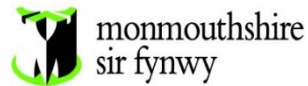


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County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Tuesday, 12 April 2016

Notice of meeting

Bryn y Cwm Area Committee

Wednesday, 20th April, 2016 at 2.00 pm,
The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Abergavenny

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for Absence.	
2.	Declarations of Interest.	
3.	Public Open Forum.	
4.	Minutes of the previous meeting.	1 - 8
5.	Presentation by representatives of Costain regarding progress to date in respect of the Heads of the Valleys Dualling Gilwern to Brynmawr.	
6.	Update report by Team Abergavenny regarding progress to date.	9 - 10
7.	Update report regarding Rural Development Plan (RDP) Funding on the Local Development Strategy (Verbal report).	
8.	Update on Events in the Bryn y Cwm Area.	11 - 20
9.	Update report regarding the River Usk, Castle Meadows.	21 - 24
10.	Future Work Programme.	25 - 26
11.	To note that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th July 2016 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Abergavenny (Subject to Availability).	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

R. Chapman
D. Edwards
J. George
R. Harris
M. Hickman
G. Howard
S. Howarth
D. Jones
S.B. Jones
P. Jordan
S. Jones
M. Powell
J. Prosser
K. Williams
C. Edmondson
P. Bowyer
J. Barnes
A. Michie
Abergavenny TC
Goetre CC
Crucorney Community Council
Grosmont CC
Llanarth CC
Llanelly CC
Llanfoist CC
Llanover CC
Llantilio Pertholey CC

Public Information

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Welsh Language

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Outcomes we are working towards

Nobody Is Left Behind

- Older people are able to live their good life
- People have access to appropriate and affordable housing
- People have good access and mobility

People Are Confident, Capable and Involved

- People's lives are not affected by alcohol and drug misuse
- Families are supported
- People feel safe

Our County Thrives

- Business and enterprise
- People have access to practical and flexible learning
- People protect and enhance the environment

Our priorities

- Schools
- Protection of vulnerable people
- Supporting Business and Job Creation
- Maintaining locally accessible services

Our Values

- **Openness:** we aspire to be open and honest to develop trusting relationships.
- **Fairness:** we aspire to provide fair choice, opportunities and experiences and become an organisation built on mutual respect.
- **Flexibility:** we aspire to be flexible in our thinking and action to become an effective and efficient organisation.
- **Teamwork:** we aspire to work together to share our successes and failures by building on our strengths and supporting one another to achieve our goals.

Agenda Item 4

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Bryn y Cwm Area Committee held
at Town Hall, Abergavenny on Wednesday, 10th February, 2016 at 2.00 pm**

PRESENT: County Councillors: D.L. Edwards (Chairman), R. Chapman, R. Harris, S. Howarth, D. Jones, M. Powell, J. Prosser and K. Williams

County Councillor D. Blakebrough attended the meeting by invitation of the Chairman.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Richard Williams	Democratic Services Officer
Debra Hill-Howells	Head of Community Led Delivery
Amy Longford	Heritage Manager
Michael Powell	Rural Programmes Officer
Roger Hoggins	Head of Operations
Robert Nancarrow	Shared Facilities Manager

BRYN Y CWM COMMUNITY FORUM

Mrs. J. Barnes

Mr. D. Haswell -Bryn y Cwm Community Forum and Abergavenny Development Forum

TOWN / COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Councillor C. Woodhouse	-	Abergavenny Town Council
Councillor N. Tatum	-	Abergavenny Town Council
Mr. P. Johns	-	Clerk, Abergavenny Town Council

APOLOGIES:

Councillors S. Jones

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

2. Public Open Forum

The Chairman invited members of the public present to put questions to the Area Committee, or to raise issues of concern:

Temporary Traffic Lights – Trunk Road

In response to this issue raised by a Member of the Public, it was noted that the works at this location were scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2016.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Bryn y Cwm Area Committee held at Town Hall, Abergavenny on Wednesday, 10th February, 2016 at 2.00 pm

Tudor Street

A resident of Abergavenny expressed concern that a group of people had moved into the Centre at Tudor Street in July 2013 and had been scheduled to remain there for no longer than 6 - 9 months. However they were still located there today. He also mentioned that improvement works to the building had been scheduled but had yet to be undertaken.

We resolved that the Head of Adult Services would be contacted with a request that that she investigate this matter and write to the resident accordingly.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the Bryn y Cwm Area Committee dated 8th July 2015 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman. In doing so, the following points were noted:

- In response to a Member's question regarding the reason for cancelling the previous Area Committee, it was noted that the meeting had been cancelled due to sickness and staff shortages in the Democratic Services Section.
- In response to questions raised by Mr Haswell regarding the Abergavenny Community Hub, the Head of Community Led Delivery stated that no formal decisions had yet been made by Cabinet or Council in respect of this matter. However, a review of the Town Hall Building and the Richards Building had been undertaken. A consultation exercise would be held in due course. Meetings were being held in March 2016 and the consultation exercise was anticipated to be completed in three months.

Members asked for clarification on whether all of the £3.4M would be spent in Abergavenny, now that the new library was not being proceeded with. There was some doubt over how much of the money would be spent in Abergavenny.

We resolved that this matter be investigated.

4. Presentation on scheme design for Abergavenny Town Centre Refurbishment

We received a presentation by the Head of Operations regarding the Abergavenny Town Centre Refurbishment. In doing so, it was noted that Officers were working with Team Abergavenny regarding the scheme's design. The materials being used were now more in keeping with the town.

Having received the presentation, the following points were noted:

- Cabinet would discuss the use of A Boards. All legitimate A Boards would be subject to a licensing scheme. There will be a clear five metre walkway.
- Drainage slots are more efficient than the existing drainage.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Bryn y Cwm Area Committee held at Town Hall, Abergavenny on Wednesday, 10th February, 2016 at 2.00 pm

- Abergavenny Development Forum (ADF) has been helping to fine tune the project and had submitted an alternative scheme at St. John's Square and Team Abergavenny had supported this. However, the information presented to Committee today had shown very little change to the project, i.e., a reduction in the width of the road and the removal of vehicles. However, officers had indicated that this could not be achieved.

When the project was presented to Committee the budget had increased from £500,000 to £1,000,000. It was believed that St. John's square would carry pennant stone. However, the plans had indicated that only 30% would carry pennant stone, which ADF considered did not fit with what had been agreed following the increase in the improved budget.

