

Monmouth Town Council

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2007 at 7.15 pm in the
Community Room, Shire Hall**

Present: The Chairman Councillor Mrs V Mitchell
Councillor Mrs M Atkins, Councillor Mrs S Chivers, Councillor T Christopher,
Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst, Councillor J Fletcher, Councillor Mrs S White

In attendance: Sue Middleton of WVAONB, Gareth of Centre Great

Agenda Item	Details	Action
62.	<u>To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda:-</u> None declared.	
63.	<u>To receive apologies for absence:-</u> Cllr R Hayward and Cllr D Stevens	
64.	<u>To approve minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2007:-</u> Approved and signed by the Chairman	
65.	<u>To review Action Summary and receive Town Clerk's Report:-</u> <u>Write to Mrs Dyche and MCC re pedestrian crossing in Cinderhill Street:</u> Outstanding <u>Obtain quotes for Christmas lights:</u> Deferred pending arrival of Centre Great All other matters either completed or in hand	VM
66.	<u>To receive correspondence:-</u> <u>Heritage style lanterns on lights in Chippenham:</u> Roger Joy has confirmed that the lights will be connected on 29 th October. He has stated that the lanterns that were fitted cost £250 each and that Heritage style lanterns would cost £750. He would be willing to install these if the Town Council covered the additional cost. Cllr Mrs Mitchell said that Victorian style lanterns being fitted in Bristol cost £250 and undertook to ascertain the supplier. Members requested sight of the original letter to MCC regarding the contract. Other items were deferred to the appropriate agenda item.	VM Clerk
67.	<u>To discuss match funding for Monmouth Quay:-</u> Sue Middleton, the HLF Officer of the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, outlined the plans for Monmouth Quay which is part of the Overlooking The Wye project covering 42 sites along the Wye from Chepstow to Mordiford, and costing, in total, £2.6 million of which the Heritage Lottery Fund will pay £1.9 million. A total of £0.7 million of match funding is therefore required. The Stage II Bid is to be submitted by 24 th October. The Monmouth Quay project will cost a total of £60,000 and	

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	<p>£15,000 of match funding is needed over a period of three years. She requested that MTC provide 50% of this, the remainder, hopefully, coming from MCC. It was suggested that, in addition to MTC and MCC, the WVAONB approach the Boys' School, Waitrose and Marks & Spencer. However, members agreed that we provide the requested funding.</p>	<p>VM</p>
	<p>Item 65 continued: Obtain quotes for Christmas lights:- Gareth of Centre Great provided illustrations and quotes as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £797.88 for 800 white lights for a tree up to 30 ft high; this includes a transformer and installation. The bulbs will not fit domestic holders and are therefore unlikely to be vandalised • £887.53 for a 30 metre string of lights to match existing <p>This expenditure was agreed, as were the terms as set out in the minutes of the last meeting. Centre Great plan to start putting up the lights on 12th November and, to provide test opportunity, will switch them on as they go. It was agreed that the lights on the Christmas tree would only be switched on permanently on 13th December and that a representative from Centre Great would be present from 6 pm on that day</p>	
<p>68.</p>	<p><u>To further discuss Local Area Projects:-</u> <u>All weather path from Watery Lane to Bridges:</u> Mike Moran has confirmed that they plan to lay a two metre wide tarmac path. Members requested he consult with Jim Keech as to whether this is acceptable <u>Cycle racks near the Old Bridge:</u> Cllr Atkins reported that she had not been able to identify a suitable location. The car park or the wide pavement outside the Robin Hood were suggested. It was agreed that she consult with Roger Hoggins as to what would be acceptable. Members agreed that a covered shelter was unsuitable and did not like the racks on stands illustrated. It was agreed that other designs be brought back to the Committee <u>Cleaning town furniture:</u> A quote of £3 per litter bin and £3 per planter had been supplied by Nigel Morris. It was agreed that this work be undertaken on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 10 plastic planters in and around the town • Litter bins in Priory Street, St Mary's Churchyard, Church Street, Monnow Street (apart from the three cylindrical ones that are to be replaced), Blestium Street and those on the Old Bridge • Any items such as electricity junction boxes in the above locations <p>In accepting the quotation, it must be made clear that Nigel Morris undertakes this work at his own risk <u>Benches at the bus stops in Hereford Road, Osbaston Road and Dixon Road:</u> It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Dewhurst consult with Roger Hoggins on the exact location of the benches <u>Mowing of riverbank between the two bridges:</u> Cllr Mrs Dewhurst to advise MCC as to when the mowing is required <u>Make good allotment road:</u> It was agreed that this be funded from Earmarked Reserves: Allotments Fencing & Road, and Footpaths. It was further agreed that the remaining monies in Earmarked Reserves: Footpaths be used for the Monmouth Links project with the balance of around £250 coming from this year's budget</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>CA</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>AD</p> <p>AD</p> <p>Clerk</p>

