

Coedkernew Community Council

Minutes: 7th May 2024

Present:

Chair Cllr T Boswell Vice-Chair Cllr D Johnston Cllr H Boswell

Cllr A Roger-Hewitt Cllr G Thomas

NCC Cllr R Howells

CSO C Doidge CSO M Watts

Marshfield CC Chair Cllr C Davies

1. Apologies

Cllr P Turner work commitments.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of previous meeting on 2nd April 2024 were accepted as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

Horse box: This has now moved on, what triggered this we do not know.

Car Cruisers: Nothing to report this month. Scramblers and quad bikes are moving into the area from Ty Mawr Lane, Marshfield.

Celtic Way Road Closure: Pencarn Avenue has now been used as a rat run, to the dismay of residents. The Council has been contacted and the road will be opened shortly.

Celtic Horizon Playground: NCC Cllr R Howells reports that work is ongoing, drainage channels have been dug, which should stop the waterlogging that has historically plagued the area, a request has been lodged with NCC to plant some trees in the area. Weather depending the work could be completed by 20th May, with an opening event on the 23rd of May.

5. Newport City Councillors Report

Celtic Horizon: See above.

Microsoft: NCC Officers and Councillors have engaged with project management at the company to discuss climate change, sustainability, and waste heat recovery.

Figures suggest that the current developments in the area (not just Microsoft), could power all houses in Newport. Issues with a lack of support systems, technology shelf life render the ideas unviable at this point in time.

Fly tipping: Hawse Lane issues are ongoing in the area. This prompted a discussion on the lack of real deterrents for fly tipping, the need to raise awareness and the lack of accessibility of the tip. Marshfield Chair Cllr C Davies noted that the chairs of Marshfield, Peterstone, Wentloog and Coedkernew have agreed to write to NCC in respect to the fly tipping in the area. Cycling tourism has been encouraged in the area and it is embarrassing to see the level of fly tipping tolerated by NCC, with increased incidents along Green Lane and the Coast Road. Community Councillors then gave examples of personal experiences at the tip where NCC workers refused to accept householders bringing in small amounts of rubble from their homes and charging for plaster board. Another witnessed paper and plastic carefully separated by residents dumped into the same chute by roadside collection employees. Excessive litter in the areas after bin day, a pedantic attitude to grass with roots on in the grass cuttings collection boxes. Residents see this and are disheartened by the poor service they are getting – one knock-on effect being fly tipping. NCC Cllr R Howells acknowledged concerns raised and pledged to write to NCC with the concerns raised.

Potholes: Significant potholes on the A48/Blacksmiths Way Island, with no way to avoid them, possibly because of the car cruisers racing around. Cllr A Roger-Hewitt has already emailed NCC about the island potholes and those further up by the layby – to be forwarded to NCC Cllr R Howells to follow up. It was noted that the chevrons were not very visible on the Celtic Way roundabout.

6. Police Matters

19:00 hrs the Police arrived on time to give their report. CSO C Diodge will take over from CO S Davies in October.

St Brides: Reports of drug dealing in the area, information on car registrations would help enormously.

Car cruisers: The last operation that called in RSPO has clearly worked; they will respond when needed in the future as workload allows. Sunday nights continue to be a priority.

Fly tipping: Continue to report all fly tipping to NCC. Serious concerns were raised when Officers responded to reports of drugs dumped in the area by NCC.

Unfortunately, the area was contaminated with asbestos, which NCC had not been cordoned off, which exposed officers. Residents are reminded to not inspect any fly tipped waste – just report it to NCC.

Operation Absorb: This was deemed a success in the area, see this month's Police report.

Light House: Not a Coedkernew CC issue, Marshfield Chair Cllr C Davies raised concerns that residents local to the Lighthouse report anti-social gatherings late at night in the NCC run carpark. Police request that the gates are locked at 9/10pm at night and a height restricted gate as cost-effective deterrents, they can then drive past to check on the area. NCC Cllr R Howells has already escalated this issue as raised in previous Marshfield CC meetings.

19:30hrs the Police concluded their report and left.

19:35hrs NCC Cllr R Howells left the meeting.

7. Finance Matters

Internal Auditors have been approached; we have two quotes:

- Local Accountants £170
- Local Community Council Clerk £160 – this cost will also apply to a 2022-2023 internal audit.

Vote: To engage the Local Community Council Clerk – unanimous.

Zurich Insurance renewal: £257.60, same as last year for Public Liability Insurance.

Vote to renew: unanimous.

Clerk/RFO Wages: After a tense phone call with a HMRC representative the Clerk was advised that it was best for all concerned that I was paid on a monthly basis and not biannually as per previous practice. This had to start immediately, which the Chair kindly agreed to; therefore, I am now paid on the 29th of the month, which started in April.

8. Planning

Ref: 24/0196 Vantage Data Centres – no comment.

Ref: 24/0282 Oak House – Childcare company is now installed in the building.

9. Correspondence

OVW: Innovative Practice Conference – For information only.

OVW: Preparation & Publication of Annual Reports – For information only.

NCC: Absent Voting – For information only.

OVW: Training dates – For information only.

NCC: 20mph Speed Review – Cllrs were encouraged to complete the form in.

10. Any Other Business

Speed Camera: Police now have permission to use Castleton Village Hall to park in for the Mobile Speed Camera. Drivers going over 26mph will be prosecuted.

DPD Lorries/TNT: Marshfield Chair Cllr C Davies reports that several near misses have been reported in the Marshfield area.

NRW Wales: The recent footage of muck spreading from a highway in the local area, which then contaminated local drains will be forwarded to CCC Chair Cllr T Boswell and the Marshfield CC Chair Cllr C Davies to present at the next meeting.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be at 18:30hrs on 4th June 2024 at the Parc Golf Club.