The Frogmore Street element of the scheme has disappeared from the scheme. However, it was noted that this was not scheduled for phase 1.

In response, officers stated that ADF's version of events did not reflect what was happening, as materials are far superior to what was originally budgeted for. The material selected is expensive and not included in the original budget. A first class scheme was being created for a budget of £1,000,000.

We resolved to receive the presentation and noted its content.

5. Provision of Public conveniences in Abergavenny

We received a verbal update by the Head of Operations regarding the provision of public conveniences in Abergavenny. The Area Committee's views were sought which would be incorporated into a report that would be submitted to a meeting of the Strong Communities Select Committee. In doing so, the following points were noted:

- Discussions had been held with Abergavenny Town Council regarding the Town Council providing financial support for the provision of public conveniences in Abergavenny.
- Without this support Monmouthshire County Council will only be able to provide one public convenience within the town. Currently, there are four public conveniences located within the town. Town Council support was therefore necessary.

Having received the update the following points were noted:

- The general consensus from the public is for the four public conveniences to remain open.
- There was a need to identify the minimal cost required to keep all four of the public conveniences open. However, other means of financing also needed to be investigated.

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Minutes of the meeting of Bryn y Cwm Area Committee held at Town Hall, Abergavenny on Wednesday, 10th February, 2016 at 2.00 pm

- Other authorities could be approached to ascertain how they are financing their public conveniences.
- Local shops within the town could be asked to provide public access to their toilets for an agreed sum of money.
- Abergavenny Town is a tourist attraction and it was important that adequate toilet provision was retained within the town for both abled bodied and disabled people.
- Charging the public to use the public conveniences could be considered.
- It was noted that Abergavenny Town Council were meeting this evening and the matter could be raised here.

We resolved to receive the report and noted its content.

6. Progress to date by Team Abergavenny

We received a verbal update on Team Abergavenny. In doing so, the following points were noted:

- The Team has established its website – www.teamabergavenny.co.uk
- A Limited Company has been established to handle any finances that the Team receives.
- Team Abergavenny will be formally launched at St. Michael's Centre from 3.00pm to 9.00pm on 15th February 2016.
- Team Abergavenny aims to hold an open public meeting in the autumn 2016 to review progress and to open places on the Team for election.
- The Team has actively encouraged participation of a number of interested groups in the redevelopment of the central streets in Abergavenny. The scheme would commence imminently. This project has been fully embraced by Monmouthshire County Council.
- Team Abergavenny are working with Green Spaces groups of Friends in Abergavenny to restore and improve facilities in these areas.
- The Team is working with the County Council's Markets Team to promote and increase the range of events that can be held in Abergavenny.
- Investigations were being undertaken regarding some significant projects for developing employment in the future.
- The e commerce programme funded by Welsh Government is progressing.

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Having received the update, the following points were noted:

- There were two Abergavenny Town Councillors serving on the Town Team.
- The Chair of Team Abergavenny came to the Town Council's previous Projects meeting.

We resolved to receive the update report and noted its content.

7. Progress regarding the Eisteddfod.

We received a verbal update regarding progress in respect of the Eisteddfod. In doing so, the following points were noted:

- Planning consent has been received.
- Monthly meetings were being held.
- The park and ride facility was being discussed. The Park and Ride tendering process will shortly be undertaken.
- A minibus will be provided from Abergavenny Train Station to the Eisteddfod site. Disabled access at the station was being addressed.
- Costain will cease work on the Heads of the Valleys Road during the Eisteddfod.
- Monmouthshire County Council will have a marquee at the Eisteddfod site whereby Monmouthshire will be promoted as a tourist destination.
- Working with communities regarding fund raising activities. Three choirs were being hosted.
- A public meeting has been held ascertain the numbers of volunteers / helpers. A training process was underway.
- The site would be set up on Castle Meadows at the beginning of June 2016.

Having received the update, the following points were noted:

- Abergavenny Town Council has contributed £30,000 and Caldicot Town Council has contributed £10,000 to the Eisteddfod. Two rural community Councils have also made a financial contribution.
- The Eisteddfod site will be located on two sites, namey, Maes A and Maes B. Shuttle buses will be provided so that members of the public will not have to walk over Llanfoist Bridge.

We resolved to receive the update and noted its content.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Bryn y Cwm Area Committee held
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8. Conservation Area Appraisal for Abergavenny

We received a verbal update by the Heritage Manager on the conservation area appraisal for Abergavenny. Members were informed that:

- Abergavenny has been chosen as one of the 18 conservation areas.
- A report was submitted to Planning Committee in January 2016.
- This will be one of the largest conservation areas in Monmouthshire.
- The conservation area will be split into eight character areas.
- Boundary revisions have been looked at.
- A further report will be presented to Planning Committee on 1st March 2016.

We resolved to receive the update and noted its content.

9. Rural Development Plan Funding on the Local Development Strategy

We received a report by the Rural Programmes Manager in which Members received an update regarding the Rural Development Programme.

Members were informed that the programme is revenue only and has a Europe and Welsh Government figure of £2.79M available for the period 2015 to 2020. A match funding element of 20% is required for the actual projects that are developed.

The wards within the Bryn y Cwm Area that can attract maximum funding are the rural wards of Crucorney, Llanover, Goetre Fawr, Llanfoist Fawr, Llanelly Hill, Llanwenarth Ultra and Mardy.

Having received the report, the following points were noted:

- The RDP capital fund known as the Rural Communities Development Fund has a maximum project value of £160,000 with a 20% match funding requirement. Applications for this fund are made directly to Welsh Government. The RDP team can support the preparation of applications
- An external funding officer has been employed.
- The RDP team were looking for the Area Committee to support the team in identifying individual projects.
- The website was available to view – valeofusk.org.uk
- The Town Council and Community Councils within the Bryn y Cwm area have been included.

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**Minutes of the meeting of Bryn y Cwm Area Committee held
at Town Hall, Abergavenny on Wednesday, 10th February, 2016 at 2.00 pm**

We resolved:

- (i) to receive the report and noted its content;**
- (ii) that Members submit their requests to the Rural Programmes Manager.**

10. £5000 Capital Funding.

We received a verbal update by the Head of Community Led Delivery regarding the £5000 Capital Funding. In doing so, the following points were noted:

- The £5000 will be slipped on to the 2016/17 financial year.
- The closing date for receipt of applications is 20th June 2015.
- Applications will be considered at the July 2016 Bryn y Cwm Area Committee.
- Copies of applicants' financial information will be required before an application may be considered.
- The Head of Community Led Delivery would shortly be emailing the application form to Members.
- The Area Committee will determine applications for funding.

