

Monmouth Town Council

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting
held on 26 November 2007 at 3.00pm
in The Community Room, Shire Hall**

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Gareth Holyfield, Head of Pharmacy and Medicine Management

AGENDA ITEM	DETAILS
1.	<u>To Receive Declaration of Interest of Items on the Agenda:</u> None received
2.	<u>To Receive Apologies for Absence:</u> Councillor Mrs S Chivers, Councillor L Robson, Councillor Mrs A Were and Councillor Mrs S White.
3.	<u>Presentation by Mr G Holyfield</u> Mr Holyfield described the present funding: Essential Service level and Advanced Service level of Pharmacies are funded by the National Health Service, but the enhanced service, which includes Out of Hours Rota, Care Home consultations and Sexual Health Strategy/Emergency Hormonal contraception is funded locally, by Monmouthshire Local Health Board. The proposal had come about because there has been a drop in the number of users of the Sunday and Bank holiday service, in Monmouth. The cost can be as much as £300 per session. Mr Holyfield said that he wanted to find out the community's feelings on the proposal, having received approval to go ahead with this consultation from the Local Health Board Chief Officer. Among other questions, the Committee asked : Q: What records are there of the number of times the service was used in Monmouth. A: Mr Holyfield left the records for the committee to peruse. Q: How are other areas affected? A: It was proposed that exactly the same experiment in Chepstow and consultation with The Town Council similarly. No drop has occurred in the use Caldicot makes of the service. Abergavenny has Waitrose Pharmacy on Sundays.

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<p>3. (Continued)</p>	<p>Q: How do you suggest re-allocating the money? A: Within the Enhanced Pharmacy Service. e.g. extending 1) the care home advisory service 2) The Emergency hormonal service of the Sexual Health Strategy or 3) The Minor Ailments Service in pharmacies during normal shop hours.</p> <p>Q: If the experiment went ahead, how would you measure its results. A: Through complaints at Nevill Hall or the pharmacies themselves. Notices requesting feed back would be posted in the pharmacies.</p> <p>Q: If this consultation shows that the closure experiment is not wanted by the community, what will happen? A: If it is not wanted, it will not take place.</p> <p>The Committee members gave Mr Holyfield their immediate reactions and expressed their deep concerns but resolved to have a follow-up meeting to ensure all its members had the opportunity to study the information that the committee had been given. The considered opinion of the committee would then be put in writing.</p> <p>Mr. Holyfield was thanked for offering to meet us.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>To discuss a proposal to allocate £100 from advertising for a banner publicising Connect 2 'The Peoples 50 million' vote.</u> This was agreed unanimously by members.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>To Confirm Date of Next Meeting.</u> Monday 7th January 2008 at 7.00pm</p>
<p>Meeting Closed at 3.55 pm</p>	

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Initials: _____