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Llanhennock Community Council Meeting Held on 02 December 2019 7pm

Present Chairman Waters, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Young, Cllr Heath, Cllr MacLeod, Cllr Chivers, County Cllr Clarke and Clerk Davies.

Apologies Cllr Thomas, Cllr Williams,

Declarations of interest None

Members of the public present Mr Mike Ward

Minutes of the last meeting Approved: Cllr Young Seconded: Cllr Morgan

Matters Arising -

1311/19 Bridge Subsidence near Woodbank:

MCC had mixed up this request with the Newbridge bridge; awaiting further updates.

1312/19 Water leak in Tredunnoch:

Still awaiting update from Welsh Water.

PMN: Welsh Water has said there is a small leak in the connection pipe and they will continue to monitor; they should be informed if the situation worsens/ water pressure to properties becomes low.

1313/19 Weeding and hedge trimming:

Cllr Heath is meeting Morgan tomorrow to cut down the smaller trees to improve visibility at the Toll Bar junction at Cwrt Bleddyn

1314/19 No HGV signs:

MCC were supposed to have contacted Cllr Waters to arrange a site meeting, but he has not received any message. Clerk to email MCC again

1315/19 Gwent Police:

Mr Mike Ward reported that this month there was only one incident of the noisy cars revving engines in the early hours of the morning; this was at 3am on 19th November. Clerk had contacted PC Evans and he had forwarded the information to patrolling officers. Cllrs agreed that it would be difficult for them to catch the offenders and they rely on information from the public who actually witness incidents and can recall a registration plate. Cllr Young suggested putting a notice on LCC Facebook page or website to ask residents to be vigilant and report to the council/police if they have any further information.

Correspondence:

1316/19 Precept payments

Council had been asked whether they would prefer to receive precept payments from MCC every 3 months, as at present, or change to a one-off annual payment. Cllrs agreed that they wished to keep the status quo.

1317/19 Archaeology in planning

Clerk had previously forwarded the email detailing these planning changes to councillors, but they agreed that it would not apply to our wards, as we do not come into the designated areas of archaeology.

1318/19 Biodiversity Policy

Clerk had received templates from OVW, which need to be completed and returned, to outline our policy and actions for biodiversity. Ideas were discussed and the clerk will contact MCC for further suggestions. Our policy will be included on the website in due course.

Reports:

1319/19 Enforcements

New Case: Unauthorised tipping of builder's rubble and material reported on site adjacent to The Beeches, Llanhennock

1320/19 Prison report

Cllr Young attended the meeting at Prescoed Prison and reported the following:

There was a disappointing turnout of councillors at the event- only 2 community councillors and 2 county councillors. Following their annual inspection Usk and Prescoed attained level 4 again (as in 2018/19), which is one level from maximum and only a few prisons nationally achieve this standard. This was based largely on a lack of complaints between warders and prisoners; catering and accommodation conditions; and low absconding rate (only one since last Christmas). This year is the 175th Anniversary of Usk Prison. Staff manned an exhibit at the Usk Show, which had been set up by the prisoners: it depicted the occupations prisoners take part in; a typical cell/ kitchens etc at the prison; and it was voted a prize by the show committee for "Outstanding Promotions". Currently there are 240 prisoners at Prescoed (16 of whom are sex offenders on rehab, 80 are working out) and 276 at Usk Prison. The prison farm is doing well; Tesco have renewed their contract for milk.

Finance Balance in account £4145.33

1321/19 Cheques raised:

Chairman and Councillors reviewed and approved paperwork for the following cheques to be raised :

- £150.24 in respect of Clerk salary for Nov and Dec 2019
- £300 in respect of maintenance work to Morgan Davies
- £562.93 in respect of website management to Linda Wright
- £39.36 in respect of accountant's charges

- £93.60 to HMRC
- £216.90 to Wales Audit Office

Planning None

Any Other Business

1322/19 Post box

It was reported that a new post box has been erected at the Toll Bar.

1323/19 Poppies

Cllr Chivers commented that the big red poppies installed on lampposts in Caerleon were attractive and poignant; he suggested we do something similar next year for Remembrance Day and others agreed. Clerk to contact British Legion.

1324/19 Silver How

Mr Mike Ward pointed out that the newly built house at Silver How had been on the Grand Designs TV programme recently as a finalist in the RIBA House of the Year award. The owners should be congratulated.

Date of next meeting

Monday 6th January 2020 - 7 pm in Llanhennock Village Hall.