We resolved to receive the update and noted its content.

11. Future Work Programme for the Bryn y Cwm Area Committee.

We received the Bryn y Cwm Area Committee work programme. In doing so, the following points were noted:

- A report on the future of Area Committees will be presented to Full Council in April 2016.
- Jenny Barnes, representing CAIR, expressed concern that she had been unable to raise an issue at the Bryn y Cwm Community Forum. She was advised to contact the Chair of the Community Forum. Alternatively, she could raise her issue with the Chair of the Adults Select Committee.
- The Head of Community Led Delivery would provide Members with contact details of the organisations that officers were liaising with through the Whole Place Plan.

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The Work Programme was amended, as follows:

20th April 2016

- Progress report on the Eisteddfod.
- Update report by Team Abergavenny.
- Progress report by Costain regarding the Heads of the Valleys Dualling Gilwern to Brynmawr.
- Development of a Hub in Abergavenny.
- Rural Development Funding update.
- Update on events in the Bryn y Cwm area.

13th July 2016

- Community Coordination on the Abergavenny area.
- Area Capital Funding.

We resolved to receive the report and noted its content.

12. Next Meeting

We resolved that the next Bryn y Cwm Area Committee meeting would be held on Wednesday 20th April 2016 at 2.00pm at Llanfair Kilgeddin Village Hall (subject to availability).

The meeting ended at 4.25pm.

TEAM ABERGAVENNY

BETTER, TOGETHER

UPDATE ON TEAM ABERGAVENNY FOR BRYN Y CWM MEETING 20 April 2016

- 1.. We have formally launched Team Abergavenny at St Michael`s Centre from 3pm to 9pm on 15 February. Altogether for both afternoon and evening sessions we had well in excess of 100 people come to see what it is all about and about 50 showed interest in joining us. It was an open session with two formal presentations, and a number of good questions and points were raised.
We hope to collect more ideas and support from local people when we have an OpenTalk Session on 7 May in the Family Church Hall in the afternoon. The idea is to stage a completely open session with no specific agenda other than what is raised by those who attend. We want as wide a spectrum of attendees as possible.
2. Structurally we are reviewing the way we work so that different work-streams can progress in parallel. We are conscious that at present many of the Team are hand-picked, and as one of the points raised at the Launch was about our accountability and constitution, we will aim to have an open public meeting in the autumn. to review progress and to open up places on the Team for election by people who have registered as members. The important thing is that anyone who joins the Team will be expected to do something positive to contribute to our objectives.
3. We have actively encouraged participation of a number of interested groups in the redevelopment of the central streets in Abergavenny, and that project has been fully embraced by MCC, with the scheme now well under way. Now that this is back in the hands of MCC and the contractor, we are aiming to continue a Public Realm Group to look at possible future schemes and to have them prepared and ready to go if and when funding becomes available.
4. The Green Spaces Group has stalled over the past few months due to a number of factors. The aim is still to prepare a Lottery Bid in the next couple of months. We are bidding for funding to continue with Stage 2 which will be the detailed design and commissioning phase once the outline project has been submitted and hopefully approved. This is running in parallel with another bid led by Transition Town which focuses on the ground rather than the structures that go with it.
5. We are trying to arrange a meeting with the MCC Markets Team to promote and increase the range of events that can be held in Abergavenny, particularly using the Market Hall and Brewery Yard. The Market Hall is one of the biggest indoor spaces in SE Wales outside the main cities and it needs to be exploited as much as possible without losing the important local markets.
6. The Catering College project is still on the agenda to offset the shortage of skilled chefs in the area, but at present there is still substantial work to be done with other agencies.
7. Since the last update a brand new project has been started which has exciting possibilities for the area. It is a European Project, the Agri-Urban Project, which is intended to share knowledge and expertise between a group of ten towns and cities across Europe with a view to developing closer links between the towns and their surrounding rural areas, particularly in the process of local sourcing of food. This has a good fit with our overall objectives and by the time you receive this the first briefing session on the first meeting in Cesena, Italy, attended by our delegation will have been carried out. The scheme proper starts in June – we came into it very late as we were invited to

participate rather than having to compete for a place.

8. A number of people including Town Councillors and Team Abergavenny members took part in a Shape My Town Modelling exercise on 9 April. The sponsors were the Design Council for Wales and Cardiff School of Architecture, and a report on the outcome of the exercise will be delivered in due course. The idea was to look at possible future developments in Abergavenny from a variety of perspectives represented by those present.

9. Finally, one of the ideas put forward at the Launch was the idea of having a ten-year plan for Abergavenny. Several of the threads reported on above link to this idea and we are agreed in principle that a joint exercise between the Town Council and Team Abergavenny should be developed to take this forward. It is likely that this will need to take in surrounding Communities during the discussions as the Town does not exist in a vacuum.

11 April 16

SUBJECT: Update on Events in Bryn y Cwm
MEETING: Bryn y Cwm Area Committee
DATE: Wednesday 20 April 2016
DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: Bryn y Cwm

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide Bryn y Cwm Area Committee with an update on the progress of plans for events within 2016.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report and provide views and feedback as to how the function can further develop its outputs and outcomes in ways that aim to deliver financial and added value returns to the county and council.

3 KEY ISSUES

General

- 3.1 The Council's events strategy aligns us to Welsh Government's event strategy, enabling Monmouthshire County Council to make progress in ways which help optimise potential of everything our county has to offer. This paper outlines Monmouthshire's current position on events within Bryn y Cwm and recognises in particular, the exceptional contributions of its communities in enabling the staging of well-operated events.

