



*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' Meeting

Monday 25th July 2022
Held at Philanthropic Inn, Pontywaun

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Terry Evans (Chair); Sue Evans; Norman Liversuch; Bill Fearnley-Whittingstall; Charles Ferris;
Sam Southall; Martyn Vaughan; Sally Davies;

APOLOGIES

Les Murphy; Howard Vicary; Rob Southall;

1. MINUTES of Trustees' Meeting held on Monday 14th May 2022

Reviewed and Approved by the meeting Prop NL ; Sec - MV
Matters arising - none

2. THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE BEACON (Thursday 2nd June 2022.)

With the collaboration of 1st Abercarn Scouts, St Johns Ambulance, Risca Branch, and South Wales Fire and Rescue, Risca Station, we had up to 100 people on the Mountain to celebrate the lighting of the Beacon. Chris Evans MP gave a speech, and a member of the Scouts lit the Beacon. The event was a great success, with a beautiful sunset and new Moon on the night. We were sent a Certificate of Participation from the Pageantmaster, which has been presented to all the groups, along with a donation from Risca Town Council. Thank you too to Mrs Sally Davies for the donation of £100 to CTS in recognition of our help with the event.
(A full report is published on the Website)

3. ARCHAEOLOGY AND CADW

The Cadw funding is approved, and the Archaeology is scheduled to start on 8 August, for three weeks. The weekend of 13-14 August will be an outreach event to involve members of the public and interested groups. An 'Outreach Officer' will also be available for 8 days during the dig. There will be a meeting on Monday 8th August at Risca Museum for a briefing from CPAT to the volunteers who wish to be involved. It is hoped that the Interim Report from the first dig may be available by then too

TE has been contacted by Cllr Nigel George, who thinks that they will look favourably at an application to cover the costs of the Carbon dating portion of the project through the Empowerment Grant. (Norman had made an application previously to cover the Bio-blitz)

The Gwent Wildlife Trust 'Bioblitz'

It is planned for 10th or 11th September, Saturday or Sunday.

The meeting thanked Terry Evans for all the work he has put into this project.

4. CCBC/TORFAEN/COMMONERS WORKS

The Path up from the Carpark is in dispute, Howard Vicary thinks it is OK, after a site visit, Gethin Bowes and NL say it is poorly done, and a worse state than before. NL will speak to Gethin again, when he is available.

Adventure Triangle – previous notes for ref

Gethin Bowes, Mar 9, 2020

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 footpath 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

5. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE

Martyn reported on the Statement of current figures and bank balance,

Current account £14, 118.40, which includes the recent payment by CADW of £5,180.40

Membership summary, we have 48 paid up members.

Martyn commented that we should try to synchronise renewal dates to the AGM date.

The research into moving the Bank Account, Martyn recommends a move to 'Metro Bank' all online, but to delay the move until the new Treasurer is in post.

6. CWMCARN FOREST DRIVE

A Few Trustees attended the Official Opening to the Forest Drive on July 6th.

CTS and FoCFD were praised in the speeches for their efforts to get the Drive reopened.

We have been approached for a letter of support for the NRW/CCBC projects in Cwmcarn, even though CTS were not included in the initial round Robin email.

We are not totally in agreement with the schemes proposed; there would be a big impact on local communities with the additional visitor numbers, and the current infrastructure would struggle to cope.

Norman will write to NRW and CCBC.

EVENTS

Archaeology report (The CPAT team, Will and Amelia) this is now part of this year's briefing (CPAT will not claim the outreach part of last year's funding)

Talk on Newport Castle (Will Davies)?

Walk to Pwll Tra?? and/or Llanderfel??

10/11 September Bio-Blitz (Andy Karan, Gwent Wildlife Trust)

BBC Countryfile Walk (Children in Need) (9 October) further details when available

PROPOSED EVENTS

The Gwent Levels by Gavin Jones

We discussed new venues to hold our talks; we need to check if the Philanthropic Inn has a projector, as it could be a useful smaller venue. – asked them, not heard yet

8. TIDY TWMP

Our monthly litterpick Sundays are still well attended, with a core of a dozen members, regularly expanded by a few new enthusiasts.

We all agreed that there seems to be less at the moment, because the Bracken has grown so high we can't see it! The usual 7-8 bags are collected, and the Council responds quickly to our emails, collecting our bags promptly, and dealing with some of the more difficult tips.

Next scheduled litterpick and volunteer day will be 31 July 2022

10. A.O.B.

We will need to provide the refreshments at the Risca Museum meeting. SE will organize.

Bill F-W had earlier mentioned that it would be a good idea for the Trustees to have identifying Polo shirts for events . we will enquire at Darren Morgan Sports.

Date of next Trustees' Meeting:

TBC