



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

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

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Trustees and Members Meeting

MINUTES

Monday 9th December 2019

Held at Philanthropic Inn, Twyncarn Road, Pontywaun,

ATTENDANCE

Terry Evans (Chair); Martyn Vaughan; Sue Evans; Norman Liversuch;
Charles Ferris, Bill Fearnley-Whittingstall; Les Murphy

1 APOLOGIES

Howard Vicary;

2. MINUTES of Trustees' Meeting held on Tuesday 1st October 2019

Accepted as read with amendment under point 4:

4. COMMONERS WORKS - Amend the word 'mud' to 'Clay'

Reviewed and Approved by the meeting, no matters arising

3. Re-Cap of AGM and Appointing Officers

- i. Election of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer.
Proposed that existing Officers remain in post. Elected en bloc
- ii. Trustees elected at the AGM were:- Terry Evans (Chairman); Norman Liversuch (Vice Chairman); Martyn Vaughan (Treasurer); Sue Evans (Secretary)
Les Murphy; Howard Vicary; Charles Ferris, Bill Fearnley-Whittingstall
- iii. Rob Southall did not stand for re-election due to poor health. The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to him, for his dedicated work with the Society for many years. He will be concentrating his efforts on FoCFD.
- iv. Sam Southall did not stand for re-election due to work commitments. The meeting also recorded a vote of thanks for his enthusiastic work with the Society.
- v. Discuss the officers' roles and duties
There is a vacancy for the Events Officer with Rob Southall retiring, and The Directory Article could be written by other Trustees in rotation.
- vi. In the discussion concerning the structure of the Society the position of Patron was queried. The records were not immediately to hand but TE recalled that our original Patron, Lord Don Touhig PC KSS, had stood down and Chris Evans MP was offered the post. TE to search the records and report at the next meeting – if it transpires that Chris is officially our Patron we should contact him to remind him of his position, update him on our progress and try to involve him more in the future.
- vii. The Frequency and nature of future meetings.

It was thought that Trustees Meetings should be held on a regular quarterly basis, the first Monday in - February, June, September and December was agreed.

It was suggested that a Members meeting could be included in a Talks evening, to keep the Members up to date with what we are doing.

4. Constitution, Objectives and Priorities

- i. Various points in The Constitution were discussed for amendment and/or clarification. TE/SE will apply proposed amends to Constitution and present at next meeting for approval. - in brief:
Point 3 - Trustees must be members
Point 5 - Delete point sub-point ii
Point 6 - sub-point v - must inform Trustees of intent to stand, proposed and seconded
Point 6 - sub-point vi - Will retire at AGM etc make new point vii
Point 7 - iv - ... appoint further trustees...
Point 8 - iv - ... all cheques 2 signatures out of 3 signatories ...
Point 9 - iii - 51% of members
- ii. The date of the AGM should be set and announced at least a month in advance. Documents should be circulated to members 14 days prior.
- iii. From next Year the AGM will be set as the 2nd Monday in November.
- iv. When applying for funding our status as "A Small Charity" seems inadequate as we have no registered number etc. We therefore need to clarify our Charity Status - we should all do some research into this for further discussion

5. ARCHAEOLOGY and CADW

- i. TE received a note from Fiona Grant regarding her Core Sampling Results - just to say she has had some results back from the Lab and would keep us informed of progress.
- ii. Received email from Paul Belford with information of CPAT's change of address
- iii. No further work until the Spring.

6. CCBC/TORFAEN/COMMONERS WORKS

- i. Les Murphy reported on several initiatives he and the Commoners are involved in,
- ii. He and Howard are to go to Aberystwyth University to see research being undertaken on ponds and Wetlands management.
- iii. A Hydrologist has been appointed Clerk of Works to oversee the Bog restoration at Penyrheol, work will take three weeks in January/February. They will be using a specially adapted wide track digger, for excavation.
- iv. First 48 hectares of bog to be reinstated, and then a second 40 hectares later, which makes this the fourth largest bog area in Wales.

7. TIDY TWMP

- i. Maggie Thomas, although no longer a Trustee, still leads the monthly litter picks, and the number attending averages 12 people. She never puts in a claim for the tea, coffee and biscuits she supplies every month so SE suggested we send her a cheque for £25 as a token of our thanks for all her hard work.
- ii. A couple of new faces have joined us, but we could do with a few more. The bags are later collected by CCBC

8. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE

- i. Bank balance is currently £8,685.46
- ii. New memberships and renewals in since last meeting 60
- iii. We have 593 followers on Facebook – we should have a push to convert these into paid-up members

9. CAMPAIGN TO SAVE CWMCARN FOREST DRIVE

- i. As Rob Southall is no longer a Trustee, it will be up to individuals who are serving on the various NRW Focus Groups to update us on any issues that interest or impact CTS.

10. EVENTS

- i. Wednesday 25th March 2020 - Talk on the Gwent Levels, by Gavin Jones of the Living levels Partnership, at Crosskeys RFC – This talk, organised by NL, was postponed from last October due to the Archaeology beginning

PROPOSED EVENTS - *(not discussed at length but left here as a note to follow them up)*

- ii. Will Davies of Cadw - A talk at Crosskeys on the history of Newport Castle (still trying to pin him down to a date).
- iii. Possibly a talk on the glass findings - TE will discuss with Andrew Morgan.
- iv. The Christmas Quiz was postponed, suggested we hold it in May instead.
- v. A walk around Penyrheol with Les Murphy, to see the work on the Bog project.

11. A.O.B.

- i. **POLICING** - Les Murphy, representing the Commoners, had a meeting at Police HQ 25th October to discuss Rural Crime and Off-Roading issues.
Report to be supplied

12. Date of next Trustees' Meeting:

- i. Monday 9th March