Monmouthshire's National Eisteddfod 2016

- 3.2 Wales' leading festival will visit Monmouthshire and the surrounding areas from 29 July to 6 August 2016 with the Maes located at Castle Meadows, close to the town of Abergavenny. The county can expect to welcome around 155,000 visitors to the area.
- 3.3 The Council has established an internal Task and Finish Group, chaired by the Leader of the Council, which meets regularly to oversee the planning of the festival. Representatives of the group also meet separately with the Eisteddfod organisers frequently to oversee operational matters.
- 3.4 The Eisteddfod's Head of Technical Services is in regular contact with Monmouthshire's Event Safety Advisory Group to communicate plans to relevant agencies and emergency services. A number of subgroups have been established to develop more detailed plans for areas such as noise management and traffic management.
- 3.5 Planning permission has been granted for the temporary change of use of Castle Meadows, Abergavenny from agricultural grazing to outdoor leisure as a venue to host to the festival.
- 3.6 Sites at Cwrt y Gollen and Llanellen are currently being contracted to serve as car parks for the park and ride provision. A third site is being sought. Byfield Lane car park will be used as the drop-off point for buses and required works to make the area fit for purpose will start imminently. Byfield Lane car park will be closed to the general public for the duration of the festival.
- 3.7 Monmouthshire County Council is working with Team Abergavenny, Abergavenny Town Council and other community groups to prepare the town and rest of the county to welcome visitors. We held a well-attended community working session on Thursday 14 January to discuss: Dressing the town, recruiting support and volunteers, leaving a legacy and supporting local businesses. Many of the ideas raised by the groups are being worked on and implemented, such as training evenings for volunteers, signposting from the Maes to the town, developing support packs for local businesses and drafting business cases to dress the town with the Team Abergavenny.

- 3.8 All communication in relation to the Eisteddfod is currently promoting the 'Year of the Eisteddfod'. Our 'Go Red for Eisteddfod' campaign engaged 28 schools, local businesses, youth groups, adult learning students, Male Voice Choirs, the Eisteddfod Choir and received a good response across local, regional and national publications and television.
- 3.9 Town branding, including lamppost banners for the existing lighting column brackets, will start to be installed across Abergavenny town in the next number of weeks. Additional temporary signage to the main festival site and to the town will be erected early July.
- 3.10 A fringe programme brochure will be developed and distributed to visitors.
- 3.11 At the time of writing this report, the fundraising appeals committee have currently raised £130,000 against their £300,000 target and progress is being made. Monmouthshire County Council agreed to underwrite the Community fund at a Full Council meeting in May 2014. Reserves have been allocated to facilitate the Eisteddfod project and will be called upon in the event that the £300k target is not met and this will not have any impact on service delivery.
- 3.12 A host of additional fundraising activities are being planned including events for St David's Day, Easter, a race day at Chepstow race course and 'Choirs in the Castle' concert at Caldicot Castle where Caldicot, Chepstow and Monmouth choirs are joining forces on 18th June for an evening of entertainment, with all proceeds being donated to the cause.
- 3.13 Studies to determine the exact nature of the Return on Investment will be conducted in conjunction with the National eisteddfod after the event.
- 3.14 Current forecasts show that this project is being delivered to allocated budgets. A copy of the current budget position is attached as Appendix 1.

Monmouthshire's area at the National Eisteddfod 2016

- 3.15 Monmouthshire County Council are planning to develop an area of activity which is an engaging, exciting, hands-on experience for visitors of the 2016 Monmouthshire Eisteddfod. The space is found at a prominent area of the Maes and is designed to be a flexible and attractive hive of activity. It will promote Monmouthshire's tourism offer that is perfect for celebrating and appreciating Welsh culture. The space showcases everything that is great about the county - from food to drink, cycling to walking, exploring castles to archery.
- 3.16 An internal group has been set up to coordinate the operation and planning of Monmouthshire's area on the Maes. Teams and partners who wish to work with us on the area will need to apply to ensure that their objectives meet our brief.
- 3.17 The space will consist of six main zones of activity:
- Welcome entrance: Provide a visual welcome that entices visitors into the Monmouthshire area and features BeeFriendly Monmouthshire.
 - Stalls: A space for teams, partners and businesses to promote to and inform visitors with a focus on experiential, hands-on activities.
 - Performance area: A flexible, focal space where musical acts and speakers can entertain visitors.
 - Country Kitchen: An exciting food experience which showcases the county's producers, produce and recipes.
 - Indoor activity and play: Activities that provide a hands-on flavour of the county's tourism offer to include dressing up as a knight, cycling simulators, sandpits and interactive maps.
 - Leisure and Sport: A sport-focussed space that encourages participation, challenge and leisure coordinated by Monmouthshire's Sport Development team.

- 3.18 We advertised for local businesses and groups to join us in delivering a memorable and engaging experience on the Maes. Over 50 organisations applied and we are currently working them to draw up arrangements.
- 3.19 Our Sport Development team's relationship with National Governing Sporting Bodies has resulted in organisations such as Welsh Cycling, the Welsh Rugby Union, Tennis Wales, Golf Wales and Hockey Wales joining us for the week to help deliver our leisure and sport experience. Tennis' Davis Cup will feature within Monmouthshire's area on the Friday of the week.
- 3.20 Our Tourism team is working with chefs and local producers an exciting food experience within the Monmouthshire area, which we are naming our Country Kitchen. The modern country style kitchen set is created to reflect Monmouthshire's food tourism status and the wealth of food and drink producers in the county. The area is to be flexible in order to accommodate demonstrations, children's workshops, masterclasses and other talks as well as a retail area. Abergavenny Food Festival are working with us on this area to provide legacy opportunities.
- 3.21 £80,000 has been allocated to this project and it is currently forecasted to be delivered on budget. The budget will cover the presence on the Maes, tickets for staff and suppliers and the leisure area.

Velothon 2016

- 3.22 On Thursday 19 November 2015, Council agreed to support the 2016 Velothon to enable the route to travel through Monmouthshire having received assurances that the route would be amended and that extensive consultation and communication with those affected will be at the centre of their work leading up to the event.
- 3.23 The independent debrief from 2015's event recommended that:
- More detailed and documented planning was required;
 - Involve local agency in planning phase;
 - Earlier finalisation of the route;
 - Earlier and effective communication of the road closures;
 - Greater oversight by Welsh Government
 - Integrated and coordinated response from agencies;
 - A greater focus on risk;
 - Identification of locations for public viewing;
 - Work with communities to overcome negative views from 2015.
- 3.24 An operational delivery steering group has been established to oversee the planning of this year's event. The group has representation from all five Local Authorities, emergency services, Welsh Government, British Cycling, Run4Wales and key delivery partners. Additional subgroups have been established to look specifically at Marketing and Communication, Race Logistics and Event Logistics.
- 3.25 Each Local Authority has an internal group to address event delivery. Monmouthshire also has an additional 'Internal Service Disruption' group that will develop arrangements for use by MCC representatives at Velothon 2016 Event Control. The document will detail the MCC services disrupted by the Velothon, arrangements agreed in relation to service continuity, event 'Command and Control' structures, ELAPS points, key contact details and how these would dovetail into existing major incident arrangements if a significant event occurred.
- 3.26 Run4Wales has reported that 105,891 letters were posted out last month, 17,000 of which were directed to Monmouthshire addresses. A copy of the letter and the road closure map has been attached to this report as Appendix 2. The letter is also available electronically on Monmouthshire County Council's website and the Velothon 2016 website. A second letter drop to include accurate road closure times is expected to take place at the end of April, but exact timings are to be confirmed.

