

MINUTES OF TREWERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT TREWERN COMMUNITY CENTRE AND VIA MS TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Present: Councillors Gill Corfield (Chair), Judy Evans, David Corfield, Peter Davies, Colin Jenkins, Nicola Dyson, Phil Hughes, Fiona Warburton and Rob Breakwell.

2117 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillor Amanda Jenner.

2118 Minutes of the Meeting from 21st January for approval

Minutes from the meeting held on 21st January to now be approved and signed by GC.

Proposed by PD and seconded by JE

Private minutes from the meeting held on 21st January to now be approved and signed by GC.

Proposed by ND and seconded by JE

2119 Declarations of Interest – Blanket dispensations have been received for matters relating to wind farms, renewable energy, membership of voluntary organisations, school governors, school modernisation and school transport.

RB, DC and GC declared an interest in Play area Lease, Middletown.

2120 Matters arising not covered elsewhere on agenda

None.

2121 Playgrounds

Play area Lease, Middletown

It was agreed that this could now be removed from the agenda.

ROSPA Inspection

The report was satisfactory, with only minor tasks requiring attention. PD and DC will complete these. Cracks have appeared in the wet pour surface; a suitable repair product is available for this. There are some issues with the Runway play equipment, which may require a manufacturer inspection. Necessary repair materials need to be ordered.

ACTION: GC/PD/DC

The condition of Nelly Andrews Green is very poor. The road leading up to Middle Heldre is in an extremely poor state. Potholes near Llwyn Melyn require further repair. It was agreed to first hold the online meeting with Cllr Charlton to discuss these concerns. Depending on the outcome, Jake Evans, Highways Inspector, may then be contacted to assess the situation.

A repair date has been set for the deteriorating section of the road U2253, which is narrowing daily. The planned repair involves placing large stone blocks in a cage as a foundation, which should provide a more stable solution than the current structure. It is unclear whether the damaged fence on the bridge will also be repaired as part of the works. CJ will take before-and-after photographs to keep a record in case any issues arise in the future.

ACTION: CJ

2122 Highways

Criggion Lane/Gate Farm Housing Development – CCAJ has submitted several queries and is awaiting an update.

Moelygolf Road – The potholes are in a terrible condition, with some residents placing cones over them. Repairs are scheduled for next week.

Heldre Lane – CCAJ has requested an assessment to determine whether planned works can be brought forward, as the road has deteriorated significantly due to winter weather.

Hope Road - The condition of the potholes by Stone House, Hope Road is a terrible mess.

Bacheldre Lane - nasty pot hole one on the corner just before Middletown farm (Middletown side).

AE to report potholes on the PCC online portal. It was agreed to send a list of potholes to PCC every month or two and request updates on their repair status.

ACTION: AE

Potters Booking/Paying System - CCAJ strongly opposes the potential introduction of the Potters booking and paying system and will vote against any motion presented to the council that includes its implementation. Discussions have been held with local residents who also oppose the system. A similar system was trialled in Shropshire but was unsuccessful. AE will draft a letter of opposition to Cllr Jackie Charlton, and AE will ask CCAJ which department the letter should also be sent to, also copy Russell George into the email too.

ACTION: AE

It was thought that the last bus departing Newtown would be at 4:30pm, which could affect workers and students, but it is not yet confirmed. Celtic Bus Company may be reducing services, but another company could be taking over the route from Newtown to Shrewsbury. PD is concerned about the potential cuts. AE will double-check with CCAJ and inform PD accordingly.

ACTION: AE

2123 County Councillors' Report

See 'Highways'

2124 Planning

An update email from the Planning Enforcement Officer was reviewed, including correspondence regarding Henstone Distillery. The Planning Enforcement Officer has advised that the temporary siting of storage containers for the distillery can be supported for a period of two years. However, justification must be provided explaining why the development needs to be located at this site and why a more sustainable alternative could not be found. The applicants must also consider the long-term location of the development and ensure compliance with both current and future planning policies.

Following last month's discussion regarding concerns over sewerage capacity for the proposed development next to Pentre Gwyn, Trewern, AE received an update from Severn Trent. Severn Trent highlighted that while developers have a "right to connect" to their assets, all development proposals are assessed on a case-by-case basis. They use modelling data to determine the impact on the network and can impose restrictions on discharge rates to avoid overwhelming the system. Severn Trent also confirmed that an ongoing programme of investigative work is being carried out in the area to assess infiltration and network performance. Any necessary remedial works will be completed to enhance the system's capacity. Additionally, new developments are encouraged to use Sustainable Drainage Solutions (SuDS) to reduce demand on the sewage network.

2125 Finance

Bank Reconciliation

The bank reconciliation shows that there is £42,492.34 in the accounts at the end of January 2025.

Bank reconciliation and bank statements checked to confirm that it is all in order.

GC to now sign bank statements.

Proposed by FW and seconded by ND

GC and PH have had difficulty logging onto HSBC Online Bank Account, whilst AE was on holiday. AE checked the log in details for GC and it seems to be working. GC to double check.

ACTION: GC

Payments

Clerk Salary - £268.95 (January payment) under L.G.A 1972 s112.

Middletown Village Hall - £25 (Hall hire for January) under L.G (M.P) Act 1976 s19 (3).

PAYE - £201.80

Proposed by PD and seconded by PH

2126 Correspondence

None.

2127 Any Other Business

Bus shelter painting

The Middletown bus shelter requires sanding down and repainting to cover the inappropriate symbols that have been scratched into the paintwork. Given the condition of the walls, it was agreed that we should obtain two quotations for a full refurbishment of the both bus shelters (Middletown and Trewern). Regarding the ivy on the Trewern bus shelter, GC will consult CA Bowen about its removal. Additionally, plastic debris has accumulated behind the bus shelter. GC will arrange for its removal.

ACTION: GC

Reviewing TCC's Policies and Procedures

Deferred until next meeting.

Co-option of new councillor

One expression of interest has been received. PD is aware of another potential candidate. Interested individuals must submit their applications by 17th March. AE will publish an advert for the Co-option of a New Councillor on the Facebook page, TCC website, and local noticeboards. AE must wait until 5th March to proceed, in case any electors request an election.

ACTION: AE

2128 Date of Next Meetings

18 March 2025 at Middletown Village Hall and via MS Teams.