

Monmouth Town Council

Market Hall
Priory Street
Monmouth NP25 3XA

Tel: 01600 715662
Email: townclerk@monmouth.gov.uk
www.monmouth.gov.uk



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting
held on 5th May 2009 at 7.00pm
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 M Jones, Councillor Mrs B Smith and
Councillor Mrs A Were.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor C Munslow

A presentation was given by PC Wayne Bolwell who is the newly appointed Community Police Officer for Wyesham and Overmonnow, he was invited to speak about his new role. His plans are to patrol on foot although he does have access to a vehicle, he will be one of three covering the town and outlying area between 7.00am and 2.00am. He will not be dispatched to emergencies in other areas but will deal with community issues, particularly focussing on youth disorder. The new police contact number within Gwent is 101.

Cllr Chivers pointed out that Standing Orders should have been suspended for this item

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
109.	To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda: None received	
110.	To receive apologies for absence: Councillor Mrs S White	
111.	To approve and sign minutes of the previous meeting dated 23rd March 2009: The minutes were amended to show that Councillor Mrs A Were did send apologies for the last meeting. The minutes were confirmed correct and signed	
112	To review Action Summary: Action review and agenda was not received by e-mail recipients. A copy of the completed local bus service review consultation questionnaire is included. All other Actions have been completed	

113.	<p>To receive correspondence: Thank you letter from Community grants recipients.</p> <p>2. Misuse of Cowlings lane: Letter received from the MOD suggests sealing off the car park by Inglis Bridge with the MOD offering to use other access by Brown's Electricals. Meanwhile they plan to close the gates at 4.40pm to 8.30am.</p> <p>5. Mike Moran: Summer Activities will be for 8+ children at a cost of £5 per day and £2 for those on free school meals. He acknowledges the Town Council's contribution via Attik.</p> <p>7. Job Centre Plus reply: See Agenda Item 116</p> <p>8. Gwent NHS Local Health Board: This is newly formed and will be called Aneurin Bevan LHB, briefing available on website. www.monmouthshirelhb.wales.nhs.uk. Comments or feedback to AneurinBevanLHB@gwent.wales.nhs.uk.</p> <p>9. Gilwern Youth House appeal: Clerk to write to ask them to apply for a community grant.</p> <p>10. Action 50+: Clerk to ask for a report as stipulated with funding</p> <p>12. David Davies: supports Job Centre campaign. See Agenda Item 116</p>	Clerk Clerk
114.	<p>To consider Forward Plan for 2009/2010: Circulate pro forma and current plan before next meeting for further discussion then.</p>	Clerk
115.	<p>To review the Community Grant Scheme and Awards evening: The members agreed that the evening was a great success. There was excellent networking between groups and everyone on the committee played a valuable part in hosting it. It was agreed that Grants should be awarded in 2 tranches again with no more than half the funds allocated in the first round. For: 8 Against: 1.</p>	
116.	<p>To review action taken in relation to the request for Jobcentre services in Monmouth The committee's press release which includes the reply from Jobcentre Plus should be in Beacon on 6/5/09. Jobcentre Plus invites those who had listed their concerns to contact Jobcentre Plus. The Manager stated that jobseekers are getting a better service thanks to improved technology, so re opening any part of the Monmouth office will not be necessary. They will be told they can use Ross, Chepstow or Coleford Job Centres if easier. Nevertheless our press release lists the supporters of our campaign and now urges members of the public to contact their Councillor re experiences when contacted the job centre. Despite the negative reply from the Jobcentre Plus matters have moved on, £1.7 billion has been allocated in the National budget for the unemployed. Hamish Sandison, the prospective parliamentary Labour candidate, has requested a meeting with Minister James Parnell and along with ITN: David Davies MP, Nick Ramsay AM and Lib Dems are all keen to work with the committee. The committee will be advised of the meeting date once known.</p>	

	<p>Councillor Mrs Dewhurst to ask David Davies to ask a question in the house on how money promised in the budget will be spent in our constituency.</p> <p>Councillor Mrs Dewhurst to ask Phil Hobson to write to Minister for Work and Pensions.</p> <p>Councillor Mrs Were to ask Plaid and Green candidates to write to Minister.</p> <p>The Welsh Assembly Petitions Committee heard the committee's petition on 30/3/09 and after further enquiries they will review in again.</p> <p>Members were advised that there is an office still available at OSS at minimal charge to cover costs. Councillor Mrs Dewhurst will ask Jenny Lewis to invite the Manager at Abergavenny Jobcentre to discuss facilities and availability.</p> <p>Beverley Munday, ex Job Centre officer is offering to provide much needed support for the local unemployed with a 'job matching scheme'. She would need funds for premises only.</p> <p>Committee members to continue to record problems encountered and monitor whether people are being told of alternative offices.</p>	<p>AD</p> <p>AD AW</p> <p>AD</p> <p>ALL</p>
117.	<p>To further consider measures to develop involvement with assisting with the planning of Monmouth Carnival</p> <p>The next committee meeting will be at 8.30 at The Three Horseshoes on 7th May 2009. Insurance cover for participants has been arranged. Councillor Mrs Were to liaise with the Beacon over choosing the Carnival King, Queen and attendants.</p>	<p>AW</p>
118.	<p>To consider and agree contents of committee's submission for the Annual Report</p> <p>Councillor Mrs Dewhurst suggested topics for inclusion and requested other members to contact her if they had any further. She will circulate a draft copy before submitting it.</p>	<p>ALL AD</p>
119.	<p>To agree contents of Press Release</p> <p>To include details of Police report by P.C. Bolwell Job centre and Carnival</p>	<p>AD</p>
120.	<p>To agree items of business for forthcoming meetings</p> <p>Discuss attendance/report from P.C. Bolwell Clerk to ensure he gets copies of all Community Affairs agendas</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
121.	<p>To confirm date of next meeting.</p> <p>Monday 15th June 2009 at 7.00 pm.</p>	

Signed: _____

Dated: _____