- 3.27 Jacbee, an Event Management and Marketing Specialist, has been appointed to work with Run4Wales to deliver the business element of the communication. Engagement with Monmouthshire businesses started in February.
- 3.28 Nigel Russell, from Run4Wales, attended a meeting for members and residents on Monday 22 February at County Hall, Usk and another on Tuesday 5 April at Llanfoist to answer questions and share information about the route.
- 3.29 The route was released on Monday 22 February and is available to view on the Velothon website.
- 3.30 Residents and businesses are encouraged to contact the organisers with any queries. A dedicated helpline with increased capacity has been set up, a general enquiries email and a dedicated route enquiry email. MCC's contact centre and Community Hubs have been advised to direct enquiries to these channels of communication.

Abergavenny Festival of Cycling

- 3.31 The 2016 Festival of Cycling, which takes place from the 13th - 17th July has again been awarded four televised National Series races. This includes the town's own annual trader's race, youth races and, for the first time, a women's race.
- 3.32 Full schedule of events being:
- Wednesday 13 July: The Chepstow Grand Prix
 - Friday 15 July: The Wales Open Criterium with supporting Youth Races and the Cardiac Town Race
 - Saturday 16 July: Iron Mountain Sportif with Biking in the Bailey
 - Sunday 17 July: The Grand Prix of Wales and The Para Grand Prix of Wales
- 3.33 Bailey Park will host the participation events, offering achievable cycling distances for everyone. The North Gwent Cardiac Rehabilitation has been nominated as the local charity and are working alongside the festival us to raise money and attract riders from far and wide to challenge themselves.
- 3.34 Direct communication to residents and local businesses about the necessary road closures to stage the event safely will be distributed at the end of April, although initial detail is already available on the festival website.
- 3.35 Abergavenny Festival of Cycling has been awarded for the best organised cycling event across all disciplines for 2015 by British Cycling. Bill Owen, festival organiser, was presented the award and acknowledged the support of local people, the Town Council and the local businesses.

Future Projects

- 3.36 The Events team intend to scope the feasibility of the following proposals for the Bryn y Cwm area, whilst maintaining and developing its current commitments, for 2016 to 2017 and further:
- Using Abergavenny Market Hall to show international sport games on a giant screen, the first being Wales v England on Sunday 29 May 2016.
 - Broadening Monmouthshire Sports Awards to establish a 'Pride of Monmouthshire Awards' brand to include sport achievements, volunteers and young people.
 - Installing a temporary real ice rink in Abergavenny Market Hall to coincide with a travelling European Christmas market from November 2016 to January 2017.
 - Extending its fireworks offer to another town in Monmouthshire.
 - Staging a large scale concert with a major, mainstream touring artist in a venue such as Bailey Park, Abergavenny or Castle Meadows, Abergavenny in the summer of 2017.

4 REASONS

- 4.1 The measurement of return of investment both economic and social across the events that currently operate inside of the County go largely unrecognised and it is important these are measured and their true value understood.
- 4.2 Events encourage growth and economic opportunities in tourism, business and enterprise and are an important tool in building resilience and community spirit
- 4.3 The Council is committed to delivering high quality events. There is a need to develop a supported timetable of growth and signature events in line with Monmouthshire priorities and Welsh Government Events Strategy.

5 RESOURCES

- 5.1 The events strategy is delivered and implemented by a small core events team supported by the county's network of volunteers, community groups, town teams and local businesses.
- 5.2 Any major events that require investment from the Council will carry a separate report for consideration as and when required.
- 5.3 The Events team works in synchrony with teams across the organisation such as Communications and Engagement, Leisure Services, Tourism and Attractions to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to planning.

6. SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 The significant equality impacts identified in the assessment are summarised below for members' consideration .
- 6.2 As with delivery of any event there will be some unavoidable disruption to community life which could include transport, parking, noise and environmental factors. At all times the service will think about reducing impact to community life especially the vulnerable and where possible reduce disruption.
- 6.3 The team will do its best to identify and consult with communities well in advance to prepare them and help.

7. CONSULTEES

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet Member for Enterprise and Leisure
Economy and Development Select Committee

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Events Strategy

9. AUTHOR

Dan Davies
Event Manager
01633 644044
dandavies@monmouthshire.gov.uk

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Budget Position 22.03.16**Eisteddfod Costs****Infra structure**

			Spent to date	Budget remaining
Planning , TIA	20,000		3314	16,686
Signage	30,000		0	30,000
Access ramp	30,000			30,000
Adjustments to Byefield Lane Car park	10,000		4,601.76	5,398
Castle Meadows Infrastructure works	10,000		0	10,000
Potential disabled shuttle service from train station	10,000		0	10,000
	110,000		7915.76	102,084

Proclamation Ceremony

22,000	22,000	#REF!	#REF!
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Previous Eisteddfod prescence (2104 & 2015)

5,000	5,000	#REF!	#REF!
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Project Management Fees

25,000	25,000	0	25,000
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2016 Eisteddfod

Eisteddfod Prescence	60,000		4,442.69	55,557
Tickets staff & members	10,000		0	10,000
Sports prescence	10,000		0	10,000
Marketing	30,000		12622.75	17,377
	110,000		17065.44	92,935

272,000

280,000

Summary

#REF!	#REF!
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Community Fund Raising

Underwriting	300,000	300,000
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Contingency

5,500	5,500
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agreed by Full Council 23.05.14

577,500

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Velothon Wales
Run 4 Wales – Pod 1
Capital Retail Park
Leckwith Road
Cardiff
CF11 8EG

029 2166 0790
route@velothonwales.co.uk

Annwyl Preswylydd,

GWYBODAETH BWYSIG – VELOTHON CYMRU 22AIN O FAI 2016

Yr ddydd Sul yr 22ain o Fai 2016, bydd Velothon Cymru yn dychwelyd i ffyrdd De Cymru. Bydd y digwyddiad yn groesawu tua 15,000 o feicwyr hamdden, gyda llawer yn codi arian i elusen yn ogystal â rhai o feicwyr gorau'r byd fel rhan o ras ffyrdd proffesiynol UCI.

