



*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 7th September 2015
Cross Keys Rugby Club

MINUTES

Attendance

Terry Evans (Chair); Sue Evans; Alan Booth; David Parry; Rob Southall;

1 APOLOGIES

Andrew George; Norman Liversuch; Howard Vicary; Maggie Thomas;

2. MINUTES of Trustees' Meeting held on 3rd August 2015

Matters Arising – to be dealt with in the Agenda.

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd August 2015 were agreed.

3. TIDY TWMP

Litterpick / Workday held on 23rd August 2015

Another poor day for weather, but attended by several trustees. TE and MT had a confrontation with 8 off-road bikers, and dissuaded them from continuing across the common.

DP and HV mended the vandalised fence on the top, the meeting offered a big vote of thanks to them for working in such testing conditions.

There has been a new gate fitted at the Cattle Grid at the entrance to the Common.

Work to do -

The steps from the car park are still scheduled for a fine weekend, HV and DP

We need to add some infill to areas of the top fencing, which are vulnerable to attack.

Floating path around Kissing gate.

Tipping charges

SE to draft a letter to Lyndon Ross, Rhodri Lloyd, requesting a permit for CTS to take the Litter Pick bags to the tip, with a trailer if necessary.

And copy in Councillor Rhianon Passmore, Risca East Councillor for Volunteer Groups.

Next volunteer day Sunday 27th September 2015

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4. SOLAR FARM at CWRT HENLLYS

The deadline for Planning Objections is 9th September

TE circulated the Planning Application,

<http://www.planapps.torfaen.gov.uk/CwrtHenllysFarm/>

The Trustees discussed the application, including the Archaeology Survey report, and agreed it does not impact on CTS work, but we will support local residents in their discussions Re: the Mountain Road access issues.

5. EVENTS

The 'Recorders Day' with Gwent Wildlife Trust on Saturday 22nd August 2015.

This was a very interesting day, specialists from Gwent Wildlife attended and recorded several species of insect not seen before this far east, many birds, including a late Cuckoo, which was explained to be a Juvenile, getting ready for migration. The members who accompanied them suggested we could continue this work on our own initiative – maybe incorporating with Volunteer Days, and recording on the SEWBREC website too.

It is hoped to have another “official” Recorders day in the Spring – we should ensure to keep in contact with SEWBREC to keep on their “radar” for future events.

Sunday 13th September - We will attend the *14 Locks Event*, with our information boards and 'Roll a Penny' game. Tom Mahoney of The 14 Locks Project has offered to let us have a space on his video presentation screen, TE and RS to take forward.

Monday 21st September – Crosskeys Rugby Club, Rob Southall will give a talk '5 Years of the Twmbarlwm Society, and History of Twmbarlwm, with a Q&A afterwards.

Sunday 27th September is the next Volunteer day

AGM -

Quiz night scheduled for end November

RS is hoping to attract a speaker for another talk in October.

6. COMMONERS AND FUNDING

There were no members of the Commoners available to report

7. CAMPAIGN TO SAVE CWMCARN FOREST DRIVE

RS had a meeting with the NRW project management group, where they raised concerns for rights of way on the footpaths, wildlife conservation and long term aims to take on the management of the area.

Felling is proceeding quite quickly.

There was concern that a lot of the Public paths are being opened up to mountain bikers as other areas of the forest are taken by the felling operations. MT has had some fruitful meetings with Bob Campbell of NRW regarding this and will continue to monitor the situation.

8. MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE

MT was not available to give a Statement of current figures and bank balance.

9. OBJECTIVES and PROJECTS

Archaeology – RS reported that he had contacted Richard Davies of The Ancient Cwmbran Archaeology Society, to combine forces with Blaen Bran Woodlands to put in a bid for funding for a 'Lost Farmsteads' Project. Unfortunately, to date, he has had no response from The Blaen Bran Community Woodland, but RS said he would keep trying.

10. A.O.B.

none