

Monmouth Town Council

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting
held on 9th February 2009
in Market Hall, Priory Street, Monmouth**

PRESENT: Chairman Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst.
Councillor G Bright, Councillor Mrs S Chivers, Councillor T Christopher,
Councillor J Fletcher, Councillor Mrs B Smith, Councillor Mrs A Were
and Councillor Mrs S White

A presentation was given by Mr Gareth Holyfield from Monmouthshire LHB responsible for pharmacies and Dr Rowland Hughes is Medical Director of Monmouthshire LHB. Mr Holyfield calculated as saving of about £10,000 per annum by the closure of duty pharmacies rotas in Chepstow and Monmouth, of this it is guaranteed that £5,000 annually will be spent in Monmouth. Initially the most suitable use is most likely to be enhancement of the 'smoking cessation service' recently introduced at Bridges. Members were advised that this would be reviewed periodically but that the funding would remain in Monmouth. Members were also advised that publicity would be finalised on effectively informing people on how to obtain their prescriptions. The committee is being consulted and will liaise with Sarah Morrison from the LHB on the final draft of the leaflet. There was an opportunity for questions and they answered members question carefully.

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
82.	To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda: None received	
83.	To receive apologies for absence: Councillor M Jones	
84.	To approve and sign minutes of the previous meeting dated 19th January 2009: The minutes were confirmed correct and signed	
85.	To review Action Summary: Noted Cowlings Lane: The traffic survey is on-going and Councillor Bright will continue his investigations until the end of the month CED'S Surgery: Obtain clarification of funding for traffic calming measures	GB AD/AW

<p>86.</p>	<p>To receive correspondence: Noted</p> <p>1. MCC - It was noted that the bus surgery was postponed due to poor weather conditions</p> <p>2 & 7 This feedback was included in the responses made regarding the Jobcentre</p> <p>4. MCC - Councillor Mrs Smith has been appointed as the representative on the Project Group for the Monnow Vale Day Centre Users Project.</p> <p>Standing Orders were suspended to bring item no 89 forward</p>	
<p>89.</p>	<p>To receive report regarding Police re-structuring and consider implications for local policing:</p> <p>Sgt Grey advised how although the Police force is financially challenged as there has been a reduction of 13.5% that positive re-organisation is underway. He described the new structure and advised that the Neighbourhood scheme will be the only Division based system. There will be two extra PCSO's recruited in Monmouth. There will also be a new inspector, Inspector Mike Boycott between Abergavenny and Monmouth who will be based in Abergavenny. One of the benefits will be that forces will be more flexible between areas providing improved cover. The new structure will mean that each rank of officer will be on duty day and night. The Police Station will be manned 24 hours a day. Sgt Grey is very proactive on local planning events for which the council is very grateful.</p> <p>Standing Orders were re-instated</p>	
<p>88.</p>	<p>To confirm arrangements for the presentation of the Community Grant Awards:</p> <p>It was agreed to hold a meeting on Tuesday 3rd March at 2.30pm to consider the applications. Members were advised that if they wished to look at the applications before hand they would be available from the office but must be regarded as confidential documents until the meeting was held for discussion. The awards evening will be held on Thursday April 2nd at Monmouth Priory starting at 7.00pm. There was a budget of £150.00 maximum agreed that would come from the contingency budget.</p>	
<p>87.</p>	<p>To agree action regarding the Jobcentre situation in Monmouth:</p> <p>The summary of responses was distributed to all members and reference was made to a press cutting in the Free Press regarding anxiety of travel costs for those Monmouth residents having to travel to Abergavenny. The committee resolved to take its results of the campaign to Cardiff to be received at the WAG. Once the details are confirmed this will be publicised via the local press. Information is still being collated and the OSS is being kept informed of developments. The committee is grateful for its support and offer of help.</p>	
<p>90.</p>	<p>To agree contents of press release:</p> <p>LHB promise that funding will remain in Monmouth 24 hour presence in Police Station with more PCSO's</p>	

91.	To agree items of business for forthcoming meetings: Shaping our Future As per Forward Plan	
92.	To confirm date of next meeting: Tuesday 3 rd March 2009 at 2.30pm – Community Grant Applications Monday 23 rd March 2009 at 7.00 pm.	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signature: _____

Date: _____