Bydd y ffyrdd caeedig o 140km yn cymryd cyfranogwyr ar daith trwy galon Caerdydd i Gasnewydd, Caerllion, Wysg ag i fyny'r Tymbl cyn teithio i'r De trwy Flaenafon, Pont-y-pŵl, Caerffili â nôl i Gaerdydd dros y llinell derfyn. Rhagwelwn bydd dros £1 miliwn yn cael eu codi i amrywiaeth o elusennau ac achosion da.

Mae'n angenrheidiol i ni gau'r ffyrdd oherwydd graddfa'r digwyddiad ac i diogelu'r beicwyr.

RHYBUDD: MAE'R FFYRDD CAEEDIG YN EFFEITHIO AR EICH ARDAL CHI

Bwriad y llythyr yma yw i'ch rhybuddio am y digwyddiad ac i arddangos y llwybr awgrymedig gyda manylion penodol ar y llwybr sy'n mynd trwy eich awdurdod lleol. Bydd manylion pellach gan gynnwys map o ffyrdd caeedig manwl, yn cael ei ddosbarthu i chi o leiaf 6 wythnos cyn y digwyddiad. Mae map rhyngweithiol ar gael ar wefan y digwyddiad sef www.velothon-wales.co.uk

Os ydych oes unrhyw gyfrifoldebau neu ddigwyddiadau wedi'i threfnu ar y 22ain o Fai megis digwyddiadau ffurfiol, dyletswyddau gofâl neu deithio i'ch gwyliau, gofynnwn i chi rhoi gwybod i ni cyn gynted ag sy'n bosib. Byddwn yn gwneud y gorau gallwn i ddarparu gwybodaeth ar y ffyrdd gorau o gwmpas y ffyrdd caeedig.

Rydym eisiau ymddiheuro o flaen llaw am unrhyw drafferth achoswyd. Byddwn yn ceisio cadw unrhyw amhariad i leiafswm. Hoffwn ddiolch am eich dealltwriaeth, cefnogaeth a chydweithrediad yn ystod yr amser yma.

Beth am ymuno â ni?

I ddiolch i chi am eich cydweithrediad rydym yn falch i gynnig 10% o fynediad y ras, od hoffech chi gymryd rhan yn Velothon Cymru 2016. I hawlio'r cynnig unigryw yma, ewch i www.velothon-wales.co.uk a defnyddiwch y côd **RESIDENT** ar y dudalen taliad wrth gofrestru.

Os nad ydych am gymryd rhan, rydym yn annog i chi ymuno â'r miloedd o gystadleuwyr i gefnogi'r beicwyr.

Am unrhyw ymholiadau am y llwybr neu'r ffyrdd caeedig, e-bostiwch route@velothonwales.co.uk neu ffoniwch 029 21 660 790. Am wybodaeth gyffredinol am Velothon Cymru, ewch i www.velothon-wales.co.uk neu e-bostiwch helpdesk@velothonwales.co.uk.

MAP O'R LLWYBR DROSODD

SIR FYNWY

Velothon Wales
Run 4 Wales – Pod 1
Capital Retail Park
Leckwith Road
Cardiff
CF11 8EG

029 2166 0790
route@velothonwales.co.uk

Dear Resident,

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - VELOTHON WALES SUNDAY 22ND OF MAY 2016

On **Sunday the 22nd of May 2016**, Velothon Wales will return to the roads of South Wales. The event will once again welcome up to 15,000 recreational cyclists and charity fundraisers as well as some of the world best cyclists as part of the UCI sanctioned professional road race.

The completely closed road 140km route will take participants on a journey from the heart of Cardiff through to Newport, Caerleon, Usk and up the Tumble before heading south through Blaenavon, Pontypool, Caerphilly and back into Cardiff where cyclists will cross the finish line. Many will be fundraising, and in line with 2015 it's predicted that over £1 million will be raised for charities and good causes.

Due to the scale of the event, it will be necessary to implement road closures along the route to facilitate the safe passage of the participants.

PLEASE NOTE: THE PLANNED ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE EVENT WILL AFFECT YOUR AREA

The aim of this letter is to give you advance notice of the event and showcase the proposed route, with specific detail on the part of the route which goes through your local authority. Further details, including the precise road closure times will be circulated **at least six weeks before** the event. More detailed maps, including a detailed Interactive Map, are available on the event website www.velothon-wales.co.uk.

If you are already aware of anything that will impact you on the **22nd May** such as formal events, carer responsibilities and holiday travel, please let us know as early as possible and we will do all we can to provide more information on how you can best navigate your way around the road closures.

We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause and assure you that we will try to keep any disruption to a minimum. We wish to thank you for your understanding and we are grateful of your support and cooperation.

WHY NOT JOIN US?

To thank you for your cooperation we are delighted to offer you 10% off entry should you wish to take part in Velothon Wales 2016. To claim this exclusive offer, simply visit www.velothon-wales.co.uk and enter the code **RESIDENT** on the payment page of the registration process.

If you are not taking part, we encourage you to turn out on the day to join the thousands of spectators who will be cheering on the cyclists.

Email route@velothonwales.co.uk with queries regarding the route and subsequent road closures or call 029 21 660 790. For general information visit www.velothon-wales.co.uk or email helpdesk@velothonwales.co.uk.

