

Ordinary Meeting MINUTES

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

Colin Deakins (Chair), Cllr Jenny Carpenter (Vice-Chair), Cllr Jo Storey, Cllr Ann Bowyer

County Councillor Tony Kear

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Julian Bowen-Sargent, Cllr Jan Clarke

Meirion Howells of MCC sends his apologies

3. Declarations of Interest

- a. No declarations made

4. Co-option of Councillor

- a. The Chair introduced Geraint Spacey a resident of Little Mill who was in attendance and wished to be co-opted onto the council. Proposed Cllr Carpenter seconded by Cllr Storey. As Mr Spacey was eligible to be co-opted and the clerk / council could see no reason not to allow Mr Spacey to join he was welcomed as a new councillor and representative of Little Mill.

5. Chair's Remarks

- a. No remarks

6. Comments/Questions from the Public

- a. No members of public present

7. County councillor participation

- a. The Chair raised the matter of hedges that had been cut down. Councillor Kear explained that this work had not been permitted. The matter has been reported by Councillor Meirion Howells (hedge is opposite Monkswood Church on the A472)
- b. Llandegfedd Reservoir; November planning meeting; amendments to existing planning application that had been submitted. The water sport centre and visitor's centre are in separate wards. As a result, Councillor Kear had not been kept up to date by the planning department as they were not aware. A planning meeting took place today (11th Jan) to clarify recommendations by planning department (ambiguity over 'events') intended to mean weddings and similar. Concerns over SSSI status Objections from Wildlife Trust and Gwent Ornithological Trust. NRW expressed concerns but did not object overall to the project / plans.
 - i. Originally LCC supported the plan to extend opening hours of the visitor's centre but not the development of the water sport centre. This was in 2020.
 - ii. There are concerns over accommodating parties so close to the water's edge. However, this does not fall under the remit of planning.
 - iii. Statutory Speed limit consultation between Usk bridge and Morris' Garden centre. Reducing 40mph to 30mph and 30mph to 20mph.
 - iv. Councillor Kear has consulted on MCC with the quality of the pavement and drains along the road by Morris' Garden centre as per Cllr Bowyer's complaint submitted in 2022.
 - v. Little Mill speed may be in the second phase of speed reduction roll outs in 2023.
 - vi. Meetings held with uTag and MCC officers over Usk rail line path. Considered to cost £1.8m between Usk and Usk college. uTag offering to carry out the work with volunteers. Under review. Torfaen council involved due to development along main road.

8. Approval of Minutes

Ordinary Meeting 11th December 2022. Proposed by Cllr Ann Bowyer seconded by Cllr Jenny Carpenter.

9. Matters arising from minutes if not on agenda

No matters raised.

10. Action Points / Clerk Report

Clerk ran through the action points.

AP04 – LCC still needs to provide web host with information about Little Mill for ward page on website.

AP20 – Cllr Bowyer has taken Chair's Chain to be repaired. This will cost £50.

- AP21 – Cllr Bowen-Sargent is in communication with geology trail group about scouts attending ‘open day’
- AP22 – Updated assets sent to insurance company.
- AP23 - LCC still communicating with MCC to clarify maintenance contract and outstanding amount
- AP24 – DL Corran has been notified to carry out tree maintenance work
- AP25 – Alltree Services have been contacted to carry out PICUS survey
- AP26 – MCC reported that climbing frame was removed from Llanbadoc Island playpark as it was reportedly dangerous
- AP27 – Police confirm Little Mill is included in Police Reports received by LCC.
- AP28 – Complaint has been submitted regarding quality of paths / road and water drainage by Morris’ Garden centre.
- AP29 – New email address for Cllr Geraint Spacey to be set up.

11. Finance & Procedure

a. Authorisation of payments to be made

£ 101.40	Merlin Waste Management
£ 47.00	Reimbursement for Chair’s Chain plaques to Jenny Carpenter
£ 513.00	Clerk’s Salary
£ 474.00	PICUS Survey Alltree Services
£3588.00	Woodland Maintenance Corran Tree Services
£ 20.00	Little Mill Room Booking Fee
£4743.40	Total

Proposer Cllr Jenny Carpenter, seconded Cllr Jo Storey to authorise these payments.

b. Summary of bank statement and account balances

The Clerk informed councillors on the current account balance which is; £26,784.20

c. Ratification of budget for 2023/2024

- i. It was agreed better to set contingency than to reduce precept. Agreed to keep precept the same. Chair proposed precept stays same. Cllr Jo Storey seconded.

d. Review of Risk Assessment

- i. Risk Assessment was discussed, and it was agreed that the document would be circulated to all councillors to submit their comments by the next meeting.

12. Maintenance

- a. Update on SIDS including quotation
- b. Rumble strips & white line repainting
- c. Trostra Road road sign
 - i. Request for sign received. Ongoing, Chair and Cllr Jenny to visit resident who submitted request and conduct a site survey. Revisit matter next meeting.

13. External Reports

- a. Receipt of police Report circulated to councillors

14. Planning

- a. Receipt of planning enforcement notices circulated to councillors
- b. DM/2022/01713 – plans were shown to councillors at the meeting. Due to the sensitive nature of the application the information could not be shared.

15. Reports from Advisory Groups

- a. Cllr Bowyer is not able to attend the next meeting so an available LCC councillor will need to attend if possible.

16. Any other business

17. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 06.00pm at Monmouthshire County Hall

Dated

Signed