- Councillor G. Davies raise the possibility of extending the local footpath network. Advice will be sought from the Public Rights Of Way officer.

The meeting concluded at 8.30pm.