ROUTE MAP OVERLEAF

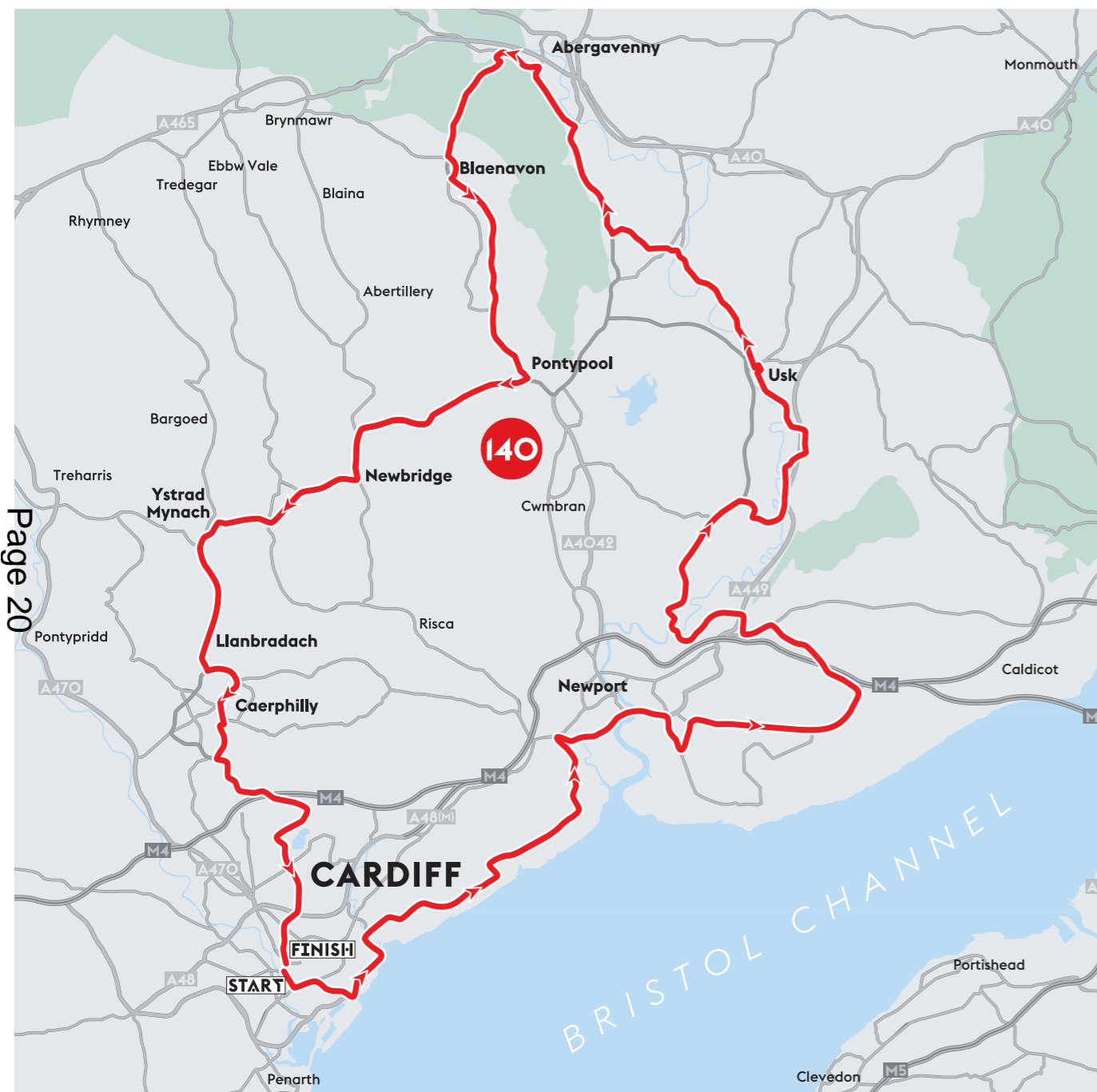
MONMOUTHSHIRE

Velothon Wales 2016 Route

Road closure details and timings will be communicated to you 6 weeks before the event.

Velothon Cymru

Bydd manylion pellach yn cael ei ddosbarthu i chi o leiaf 6 wythnos cyn y digwyddiad.

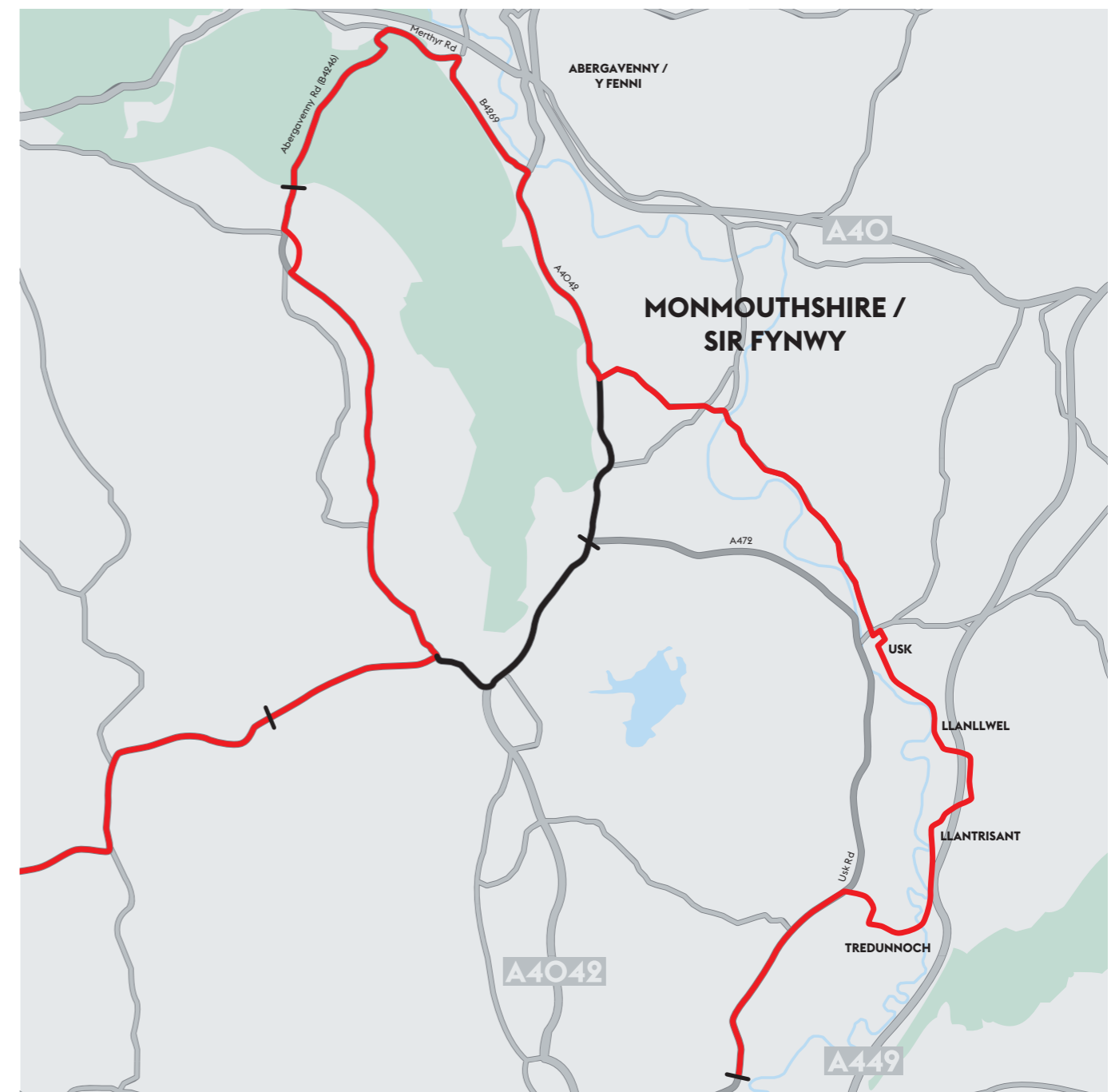


Velothon Wales 2016 Route in your area

Road closure details and timings will be communicated to you 6 weeks before the event.

