

Michaelston-y-Fedw Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Michaelston-y-Fedw Village Hall Wednesday November 7th 2018

Members Present:

Councillor Mr. N. Hallett
Councillor Mr G. Davies
Councillor Mr C. Walford
Councillor Mr. L. Meringolo
City Councillor Mr. R. White

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Mr. D. Schofield
Councillor Mr. G. Morgan
Councillor Mrs. J. Taylor
City Councillor Mr. T. Suller

11/18/01 – Minutes of the previous meeting

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

11/18/02 – Matters arising

- Councillor Schofield has completed the Welsh Government survey about unadopted roads.
- Councillor Hallett met with the Chair of Marshfield Community Council regarding road safety on the A48 in Castleton. Marshfield CC have previously discussed this at some length and they will provide us with copies of the relevant documents prior to a further meeting. City Councillor White has been trying to get improvements, e.g. traffic lights or a roundabout, since about 2008 but Newport Council have resisted action because of the lack of fatal accidents. It is acknowledged that Newport Council is very short of money, but there is very real concern at the danger involved for drivers negotiating the junctions at Coalpit Lane and Marshfield Road and for pedestrians trying to cross the road. A further meeting of the community councils will be held, and City Councillor White will support any request for action made to Newport Council.

11/18/03 – Police matters

- The monthly police report was circulated prior to the meeting. No concerns were raised.

11/18/04 – Planning

- No new applications received.
- It was noted that the waste disposal operations at Croescarneinon Farm are continuing despite the refusal of planning consent. Planning enforcement officers are reported to be extremely busy elsewhere.

11/18/05 Roads & Rights of Way

- The large amount of tree debris stuck under Michaelston Bridge has now been removed.

11/18/06 – Correspondence

- St Michael's Church has requested that a representative of the community council lays a wreath at the Remembrance Sunday service. Councillor Hallett will liaise with Councillor Taylor.

11/18/07 – Finance

- No significant changes to the financial position this month.
- Newport Council has published a proposal to withdraw the Concurrent Grant from all community councils from 2019. This grant currently amounts to about 25% of the community council's income, with the remainder coming from the Council Tax Precept. The grant is discretionary, and Newport Council say that they can no longer afford it. In principle councillors agree with the proposal to withdraw the grant and to rely on the precept for funds, as this is seen as more open and transparent. However, there may be an impact on the community council's ability to help maintain the village hall and to strengthen the car park surface, as these will cost more than the precept unless that increases. It also conflicts with the recent Independent Review Panel's recommendation to expand and enhance the roles of community and town councils. The effect on this council's budget will be considered in detail at the December / January budget-setting.

11/18/09 – Other Business

- A resident has complained about water running across Druidstone Road near Reservoir House as it smells like sewage and there is also a danger to road users when freezing weather arrives. Councillor Meringolo will investigate this.

The meeting closed at 8.05 pm

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th December 2018.