



*Dedicated to research, restore and protect
Mynydd Twmbarlwm - Gwent's most iconic landmark*

*Ymroddedig i ymchwilio, adfer a gwarchod
Mynydd Twmbarlwm - tîrnod mwyaf eiconig Gwent*

www.twmbarlwm.co.uk

e-mail: twmbarlwmsociety@gmail.com

Trustees and Members Meeting

Monday 6th March 2017
Cross Keys Rugby Club

MINUTES

Attendance

Terry Evans (Chair); Martyn Vaughan, David Parry; Sue Evans; Norman Liversuch; Alan Booth;
Les Murphy; Charles Ferris; Rob Southall;

1 APOLOGIES

Maggie Thomas; Howard Vicary; Sam Southall;

2. MINUTES of Trustees' Meeting held on 5 December 2016

The minutes of the meeting were agreed
No matters arising, items covered in main Agenda

3. TIDY TWMP

Maggie's litterpick went ahead in dreadful weather, both January and February, but several stalwarts attended even so.

We agreed we should buy some more litterpick sticks and bag holders. (SE will sort)

There are repeated attempts to hold the Gate open, we discussed adding signage with explanation of laws and keeping in stock etc.

Terry and others have reported more burned out cars, Gethin said he and his department were aware of them too. Further Fly-tipping areas, one was suspected to be Asbestos roofing. Terry will continue to email the relevant departments to advise them

Bill F-W wants to purchase some whips to infill areas of the Alamo where the first trees have failed. We'll arrange a party to go up with him when the trees are delivered. The first section of the Alamo looks vulnerable as the infill has died back, we will look at putting in some of the new trees there as well.

Gethin/Dave will try to get the car park steps done – hopefully before the Good Friday Walk.

4. CCBC/TORFAEN/COMMONERS WORKS

Gethin Bowes attended to give us an update on the current works. The majority of the project has been completed, but ongoing issues of vandalism, especially of the dry stone wall are still being done. The stonemason doesn't want to secure the capstones with mortar, as it makes it even more difficult to repair if they break it again.

Gate- There are repeated attempts to hold it open

Block stones- some of the block stones appear to have been moved by third parties, also some have had fires lit against them which resulted in them cracking into smaller pieces. Gethin said that he has a quote for the block stones of 21.50 each at the moment and felt we should stockpile some for future projects.

As previously mentioned, funding for 2017-18 is expected to be at the same level, so Les Murphy and the Commoners have compiled a list including more Bracken spraying, Boundary Reinforcement,

They are also going to restore some wetland/pond areas, previously included in the Glastir plans. There are a total of 15 ponds across the common, 5-7 need renovating, Les will present plans of the work at the next meeting.

CTS want to look at other areas such as access, bio-diversity projects and interpretation signage. We need to compile a list of proposed signs for Gethin to move forward on this..

We still want to address infilling the scoured paths, Sue Evans suggested using the excavated material from the top pond, in conjunction with a series of barriers. This gets around the problem of importing foreign material, and to such a difficult access site.

Simon James – Wildlife Crime Officer – attended to give us some information regarding the Uplands Report meeting, involving several AM's, Senior Police and councillors.

He said that the problem of off road activity and landscape crime is being taken more seriously, originally there was only one officer assigned – him – and the terrain posed serious difficulties for policing, seeing as the perpetrators were on off road bikes, and he was not allowed to pursue etc. However, there is talk of using drone cameras to monitor areas, enabling more joint operations.

Caerphilly/Torfaen/BGwent will meet twice a year and CTS will be invited.

There is more interest from higher Police ranks, and there is a need for offering designated off road areas.

Norman Liversuch said that it is not a new problem, he was having similar meetings in 1970's!

5. OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES - TRIG POINT ADOPTION SCHEME

Mr Norman Liversuch has submitted plans to the Cadw contacts, Louise Mees and Amelia Pannet, and is awaiting their response.

6. CAMPAIGN TO SAVE CWMCARN FOREST DRIVE

Mr Rob Southall reported that the next meeting would be on the 27th March. He is expecting several politicians to attend, and wants to ask other groups to speak – Businesses, other interested groups etc.

7 EVENTS

The Annual Hot Cross Bun Walk will be on Good Friday – April 14th

May 14th - Mr Les Murphy will lead another walk around Penyrheol now that the bracken spraying and landscape hardening works have been completed. Meet at carpark 10.30am, bring your own light refreshments. (some steep sections)

Caerphilly Walking - THE WILD BOAR 2017 - Saturday 6th of May, 2017, an organized event bringing hundreds of people into the area, we should ask them if we can put one of our leaflets in the contestants pack.

8. CALENDAR

Report on sales of the Calendar produced by TE and SE

We produced 50 copies initially, which sold out in a short time, and have reprinted 100 copies, some of which we have placed in The Cwmcarn Visitor Centre and Thoughts card shop to be sold. Sue and Terry had a spell in Tesco's foyer where they sold approx. 20 copies.

Online sales were brisk initially, but have slowed a little now. All members are asked to sell a couple.

9. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE

Martyn Vaughan has been added to the bank account as signatory..

We now have a Bank Debit Card to enable purchases of supplies.

10. A.O.B.

none

Next Trustees meeting Monday 5th June