

# Monmouth Town Council

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## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the Community Affairs meeting held on 21 February 2011 Market Hall Priory Street Monmouth

**PRESENT:** Chairman Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst.

Councillor Mrs S Chivers  
Councillor J Fletcher  
Councillor Mrs J Hall  
Councillor Mrs S White.

Councillor T Christopher  
Councillor Mrs J Gunter  
Councillor Mrs B Smith

Rhiannon Taylor and Hannah Jones of Monmouthshire Youth Service are based at Attik. Rhiannon attended the European Youth Conference on combating child poverty and social exclusion in November. She was one of 4 UK representatives, funded by the EU. She found it stimulating and enlightening. Her working group focussed on child poverty and suggested toy banks in all city centres to collect toys for redistribution to poor children. At Attik she is setting up a regular swap shop for toys and games. Two Youth service students from the EU are now working on youth projects in the Abergavenny Area. Hannah invited all councillors to the Attik 10th birthday party on March 8th.

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
89.	<b>To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda</b>  None received	
90.	<b>To receive apologies for absence</b>  Councillor G Bright, Councillor M Jones, Councillor C Munslow and Councillor Mrs A Were  Members are reminded that apologies for absence should be made to the Town Clerk whenever possible and the Chair for last minute problems.	
91.	<b>To approve minutes of the meeting of 10 January 2011</b>  The minutes were confirmed correct and signed Proposed: Cllr Christopher seconded: Cllr Mrs Gunter.	

<p><b>92.</b></p>	<p><b>To review the Action Summary</b></p> <p>MCC Draft Integrated Strategy (including Children and Young People’s Plan ) response sent emphasising importance of easy access to job centre, minor injuries clinic and police station and pinpointing local services that are working well.– completed</p> <p>Fields in Trust – Passed to Full Council -completed</p> <p>Spitfire Flyover - Not available for Carnival or Festival. Not required for MCC Freedom parade. Letter of thanks for all his efforts.</p> <p>Signage at Monnow Vale – reply from Aneurin Bevan (Joanne Absalom ,Director Prim, Community and Mental Health) states matter is complicated by PFI arrangement. Cllr Christopher will return letter to Service Users Group meeting and ensure action.</p> <p>Newspapers in the Library appear to be getting more use. Completed</p> <p>All others ongoing elsewhere in agenda</p>	<p>Town Clerk</p> <p>TC</p>
<p><b>96.</b></p>	<p>This item brought forward</p> <p>Sophie Whiting of Gwent Police is based in Abergavenny. She said that the issues on the list prepared would be addressed but there were often problems over prosecution because the correct signage and yellow lines were not always present. At Kings Fee the disabled parking bay is obscured. Paul Keeble has been contacted by the police to rectify these matters. The Traffic Warden works 3-4 days per week.</p> <p>The Committee decided to discuss at the next meeting, a list of suggestions that Cllr Munslow and Cllr Mrs Dewhurst have compiled on ways to improve parking in the town. Once agreed, these would be passed on to Paul Keeble and the Police.</p> <p>If councillors or members of the public see parking infringements they should phone 101 or 01633 838111 for a PCSO to deal with immediately. Cllr Dewhurst will include this in the press release and write to the superintendant summarising the issues raised.</p>	<p>AD</p>
<p><b>93.</b></p>	<p><b>To Review Committee’s expenditure to date</b></p> <p>Auditor has confirmed that there is £8,750 available for community grants, if required</p>	

