



*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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PRIORITIES & OBJECTIVES 2016

APPROVED AT TRUSTEES' MEETING 7TH MARCH 2016

The next 12 months –

- To support initiatives offered and funded by Caerphilly and Torfaen Borough Councils for landscape improvements – including Target Hardening of illegal footpaths
Maintenance of footpaths and boundary fences
Installation of signage and interpretation boards
Clearance of self seeded and invasive undergrowth
- To continue to organise monthly litter picks and workdays and encourage community awareness of the value of the local environment.
- Continue our close relationship with the Commoners Association, Friends of Cwmcarn, and other local groups . We already monitor developments and reports/surveys that may impact on our aims for the area, and will continue to liaise with Caerphilly and Torfaen councils, and NRW
- Continue the wildlife recording (flora and fauna) to enable us to monitor the effect that our work is having on repairing the landscape, and supporting wildlife.
There is much talk of The Cuckoo, in legend and birdwatching, we have several, which could be a study project, or source of publicity. Similarly, with the skylarks, bats and newts, all high profile species which generate interest and news items. Another Recorders Day in the Summer.
- Continue the production of Newsletters and promotional material,
and seek funding for additional support literature, ie: the orientation leaflets, or persuade the councils/Cadw to produce them for us.
The article in The Risca Directory to be written by someone different each time.
- Continue to provide Social Events, talks and guided walks, to encourage new and existing members, especially for members that may not be able to do physical volunteering work
- Adopt the Trig Point
Trig Points are now redundant, all done by GPS Stations, so we can inform the Ordnance Survey that we will take on the responsibility for our redundant Trig Point – we could paint it, sign write info on it, build another floating path around it etc.
- Identify areas for Archaeological research, ie: The Cairns/burial mounds, work with Cadw to get more input from them, also see if Risca Museum society want to help.
If there is a lack of suitable expertise within the Society, maybe pursue funding for a University or professional study

Medium term objectives through to 2017-8:

- Explore the feasibility of creating a pond/small lake area above the new line of fencing, where there is already boggy/marshy ground.
This may have been a source of fresh water in the past that has silted up, and may yield interesting artefacts too. Benches could be created from locally felled logs, maybe excavated material could be used to repair the eroded trenches.
- Create an outdoor classroom, adjacent to the Car park and Cairn sign, and inform schools and societies that we welcome such visits, offering talks from members, or guided walks if required.
Continue implementing policies that include historical surveys, interpretation boards and local schools involvement
- Exclusion of motorised vehicles from the managed area, or if this is not possible, manage the access better
dependant on the closure or otherwise of the ORPA
- A new 'Tump Watch' Survey to be implemented,
to assess reaction to the land repair and deterrent work we've already done, and also to see if the Forestry removal in Cwmcarn has had any effect on visitors to Twmbarlwm.
- Publicity – Sponsorship – Local business support
consider having companies as members, especially identifying ones with products/skills we need, ie: surveyors
- Launch of a volunteer or paid ranger scheme, to replace the PC Simon James if his post is discontinued when he retires.
The Landowner, and Commoners support this, and would assist with match funding
- Create a series of waymarked walking routes, varying in difficulty, for walking on the Tump area, with supporting literature and signage. Explore possibilities for a disabled access route
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The following long term objectives for the years up to 2022

- We should encourage a change of culture so Twmbarlwm is viewed as a place for all to enjoy
- Extension of managed area to be as large as possible
- Implementation of an asset management agreement with the landowners
- Involvement of local schools in the management of Twmbarlwm, and creation of an education pack to be used in local schools
- CTS becomes a company limited by guarantee and eventually a fully registered charity