

# Monmouth Town Council

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## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting  
held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008  
Market Hall, Priory Street, Monmouth**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst.  
Councillor Mrs S Chivers, Councillor T Christopher, Councillor M Jones,  
Councillor Mrs B Smith and Councillor Mrs A Were

There was a presentation by Mr Mike Moran (Recreation and Leisure) who reported on the MCC Summer Holiday Activities and how they relate to Monmouth. He distributed a (30 page plus photos) written report which included results of questionnaires to users. The Committee had already received a breakdown of where attending children lived and what activities were covered at the Leisure Centre.

Overall, Mr Moran felt that the scheme had been successful, in its new, more ambitious form. His recommendations for improvements are included in the report. Further comments arose from the questions the Committee asked him immediately after his presentation:

A wider age group at each session had needed to be offered, than anticipated. This seems to suit families with children of different ages. The adjustment will be repeated next year. He would undertake to compare the Summer Play that the Boys' School offers with MCC's own, i.e. times, charges, facilities.

He would investigate the possibilities of co-ordinating the Summer Play offer by the Housing Associations.

Accommodation for the Summer Camp needed thorough reorganisation.

£6,500 had been spent on a full colour leaflet distributed to each schoolchild in Monmouthshire although the funding for this had come 'separately', he was not convinced that the idea would be repeated. Publicity was crucial to the scheme's success. Cheaper leaflets combined with presentations by play workers to the schools, might be better. The staff at the Leisure Centre needed better information when the public enquired.

The members questioned an apparent discrepancy in the financial analysis which unfortunately was not picked up while Mr Moran was present. It was agreed to write a letter asking for an explanation.

It was agreed that The Town Council would take part in a joint meeting with the surrounding Community Councils on 6<sup>th</sup> Nov in Monmouth. The aim is to agree shared funding, the Community Councils being asked to contribute proportionally according to attendance.

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
42.	<p><b><u>To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda:</u></b>            Agenda Item 51: Councillor Christopher and Councillor Mrs Dewhurst</p>	
43.	<p><b><u>To receive apologies for absence:</u></b>            Councillor G Bright, Councillor J Fletcher and Councillor Mrs S White</p>	
44.	<p><b><u>To approve minutes of the previous meetings dated 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008:</u></b>            The minutes were confirmed correct and signed</p>	
45.	<p><b><u>To review action summary and receive Town Clerk's report:</u></b>            As listed:            Invitation to Crossroads for the January meeting. A decision has been made to defer this until AD has attended the AGM scheduled for 27 October 2008            WAG consultation on setting local speed limits is being monitored by AW.            Jobcentre attendance figures from Monmouth residents: AD will write to the Jobcentre in Abergavenny to inform them that an interviews room is available at the OSS every Thursday afternoon.</p>	<p>AD            AW            AD</p>
46.	<p><b><u>To receive correspondence:</u></b>            Letter Number 2: Pharmacy rota, As the report makes no mention of this Committee's detailed response, AD will write to David Kenny to clarify our dismay at poor communications with the Local Health Board.              Letters Numbers 3, 4, 8, 9, will be asked to apply for the next tranche of the Community Grants Scheme.            All other items noted.</p>	<p>AD</p>
47.	<p><b><u>To consider recommendation of working party for awards for Community Grant applications:</u></b>            All approved as per the circulated list. It was agreed that the cheques should be distributed to those awarded and a letter to advise that an invitation would follow to attend the Awards Evening in March.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
48.	<p><b><u>To confirm contribution of funding towards Summer Playscheme:</u></b>            The Committee noted from the information presented at the meeting by Mr Mike Moran that the Summer Plays scheme has surplus funding. It was agreed to defer the decision to contribute £6,500 until the Clerk has a reply to the committee's question of why the contribution is needed and what it will be paying for.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

49.	<p><b><u>To identify gaps in provision of play facilities and summer play scheme and form action plan:</u></b>  Pending further progress on Woodland View and following County Councillor Mrs Hackett Pain's visit the Committee wants to consider donating benches at the play area sites at Tudor Road and Kings Fee.  It was agreed to take the request to the Environment Committee  It was reported that further investigations are being made into the possibility of a small toddlers play area near Osbaston School.</p>	<p><b>AD/AW</b></p> <p><b>AD Clerk</b></p>
50.	<p><b><u>To discuss staging Christmas event and agree format and budget:</u></b>  It was agreed to host the event on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December.  Investigate the possibility of St Thomas Hall as a grotto  Confirm with Rotary re Santa and sleigh/street entertainers  Street entertainers  Town Band  Fancy dress competition  Candle Holders and Police  Vicar  Pubs/Mulled wine  Report on all progress to the Town Clerks Office by 27<sup>th</sup> October  NB: Work on Christmas Card competition is well in hand</p>	<p><b>SC TC AD AD BS Clerk TC MJ</b></p> <p><b>TC/MJ</b></p>
51.	<p><b><u>To consider and agree budget for 2009/2010:</u></b>  Members considered and agreed a draft budget that will be forwarded for consideration at the next F&amp;P meeting.</p>	
52.	<p><b><u>To agree contents of Press Release:</u></b>  Community Grants, Pharmacy response and Christmas event</p>	<p><b>AD</b></p>
53.	<p><b><u>To agree items of business for forthcoming meetings:</u></b>  As per Forward Plan.  To resolve to agree funding for the Summer play scheme 2008 and 2009</p>	
54.	<p><b><u>To confirm date of next meeting:</u></b>  Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008 at 7.00 pm</p>	
	<p><b>There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 pm</b></p>	