<p><b>94.</b></p>	<p><b>To receive correspondence</b></p> <p>Letters number 5 and 14 to go to Environment Committee. Letter number 20: Clients at Day Services at Monnow Vale would like to attend general courses at Overmonnow Learning Centre but the most severely disabled are prevented by inadequate toilet facilities. The promised alterations have not been undertaken.</p>	
<p><b>95.</b></p>	<p><b>To receive reports from working parties</b></p> <p><b>i. Carnival/Festival:</b> Annabel Jones has joined the carnival committee and says that the last 3 years have been the best of all. This year Rolls Royce owners' club have offered to take part once again in the procession. Unfortunately the Rotary have booked the show ground on the same day for a fair and kite festival. Cllr Mrs Dewhurst will write to the secretary, Peter Walters to say that we are disappointed and would have liked to be able to support both events.</p> <p><b>ii. CSATS:</b> Next meeting will be on 8 March, Cllr Hayward will be the new Town Council representative. Cllr Mrs White will pass on information to Cllr Hayward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Fletcher to report where needles were found in Overmonnow</li> <li>• Skateboarding on Old Monnow Bridge causing concern</li> <li>• Bollards needed to prevent parking on play area in Goldwire Lane</li> </ul>	<p>AD</p> <p>SW/RH</p>
<p><b>97.</b></p>	<p><b>To discuss progress with Job Centre service in Monmouth</b></p> <p>Welsh Assembly has closed the file on our petition as there is nothing else they can do. Their enquiries have been valuable in raising Monmouth's concerns with Department of Work and Pensions and Jobcentre plus and keeping the matter live. A complete record of the petition hearings, letters and replies has been forwarded to the Committee.</p> <p>Paul Matthews has passed the issue to Kellie Beirne who asked for a meeting. Cllr Mrs Dewhurst, (Community Affairs) Cllr Christopher (Environment Affairs) and Lou Allerhand on behalf of CAB attended. Kellie Beirne is focussing on getting skilled green technology jobs in Monmouth. She has suggested to the Housing Association that they employ tenants to do work on their estates.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Dewhurst to write to P Matthews to say we would like to be involved but said we need more emphasis on providing unskilled jobs and working towards a Jobcentre service presence here. Copy to Kellie Beirne. Next meeting 10 March 2011.</p>	<p>AD</p>

	Cllr Fletcher would like copies of the letters from jobseekers he has received recently. The letters will be taken to the meeting with Kellie Beirne.	AD/TC Town Clerk
<b>98.</b>	<p><b>To discuss the notice board for Overmonnow and communication with each ward</b></p> <p>Cllr White and Cllr Chivers have found site for notice board by the Kings Fee shop but have still to discover who can give permission.</p> <p>The Osbaston notice board needs cleaning and repair. Ask Rudolph Griffiths to do this, paying him from the Environmental Affairs Town Maintenance budget.</p> <p>Wyesham notice board is fine. Rockfield Estate board to be discussed next meeting</p>	SW/SC  CM/Town Clerk  MJ
<b>99.</b>	<p><b>To confirm working group decisions, and minutes regarding Community Grants meeting 9<sup>th</sup> January 2011</b></p> <p>Grant awards decisions approved. Letters to be sent informing each applicant.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Mrs Smith           seconded: Cllr Mrs Gunter</p>	Town Clerk
<b>100.</b>	<p><b>To discuss Community Grants evening arrangements</b></p> <p>The awards will be presented on 31 March 2011 with Cllr Mrs Dewhurst, Cllr Christopher, Cllr Mrs Smith, Cllr Mrs Hall, Cllr Mrs Gunter and Cllr Mrs Chivers forming a working party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community room at Shire Hall has been booked for 4 hours.</li> <li>• A budget of up to £300 to include room hire was agreed.</li> <li>• The format to be as last year with groups invited to set up from 6.30 pm with presentations starting from 7.00pm</li> </ul> <p>Proposed: Cllr Mrs Dewhurst           seconded: Mrs Hall. Unanimous</p>	AD,TC,BS, JH,JG,SC
<b>101.</b>	<p><b>To agree Press release</b></p> <p>Press release to thank contributors to list of parking infringements. Please continue by telephoning the police. Notice Boards in each ward. Meetings with Kellie Beirne re Jobcentre and job creation possibilities.</p>	AD

<b>102.</b>	<b>Items for discussion for future meetings</b>  The need for signs and lines and co-ordinating the matter with Paul Keeble. Discuss list of solutions Powers of PCSOs to impose on- the- spot fines. Notice Boards Review Community Grants scheme and Presentation	
<b>103.</b>	<b>To confirm date of next meeting:</b>  Monday 4 April 2011	
<b>With no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm</b>		