



*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 5th September 2022
Held at Philanthropic Inn, Pontywaun

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Terry Evans (Chair); Sue Evans; Norman Liversuch; Charles Ferris; Sam Southall; Martyn Vaughan;

1. APOLOGIES

Les Murphy; Howard Vicary; Rob Southall; Bill Fearnley-Whittingstall; Sally Davies;

2. MINUTES of Trustees' Meeting held on Monday 25th July 2022

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

3. ARCHAEOLOGY AND CADW

- 3.1 TE gave a brief report of the recently completed archaeological dig pointing out that much of the information is on our website in the form of a daily blog and a summary was sent to all members recently in the JQN dated 02/09/2022. Copies of Will Logan's summaries of each week's work were distributed. TE pointed out that some initial analysis of the volunteer input to the project amounted to over 600 hours - not including Trustees' time. At £13.53 per hour that amounts to £8,645. In our estimate in the grant application to Cadw we had allowed £8,520. 90 people responded to initial call for volunteers. 45 confirmed they would help. 29 volunteers actually gave hours to the project over the three week period (some had given half a day, but a strong core of 7 or 8 had given several days. TE suggested that we offer all those volunteers free membership to CTS as a thank you - proposal was unanimously agreed. Official visits by organised groups during the dig included The Fusion Group; A group of six CCBC councillors; SW Police Rural Crimes Team with their Drone; SW Fire and Rescue Service
- 3.2 **Sward Management Plan** - TE and NL had meeting with councillors N George, Philippa and Arianna Leonard concerning possibility of funding from the Community Empowerment Grant and it was agreed some portions of the application could be supported but we need a full evaluation from Andy Karran (GWT) - the application needs to be completed before end of September.
- 3.3 **Bio Blitz** - Event has been organised for 11th September and information was sent out in the JQN. Andy Karran (GWT) is to lead two walks and Amelia Pannett (Cadw) has agreed to take part in one of the walks to give the archaeological aspect of the project. TE, SE, NL, CF, have promised to attend. Dave Jandrell (Fossilman) and Andrew Morgan (Glass bottle man) have agreed to be there to answer attendees questions.

4. CCBC/TORFAEN/COMMONERS WORKS

- i. No update available of the ongoing work still needed.
- ii. The Path up the hill from the car park has had repairs done but after a site visit, with Howard and Gethin Bowes it was agreed that it needs further work.
- iii. Cattle are still regularly getting out onto the lower common despite having the corral installed - and onto the SAM itself (although HV has since repaired the kissing gate). - NL will speak to Gethin and or Dewi again.

5. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE

- i. Membership summary, we have 49 paid up members - plus the 29 free memberships offered to archaeology volunteers.
- ii. Martyn cannot access account at the moment as he is awaiting a new security device.
- iii. Current account £8,866.16
- iv. TE has sounded out two likely members to become new treasurer - but both say they are too busy to take on the rôle.
- v. CF has contacted someone who may be able to audit our accounts - but with a negative response.

6. EVENTS

NL has organised a series of talks over the winter months and the proposed dates are as follows:

- i. 10th October 2022 – **Newport Castle** – Will Davies, Cadw
- ii. 2nd November 2022 – **Being Santa**, the history of Father Christmas and life in the grotto – Roger Morgan
- iii. 7th December 2022 – **Christmas Quiz**
- iv. 1st February 2023 – **The Lost Farms of Mynydd Maen** – Rob Southall
- v. 1st March 2023 – **The Newport Transporter Bridge** – Speaker to be confirmed
- vi. 5th April 2023 – **The Newport Medieval Ship** – Jeff Grosvenor, Friends of Newport Medieval Ship.

The talks will be held at Crosskeys Rugby Club - TE is to contact the club to book and confirm the dates. Entry will be £3 per person – or free to paid up members of the Twmbarlwm Society. Other events are yet to be considered.

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.

Jobs that could be addressed in the near future include: Clear the remains of the old fence from the kissing gate in the new dry-stone wall; the undergrowth in the triangles at the car park needs clearing; the culvert at the corral is blocked causing flooding to run off down the road.

Next scheduled litterpick and volunteer day will be 30 October 2022

Date of next Trustees' Meeting:

TBC