



**Ordinary Meeting Tuesday 26th
September 2023
Usk Conference Room – County Hall 1800
– 2000**

Minutes

Attendance

Cllr Jenny Carpenter (Chair), Cllr Geraint Spacey, Cllr Jo Storey, Cllr Jan Clarke

Cllr Bowen-Sargent was able to access the meeting online at a later point.

Apologies

Cllr Colin Deakins, Cllr Ann Bowyer

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Jenny Carpenter – litter at Llanbadoc Island (email sent by Anglers)

Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed back Councillor Geraint Spacey who has been absent due to health issues.

Announcements

A4042 closed at Mamhilad roundabout due to road surfacing from 8pm until 6am on the 27th and 28th September 2023.

Comments / Questions from Public

No members of public in attendance

County Councillor Participation

Meirion Howells has become involved with an ongoing issue concerning Glascoed Apiary which LCC has brought to the attention of MCC. A resident of Glascoed paid for a pre-planning application to be carried out on their property and has had no response despite months passing. MCC promised a response September 2023 but the time period has lapsed and no response has been submitted.

The Damaged man-hole cover near The Beaufort has been repaired by Dwr Cymru.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes from 25th July 2023 – Deferred until next month as there weren't enough councillors present from the last meeting to agree to the accuracy of the minutes.

Action Points / Clerk Report

Only One quote received for woodland survey by James Pinder of the three requested. (Confirmation of acceptance is on point b in maintenance)

Councillors are happy for LCC to use leftover funds from the Twyn Y Cryn lottery project to purchase materials that can be used to construct bird boxes to be installed in the woodland. A volunteer from Chepstow is happy to make the boxes. Clerk to advise how much is left

The Clerk received a ballpark quote from MCC for a bench that could be installed in the Twyn Y Cryn woodland (subject to permissions) the price is between £7-£800 for a recycled plastic composite bench. Councillors were not convinced that this style of bench would be the most practical and that perhaps a more natural solution would be required.

The annual health and safety report for Little Mill play park has been carried out by MCC and will be circulated once it has been received – a copy will be sent to Little Mill Village Hall Association (LMVHA)

The new swing has been ordered for Little Mill Play Park and should be received by MCC this week with a view to it being installed by the end of October.

The defibrillator at Little Mill Village Hall has been registered to The Circuit – Stickers with Clerk's details need to be put onto the devices within the wards. **Clerk to order stickers**

Cllr Bowyer has made enquiries about restoring the K6 telephone box at Llanbadoc Island. There is a consensus that the telephone box is listed. Cllr Bowyer is waiting for a response from MCC to find out if the telephone box can be removed for restoration as it is registered as listed.

[Telephone Call-box at Church of St Madoc, Llanbadoc, Monmouthshire \(britishlistedbuildings.co.uk\)](http://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk)

Finance & Procedure

- a. Confirm receipt of precept – Q2 precept payment has been received from MCC
- b. Note automatic payments: ICO and HSBC charges (£35 & £5.80)
- c. Authorisation of payments to be made
 - a. Merlin Waste Management £109.40
 - b. Staff salary for October 2023 £520.16
- d. Suspend standing orders to add in internal auditor invoice J Turner for £200.00 – invoice was not received prior to agenda released
- e. £37.55 for ink / Viking Stationary
 - a. Payments Proposed by Cllr Spacey Geraint seconded by Cllr Storey
- f. Resolution to approve appraisal for staff members – Council happy for appraisal to be arranged as Clerk has been with LCC for a year.
- g. Review and consider funding request received from Little Mill Village Hall – Application is for £2465 – Concerns over grant amount being higher than the total cost of the quote for new fire doors. LCC confer that a meeting with LMVHA is required before the next budget review.

Community

- a. Council in favour of bird boxes / bat boxes to be installed at Twyn Y Cryn.
- b. Meirion Howells has suggested contacting Prescoed prison regarding the construction of benches for Twyn Y Cryn. **Cllr Carpenter to provide contact details**

Maintenance

- a. Report of litter at Llanbadoc Island along riverbank (report submitted by Usk Angler's) Cllr Carpenter did not discuss this matter due to conflict of interest. Angler's have asked LCC to

contact them with date for next voluntary litter pick as they wish to attend. Council agreed it would notify Anglers of next litter pick.

- b. Quote for tree survey: Agreed to use James Pinder plus a contingency of £300 to add Little Mill. Proposed by Cllr Spacey and seconded by Cllr Clarke.
- c. Note progress with red telephone box: Noted in action points. Cllr Bowyer awaiting details about the grade listing. Registered Grade II listed – planning consent required and might not be movable for refurbishment (would have to be in situ)
- d. Propose Isobel Brown to carry out work to rehash the website. Remove information that isn't required. Usk Valley Studios host / maintain the website. It would benefit tidying up. All Councillors requested to engage with refurbishment

External Reports

- a. Received and circulated most recent Police Report
- b. Received and circulated most recent Cyber Security Report
- c. Cllr Bowen-Sargent discussed the points raised at the last Little Mill Village Hall Meeting and agreed that LCC and LMVHA should have a meeting to discuss working together going forward.

Planning

- a. Note receipt of enforcement notices comment that none had recently been received Clerk to check.
- b. DM/2023/00828 – previous comments still stand. Clerk to write to planning reiterating last points submitted.

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 24th October Usk Room County Hall

Meeting finished at 19:55