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	<p><u>Replace concrete post fence along Redbrook Road:</u> The Headmaster of the school had written to say that although he can confirm that the land leading up to the fence belonged to Monmouth School, they did not own the fence itself which, he understood was the responsibility of MCC. Members requested that this be checked as it seemed to be an unusual situation</p> <p><u>Mend lights in Drybridge Park:</u> It was agreed that this work be undertaken; the total cost is £2,000 to be shared equally between MCC and MTC</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/SC</p>
<p>69.</p>	<p><u>To consider further proposals from the Litter Policy Working Group:-</u></p> <p><u>A: To approve a Town Council policy on litter for recommendation to the Full Council:</u> Cllr Mrs Atkins proposed the following wording:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liaise with and support fast food and other retail outlets in efforts to reduce the litter generated by their business 2. Liaise with and support local schools in their anti-litter education programmes 3. Encourage and support voluntary bodies and users to keep clean those areas outside direct responsibility of any identifiable organisation 4. Monitor litter build up and report problem areas (via the Town Clerk) to the One Stop Shop 5. Ensure sufficient adequately sized litter bins are available and regularly emptied in all litter prone locations. <p><u>B: To consider purchase of new litter bins for several locations.</u> It was agreed that three Heritage style litter bins be purchased to replace the cylindrical bins in Monnow Street, and it was agreed that these cylindrical bins, if possible, be placed in Kings Fee, by the riverside bench near Somerfields, and at the entrance to Drybridge Park</p> <p><u>C: To consider replacement/relocation of shabby bins in Monnow Street:</u> See 69. B above. The ongoing cost of emptying these additional bins remains to be agreed.</p> <p><u>D: To receive information about the Keep Wales Tidy Campaign:</u> Cllr Mrs Atkins undertook to make this information available to the schools</p> <p><u>Replies to litter letters:-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monmouth Comprehensive: This was read out and noted. Cllr Mrs Atkins undertook to arrange for members to visit the school to see their new reverse vending machine. Cllr Mrs Mitchell brought to members' attention the initiative, the start of a countrywide campaign, whereby all parents have been advised that all children over the age of 12 are responsible for their actions and, following a visit to the school from the police whereby students were reminded that it is an offence to drop litter in public places, enforcement officers will patrol the school environs and issue on the spot fines of £75 to those caught dropping litter. Members commended the school for their initiatives • Agincourt School: This was read out and noted. It was agreed that an appreciative acknowledgement be sent • Osbaston CiW School: Cllr Mrs Atkins reported that she would be visiting the school shortly and will report back to the Committee • Overmonnow School: No reply had been received and Cllr Mrs White requested that a follow up letter be not sent until she had spoken with the Head. She was aware that the school was active in this respect 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>CA</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>CA</p> <p>SW</p>

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	Litter pick on Chippenham: Cllr Mrs Atkins requested that the Monday litter pick be replaced with one on Sunday, and at no extra cost to MTC	Clerk
70.	<u>To consider options for the Town Field:-</u> Deferred to next meeting At this point Cllrs Mrs Chivers and Mrs White left the meeting	
71.	<u>To consider options for the irrigation system:-</u> Deferred to next meeting	
72.	<u>To consider allocating money for a Blue Plaque for the Shire Hall:-</u> It was agreed that £500 be allocated out of Earmarked Reserves: Millennium Trees & Plaques	Clerk
73.	<u>To further discuss Monmouth Planting Competition:-</u> Cllr Mrs Mitchell reported on the success of the competition and the press coverage that it had received. She requested that the travel expenses of the judges from Usk in Bloom be approved; 32 miles for a 1.4l car + 80p for car parking had been submitted and this was approved. The proposed planting in the planters should require no further planting for a period of at least three years (when the phormium may have to be replaced as it may be too large); maintenance will entail watering in dry spells and tidying maybe four times a year. The proposed planting in and around the raised beds, apart from watering in the first year and periods of prolonged drought, and tidying maybe four times a year, will require no additional planting for at least five years, maybe ten or more. The proposed planting for next year is thus a long term investment and she requested a budget of £4,000; this was agreed unanimously – proposed by Cllr Christopher and seconded by Cllr Mrs Dewhurst. It was noted that the monies due from the Monmouth Flower Project had not yet been received.	VM VM
74.	<u>Any other business:</u> Cllr Fletcher reported that he may be able to get a 25 to 30 foot Christmas tree donated free of charged. It was agreed that he pursue this.	JF
75.	<u>To confirm date of next meeting:</u> It was agreed that this be changed to 6.30 pm on Tuesday, 6 th November 2007 and that members be notified as soon as possible	Clerk

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