



*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*

www.twmbarlwm.co.uk

Trustees and Members Meeting

MINUTES

Monday 9th March 2020

Held at Crosskeys Rugby Club

ATTENDANCE

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

1. APOLOGIES

Howard Vicary; Bill Fearnley-Whittingstall;

2. MINUTES of Trustees' Meeting held on 9th December 2019

Reviewed and Approved by the meeting
matters arising

in the last meeting we said - *'The Patron, Mr Don Touhig, has stood down. Chris Evans MP suggested as a new Patron. We will write to him to enquire if he would be willing to take the post.'*

Clarify whether he is willing to take the post, or ask Jack Tennison, or Herberts

We need to clarify our Charity Status
Terry will contact GAVO for clarification

4. Constitution, Objectives and Priorities

At our December meeting we identified points in The Constitution that we felt need to be amended, and clarified.

Point 5 – Amend Trustee appointments - Member for 3 years to be changed to - ???

Point 4 – Delete 'Will retire at AGM'

The amendments were discussed and approved.

The new constitution will be available online for members, and will be approved by the membership at the next AGM.

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.

From next Year (2020) the AGM will be set as the 2nd Monday in November.

5. ARCHAEOLOGY and CADW

There has been some communication from Fiona ? regarding her Core Sampling Results. She expects to send a full report in a month.

CPAT have moved offices

An email from Will saying that the Geophys is hoping to restart around the 21st March, And they are asking for volunteer help, with people and transport.

TCE agreed to keep in touch with Will, and maybe have an 'update' meeting, to push things along.

6. CCBC/TORFAEN/COMMONERS WORKS

Norman Liversuch has spoken to Gethin regarding movement of the works planned. (see email)
He says that the 2018 list is coming up to be done, and other larger projects are going out to tender, for start Spring 2020 and final works by June 2021

Adventure Triangle

Bowes, Gethin

Mar 9, 2020, 3:57 PM

to norm.liversuch@gmail.com, norm.liversuch@tesco.net, me

Good Afternoon Both

Apologies for the general lack of communication!

As Norm and I discussed earlier we have produced a specification for 3 phases of work on Twmbarlwm and the common.

These are the list of tasks which were suggested around Twmbarlwm and the two main tracks across the mountain.

I haven't got the full list of Twmbarlwm works with me at present but from memory it was:

- 1, Replacement knee rail and steps.*
- 2, Repair and extend the floating paths.*
- 3, Reseed bare soil/fire damage where required.*
- 4, Repair and reseed scarring on Southern side of Twmbarlwm.*
- 5, Repair footpaths from car park.*
- 6, Car park improvements*
- 7, Double Barrier/corral*
- 8, Repair to scarring/bike track on the common.*
- 9, Drainage works on ORPA to prevent water running on to the highway.*
- 10 Pond works -*
- 11, Trig point project*

(I'm sat on site typing this and am sure to have forgotten something!)

The first permissive bridleway/track will start from Twmbarlwm car park and run to the gas station with access to Cwmcarn. The second will start at Howard's sheep pen and run to the mountain air car park.

Meeting the first track in the middle of the common at the gas station.

We still have some work to do in terms of permissions and agreements for these works to go ahead but we hopefully won't encounter any significant delays.

Hope this is some use

Kind regards

Geth

Les Murphy has been in contact with Gethin and Dewi from CCBC, and the Landowners, at a meeting on Monday 9th Feb(?) to ensure all permissions in place.

The position of the Cycle Track is agreed, CCBC intended upgrading an existing track, but there is no official path, so creation of a new one will need Government approval.

Route 1 is from Howard Vicary's farm over to the Mountain Air, Penyrheol,

Route 2 is from Carpark 2 up to the Gas Station.

There will be significant additional costs from other works required, ?? Gas Board//

Jack Tennison wants a barrier gate at every entrance to tell people that they are on the track, and the rules of

the Common.

Sustainable Uplands

The Commoners have applied for money for spraying on the Penrheol side, and on our side of the mountain. Torfaen Council have said that there is no money available for helicopter spraying, they say to use Quad bikes. Gethin Bowes CCBC wants to use a helicopter, as more efficient and cost effective than hand spraying.

Les Murphy reported that to date they have cut down 1000 plus feral trees, created two new ponds, and mowed 35 hectares of heather. The Bog restoration Project is well under way, with wooden dams in place, the water table is rising, they will be packing areas with sheeps wool. He invited the Trustees to join him for a walk to show off the work.

There is another Sustainable Uplands meeting due in September.

Les Murphy told us that there is a proposal for a Wind Farm on Mynydd Maen.

This has been mooted several times and been rejected, but nowadays, with Global Warming concerns, and the phasing out of Fossil fuels, it seems likely to have a more receptive audience. There is a possibility that there could be as much as £200K a year fund from the 'rent' for Public use and Commoners projects.

Jack Tennison and the other landowners are in favour, providing they meet all the environmental considerations.

7. TIDY TWMP

We have not had a Litterpick due to the weather.

8. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE

Bank balance is currently £8,643.46

since last meeting 2 new memberships and 3 renewals, total in 41 members.

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

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.

Rob posts regular updates on the Friend Facebook page

10. EVENTS

March 25th - Talk on the Gwent Levels, by Gavin Jones, Crosskeys RFC

This Talk was postponed from last October due to the Archaeology beginning April/May – Les will lead a walk to show off the work on the Bog Restoration.

PROPOSED EVENTS

Will Davies of Cadw - A talk at Crosskeys on the history of Newport Castle (still trying to pin him down to a date).

Possibly a talk on the glass findings - TE will discuss with Andrew Morgan.

The Christmas Quiz was postponed, suggested we hold it in May instead.

10. A.O.B.

Date of next Trustees' Meeting:

TBC