

Monmouth Town Council

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd April 2007 at 7.30 pm
in the Community Room, Shire Hall**

PRESENT: Chairman Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst,
Councillor T Christopher, Councillor J Fletcher, Councillor Mrs V Mitchell,
Councillor Mrs A Were

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor G F W Buckland, County Councillor Mrs E J Hacket Pain

Agenda Item		Action
	<p>Play area at Woodland View, Wyesham: Councillor Mrs Hacket Pain gave a brief history of the play area which is much needed because there are many children living in the surrounding flats. MCC has, over the years, repaired and replaced equipment but eventually had to remove it all on Health & Safety grounds. The residents wish the area to remain a play ground; they have many ideas and there is a consensus that there should be different areas for different age groups. Mike Moran, Tim Bradfield and Debbie McCarty have looked at the area and also looked at Tudor Road. Shirley Hughes, the Outreach Officer, is also interested in being involved. As at the Burbeck Park play area in Chepstow, it is proposed that the area is fenced and locked when not in use in order to reduce vandalism; the residents are willing to act as key holders. It is hoped that, following the sale of the Wyesham Infants School site, Section 106 money will be available for development. An application is to be made to the Woolworths Playground Scheme for funding and other funding possibilities are under investigation. Cllr Mrs Hacket Pain was thanked for the efforts she has made in improving the play facilities in Wyesham. It was agreed that the Town Council should be kept informed of developments through Cllr Mrs Mitchell.</p>	VM
1.	<p>To Receive Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda: Cllr Mrs Dewhurst declared an interest concerning the Summer Play Scheme.</p>	
2.	<p>To Receive Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs White.</p>	

Initials: _____

3.	<p>To Approve Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th March 2007: These were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
4.	<p>Action Review Plan and Matters Arising: Summer Play Provision: The Town Clerk has made several attempts to obtain information about this year's scheme from Mike Moran but he has not replied. It was agreed that the Town Clerk contact the Head of Lifelong Learning to ascertain the situation. A positive response has been received from all of the local primary schools regarding distribution of a flyer requesting views from parents but until we know whether there will be a scheme and what form it will take, this cannot be done. Reading Express: The bus has been sold and the service has ceased. Monmouth Library: It was noted that this will in future be closed on Wednesdays as requested, and not on Mondays. Your Voice Counts: In hand. MCC Housing Strategy: The questionnaire had not been received by members but since Mr Bakewell at the last meeting had said that our comments were more useful than if we responded to his questionnaire it was agreed not necessary to proceed. Closure of Job Centre: One Voice Wales and David Davies have been contacted. The closure has occurred and there is a warm phone line at the One Stop Shop. It was noted that the building that used to house the Job Centre was looking tatty and on the door there was no information to job seekers as to how to proceed.</p>	<p>Town Clerk</p> <p>TC</p>
5.	<p>To Receive Correspondence: 1: International Components: To put on Environment Agenda 2: Monmouth Lads Club: Advise to apply for Community Grant 6: Clinical Futures Bulletin: Borrowed by Cllr Mitchell and to return to Clerk. 7: Open Spaces Society: To put on the agenda for Environment and/or Finance & Policy. 10: Monmouth Comprehensive Re World Challenge: To contact for a report back when they are back in August.</p>	<p>Town Clerk</p> <p>Town Clerk</p> <p>VM Town Clerk</p> <p>Town Clerk</p>
6.	<p>To Discuss Final Arrangements for Civic Awards Scheme: It was noted that each Nominee and each Sponsor were only being allowed one guest each. The judging was undertaken by Cllr Mrs Dewhurst, Cllr Christopher, Cllr Mrs Were and three of the sponsors. Cllr White will provide flower arrangements for each table. It was agreed that final arrangements be made starting at 6.30 pm on the night of the ceremony.</p>	<p>Town Clerk AD</p> <p>TC AW</p>

Initials: _____

7.	<p>To Discuss Arrangements for Monmouth Carnival: Cllr Mrs Dewhurst reported that Cllr Christopher now also attended the meetings, the last one of which was on 22nd April. Ross, Abergavenny and Park End have been asked whether they would like to participate. Cllr Were said that the Caldicot Carnival had been cancelled and that perhaps they too should be invited to participate in ours. Groups should be encouraged to participate either by decorating a lorry (the Carnival Committee can assist with a suitable vehicle) or as a walking entry of which there will be several categories including decorated umbrellas, decorated shopping trolleys and the like. Cllr Dewhurst asked members to note that there may be a request for funding the insurance which had previously been paid for from CEDS Funding but this was not the case this year.</p>	All
8.	<p>To Discuss the Use of a Lifebelt on the River Monnow: It was noted that although there was a cupboard on the New Bridge, the life belt has been missing for many months. It was agreed to ask Tim Bradfield how much it would cost to replace the missing life belt and that a decision could then be made.</p>	Clerk
9.	<p>Any Other Business: Cllr Fletcher noted that access to the allotments had been blocked by parked cars last weekend. It was agreed that he bring this up at the next meeting of the Environment Committee. Monmouth Comprehensive Trip to Kenya: It was reported that the trip had gone well. It was agreed that Andy Williams and/or the students be asked to report on the trip either to Full Council or to the Community Committee. Cllr Fletcher voiced his continued concerns over the ambulance service. He was requested to provide copies of the letters he has written in this regard to the Town Clerk and that a letter be sent to the Chief Executive of the Ambulance Service. Cllr Dewhurst asked members to note the Stand Up Monmouth comedy fund raising evening at the Savoy Theatre at 7.30 pm on 26th April for the Festival/Carnival.</p>	<p>JF Clerk JF Clerk</p>
10.	<p>To Agree the Date of the Next Meeting: Monday, 4th June 2007 in the Community Room, Shire Hall.</p>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Initials: _____