

## WYE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of a meeting of the above Council held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm in Llandogo Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs Mawdsley, Parker, Evans, Morrison & Ashman, Shewell, County Cllr Webb & the Clerk.

**3882. Police Reports:** None received.

**3883. To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Snell.

**3884. Public Session:** No one present.

**3885. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda:** None.

**3886. To receive & approve minutes of previous meeting:** Circulated, approved & signed as correct.

#### **3887. Matters Arising from Minutes:-**

(a) David James, MHA has reported that the forthcoming open event for the planned Housing Association Site in Llandogo will now be held the 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 3.30-18.30.

(b) At the previous meeting it was agreed to increase the level of support to Village Halls to cover business rates to £500 per hall. A representative of Tintern Hall Committee has contacted Cllr Shewell and explained they have received notification from MCC Community & Leisure Dept saying Village Halls can have some support from them towards business rates. Councillors agreed that WVCC should pay the difference between the amount MCC pay and the amount of the rates up to a maximum of £500. Cllr Mawdsley reported he still has concerns over Llandogo Village Hall's failure to file proper audited accounts and will draft a letter for the Clerk to send requesting a meeting with the Trustees.

#### **3888. To discuss Planning Applications:** None.

Concerns were raised with regard to the development of the Old Milking Parlour at Furnace Farm, Tintern. There are currently four planning applications for this project dating back to 2015: DC/2015/00025, DC/2019/00679, DC/2023/01239 & DC/2024/01316. The original application included a site plan which shows the existing drive being extended to form a parking area and turning circle off the road next to the proposed holiday let. This plan was submitted to Highways & Tintern Community Council for comment. The two subsequent applications include the same plans to create the parking bay and turning circle. The 2024 application, which has been approved, includes a site plan which only shows a parking bay at road level. There is no provision for off street parking or a turning circle. According to the documents on the MCC website no further consultation has been made to either TCC, WVCC or Highways with regard to the amendments to the plans. The siting of the proposed parking bay is on a very narrow section of the road and on a virtually blind corner, due to other buildings, hedgerows and banks. Cars pulling out of this bay would be potentially driving directly into the path of the oncoming traffic with little warning or visibility. Also, the proposed plans do not appear to show the heights of the new proposed retaining walls or planting regimes, possibly causing further restricting visibility. Clerk to write to MCC

Planning Dept asking for their comments and attention to this matter and stating they also feel that a further consultation with Highways would be pertinent.

**3889. To receive Financial Report:** Charitable A/C £24,116.33, BMM A/C £3,285.16. Amount spent from 1<sup>st</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> April - £354.40.

**3890. To consider & approve accounts for payment:-**

Cheque reissued Clerk's Salary/Expenses of Ch. No. 300603 - £418.55 (Ch. No. 300605)

Merlin Environmental Services - £133.78 (Ch. No. 300606)

One Voice Wales Subscription - £223.00 (Ch. No. 300607)

Clerk's Salary & Expenses - £377.03 (Ch. No 300608)

Data Protection Fee - £52.00 (Ch. No. 300609)

All approved for payment.

**3891. To receive other reports:-**

**Schools** – No report.

**Tintern Church** – Very successful and well attended Hope Festival. Talks are progressing with the owner of the land adjacent to the Churchyard to extend the burial ground.

**Llandogo Church** – No report.

**Village Halls** – Tintern – Very successful Easter Craft Fayre which raised over £700. Usual monthly Produce Market still running. Village Fete 28<sup>th</sup> June.

Llandogo – 16<sup>th</sup> May - Film Night. 17<sup>th</sup> May - Quiz Night. 22<sup>nd</sup> May - AGM. 7<sup>th</sup> June – Barn Dance. 14<sup>th</sup> June – Village Fete.

**Reports from Councillors** –

- (a) Cllr Ashman reported on The Old Milking Parlour, Furnace Farm, Tintern (see under Minute Reference 3888 above).
- (b) An issue was raised relating to concerns about the huge mound of earth and adjacent construction work in the north car park of Browns Shop, Llandogo adjacent to the Wye Valley Arts Centre & School Garden. There are concerns this is unsafe and could fall onto the school garden. Clerk to report the matter.
- (c) Cllr Mawdsley – The issue he has had with collection of purple & red bags continues. Two residents are disabled and have no roadside access and are unable to put their bags out. The Customer Relations Officer has informed him they wish to arrange an alternative way of collecting the bags.

**3892. Reports from Sub-Committees:- Finance.** Information for completion of the basic Audit for 2024/25 received from Audit Wales.

**3893. Update on conversion of existing website to gov.uk format:** Transition of old existing website to gov.uk website is proceeding and now in a position to move to new website when the go ahead is given. It was suggested this is not done until the new Clerk is in post. Cllr Evans proposed that the Council do not rush into transitioning over until someone is shown how the new website runs, which he is willing to do, and aid the new Clerk in transferring it over as in future the Clerk will maintain control of the new website. Cllr Ashman proposed & Cllr Parker seconded this.

**3894. Update on use of gov.uk emails & transitioning from IONOS contract:** Decision to be deferred until next meeting.

**3895. Discuss progress on Clerk's replacement:** Four applications received.

The Recruitment working group will meet to shortlist and discuss the recruitment process as soon as possible. It was **Agreed** that applicants would be interviewed in person.

**3896. Discuss relocation of Litter Bin & Dog Waste Bin behind the Sloop Inn,**

**Llandogo:** Following a meeting between Cllr Parker and Sue Parkinson, MCC it was suggested the best solution to the problem of the siting and misuse of the bins would be to move the existing litter bin behind The Sloop Inn to by the bus stop. It was agreed to leave the existing dog waste bin down the footpath to the river and replace the litter bin below The Sloop with a new dog waste bin. It was also agreed to accept Sue Parkinson's offer of a second hand dog waste bin at a cost of £100. Clerk to place the order and amend the instruction to Merlin Waste.

**3897. Proposed membership of GLEAM:** To be discussed at next meeting after circulation of the link with details.

**3898. Correspondence:** Email from SLCC/OVW re Ethical Framework remote event on the 14<sup>th</sup> May at a cost of £65 + VAT. Agreed Cllr Parker to attend, Clerk to place order.

**3899. Any Other Business:** Cllr Ashman commented that The Bay Cottage renovation is nearly complete. Cllr Morrison reported that the dog waste bin by Tintern Abbey roundabout is not very visible. It was suggested the wall outside the public toilets by the existing litter bins could be a suitable location for another bin. Councillors agreed with this and the Clerk was asked to implement this.

Cllr Shewell asked for an update on the installation of a disabled parking bay on Fryer's Wharf. Cllr Ashman has the matter in hand.

**3900. Date of next meeting:** AGM 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.45.

Signed .....

Dated .....