Velothon Cymru

Bydd manylion pellach yn cael ei ddosbarthu i chi o leiaf 6 wythnos cyn y digwyddiad.



SUBJECT:	RIVER USK, CASTLE MEADOWS
DIRECTORATE:	Enterprise
MEETING:	Bryn y Cwm Area Committee
DATE:	20 April 2016

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To present the area committee with the outcome of further discussions regarding the use of the River Usk at Castle Meadows.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members reach a view on the potential for wider use of the River Usk.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 There was one outstanding issue from the Area Committee's previous consideration of the Castle Meadows Management Plan - requests for wider access to the River Usk and for a change of policy to allow canoeing and wild swimming in that section of the river adjoining the meadows where the Council has riparian rights.
- 3.2 The task and finish group took the view that further discussions between the canoeing and fishing interest would be necessary to explore if there could be agreement on wider use of the river and it was resolved that officers facilitate further discussion and bring a further report back to the Area Committee, as required.
- 3.3 This process has unfortunately been rather extended but a meeting has taken place between Abergavenny Canoe Club (<http://abergavennycanoeclub.co.uk/>) and the fishing club and an agreed note of the meeting prepared (attached to this report).
- 3.4 As will be seen for the note the discussions have not reached agreement on a way forward. Member's views are therefore sought. Options include maintaining the current policy; or investigating further whether a specific agreement with the canoe club could be achieved to overcome the fishermen's concerns.

4. REASONS:

- 4.1 To ensure the most appropriate management of the River Usk at Castle Meadows.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 No direct resource implications.

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 A full equality impact assessment had not been prepared at this stage, but wider use of the river would extend the diversity of users of the river. If the view is that wider use should be further investigated a detailed assessment of the potential impacts on the River Usk SAC and any required management controls will be required.

7. AUTHOR:

Matthew Lewis
Countryside Manager

CONTACT DETAILS:

E-mail: matthewlewis@monmouthshire.gov.uk Telephone: 01633 644855

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Notes from meeting between Fishermen and Canoeist regarding use of the river Usk at Castle Meadows 17th November 2015

Notes from meeting between Fishermen and Canoeist regarding use of the river Usk at Castle Meadows 17th November 2015

People attending the meeting:

Mark Langley Head Warden, Monmouthshire County Council

Julia Aldous Abergavenny Canoe Club

Jason Stone Abergavenny Canoe Club

Mike Kelly Abergavenny Canoe Club

Craig Armiger Abergavenny Canoe Club

John Paxton Fisherman

Philip Starmore Fisherman

Martin Watts Fisherman

Martin Smith (Ricky) Fisherman

Main points from meeting:

Canoe Club

40 to 50 members, although only a few come out at one time

At present winters in swimming pool and summers places like Mon and Brecon Canal and Keeper's Pond

Want to share the river and work with the fishermen

They would like access throughout the year

They would access the river near the 3 benches by the rapids

They would like access on length of river where the banks are owned by Monmouthshire County Council

They would carry or use trollies to get to the river from the Byefield car park

They are affiliated to Canoe Wales and have to abide by their codes of conduct

They would monitor behaviour from outside canoeists

Report shows that canoeing does not affect the fish stock on a river

In France there are timed sessions on rivers so that canoeists have less impact on fishing

Large diversity of age and abilities within the group. Fits in with core values of County Council

The river was used for swimming and boating in the past

Fishermen

Cost of fishing £148.00 plus £72.00 per year. Numbers may drop if there was interference from canoeists and fishing experience would not be as good. Less money going to Council

Worries about health and safety. Danger to canoeists

Worries that more canoeists who are not members of the canoe club would start to use the river at Castle Meadows. These people would not be under the control of the club and may not be as responsible

Need to preserve spawning salmon and allis shad on river, which is a site of special scientific interest

Because the canoeists will only be using the short stretch of water there is more likelihood that they will interfere with the fishing as they go up and down

How will canoeists deal with low levels of water in the summer?

How could we monitor dinghies and tell them they cannot use the river if people are canoeing on the river?

ITEM	BACKGROUND DETAIL	REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS
<p>Standard Items:</p> <p>Bryn y Cwm Area Forum</p> <p>Eisteddfod</p> <p>Team Abergavenny</p>	<p>The Forum has suspended its activities.</p> <p>Progress report on the Eisteddfod.</p> <p>To receive an update report on progress to date.</p>	<p>No information to report.</p> <p>20th April 2016</p> <p>20th April 2016</p>
<p>New Work Programme Items:</p> <p>Heads of the Valleys Dualling Gilwern to Brynmawr</p> <p>RDP Funding on the Local Development Strategy</p> <p>Events</p> <p>River Usk, Castle Meadows</p> <p>Community Coordination in the Abergavenny Area</p>	<p>To meet representatives from Costain to receive an update on progress.</p> <p>To receive an update by Michael Powell, Rural Programmes Manager, on RDP Funding on the Local Development Strategy.</p> <p>Update on events in the Bryn y Cwm area.</p> <p>To receive an update by the Countryside Manager.</p> <p>To receive a report by the Changing Practice, Changing Lives Lead Officer regarding Community Coordination in the Abergavenny area</p>	<p>20th April 2016</p> <p>20th April 2016</p> <p>20th April 2016</p> <p>20th April 2016</p> <p>13th July 2016</p>

Development of a Hub, Abergavenny	To receive an update.	13 th July 2016
Area Capital Grants	To receive requests for funding.	13 th July 2016
Race Track near Rassau Industrial Estate	The Bryn y Cwm Area Services Officer to invite representatives from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to a future Area Committee meeting to discuss the race track.	TBC