



*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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Sixteenth Meeting of the Trustees

**7.00pm on Monday 3rd February 2014
at Crosskeys RFC**

MINUTES

Attendance

Martyn Bond (MB), Sue Evans (SE), Terry Evans (TE) (Chair), David Parry (DP), Rob Southall (RS), Howard Vickery (HV).

Non-trustees attending – Norman Liversuch (NL) and Maggie Thomas (MT)

Apologies

Andrew George, Dave Standing & Roger Stevenson.

Minutes of Trustees' Meeting 9th December 2013 and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2013 were agreed.

All of the action points of that meeting were discharged or would be dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

Tidy Tump.

DP & HV declared an interest in this issue.

Discussion took place about:

- Fencing is complete.
- Middle kissing gate – drainage is a problem. More work is needed to address the problem. **Action HV & DP**
- At some gates barbed wire is too close for safety. **Action: HV & DP**
- Middle part of fencing across south slope needs strengthening. It is imperative that logs are located here. **Action: HV & DP**
- Plastic drainage to go underneath floating pathway.
- Height of the bund around the car park seems insufficient now that the infilling and the tarmacking has been done. Is remediation the responsibility of CCBC or CTS?
- HV & DP to finalise the estimates for the extra pathway, which is necessary for good drainage and submit the estimates to the committee.
- There are other funding streams available for ongoing maintenance DP to explore.

TE & DP met with Phil Griffiths (PG) at CCBC for advice on the quarterly return to the Welsh Government – which has since been completed and returned.

- Claims can only be made at the end of each quarter, thus receipts for January (£9,907.15) can only be claimed at end of March.
- Signage was not included in original application. Access Improvements suggests signage and thus can be claimed for. Careful wording necessary in final claim.
- PG made clear that ongoing maintenance is necessary. Culvert to be maintained in perpetuity. Tools necessary for this can be claimed for.
- TE to send a copy of minutes of meeting between DP, TE & PG to NL for advice from NL.

Planting and Seeding

- There had been quotes from two nurseries and HV indicated that earlier quotes allowed for 2 plants/metre – it was thought that this should be increased. It was agreed that we should go with the cheaper of the two quotes. Quote from Robin Tumper attached, which would be £986.70 including V.A.T. but with a £45 delivery charge (incl V.A.T.)
- Plants to be ordered & planting can be started - HV & DP
- Woodland Trust options were discussed. Use of free Woodland Trust plants can be used to infill between the hardy plants later on.
- March 1st will be the next volunteer day – tree planting.

Tools

Two shovels, hoops and litterpickers to be ordered (it was decided that tools such as Brush cutters were not necessary) – **Action TE** via Rodri Lloyd at CCBC

Access Improvement

TE had visited signage manufacturer Fitzpatrick Woolmer and presented guide pricing of the proposed signage required.

- Examples of materials of signage were shown.
- Planning permission for the proposed “compass stone” on the summit might be a lengthy process. NL offered to contact Dave Penberthy of CADW to ensure that materials chosen & siting would be more likely to be acceptable.

Rough estimates for the signs were discussed as follows

- Compass inset into the ground on the tump. (£1342 – approx)
- Welcome sign in the shape of a stone monument representing the Tump itself to be placed near the car park. (£2,800 including insets – approx)
- Ladder type sign at cattlegrid (£500 – approx)
- Interpretation boards (4 x £142 – approx)
- Mounting for Interpretation boards (£2000 – approx)
- TE to prepare more precise specifications and NL to accompany TE to Fitzpatrick Woolmar to discuss.

Interpretation Boards

- Walks – MT to design 3 or 4 walks in the area.
- SAM – TE to ask RS & DS to take charge of content of this board.

- Environment – TE to ask RS to take charge of content of this board.
- Legend - TE to ask RS & DS to take charge of content of this board.

Finance

Statement of current balance - £382.20

Membership

MT said it is not clear how many current members we have. This is partially due to the change of rules for renewing membership, partially due to the fact that those paying by direct debit or monthly do not inform her – it is hoped to encourage renewal of membership at forthcoming events.

CTS Work Programme.

Some of this has been dealt with under other headings above, but time was an issue and further discussion did not take place.

A.O.B.

- MB and TE had a meeting with Gary and Gary of “Flytipping Wales” at the car park on Twmbarlwm on 23rd January 2014 – the main points they raised were:
 - Before CCTV cameras can be erected there has to be sufficient evidence that flytipping is a problem in this area.
 - In order to achieve this, every instance of flytipping must be reported to build up a diary of evidence – there is a website where this can be done.
 - Flytipping Wales supplied us with several signs warning about fly tipping. Siting of the signs was discussed and HV agreed to install them. **Action HV**
- Press release on the workday has been sent out to Argus, Caerphilly Observer, Welsh Govt., Rhodri Lloyd – and it will be used as the next scheduled article in the South Wales Directories.
- It was revealed that the interpretation board which was installed by the Ancient Cwmbran Society had been vandalised and is in the possession of Mike West. It was decided to contact Ancient Cwmbran Society so that the board can be returned to them for them to re-site as they feel fit. **Action TE**

Meeting ended at 9.15pm

Next meeting Monday 3rd March at Crosskeys Rugby Club