

# Monmouth Town Council

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## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the Environment Committee meeting Held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 in Market Hall, Priory Street, Monmouth

**PRESENT:** Chairman Councillor Mrs A Were  
Councillor G Bright, Councillor Mrs S Chivers, Councillor T Christopher  
Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst, Cllr J Fletcher and Councillor Mrs J Hall

There was a presentation by Mrs V Mitchell to explore the possibility of including the MCC planting sites in the Henry V planting scheme. Mrs Mitchell reported that MCC was very interested in this project and had given her its assurances that it would take full responsibility for planting and maintaining its own sites in the Henry theme. Mrs Mitchell has offered to liaise with MCC and draw up the relevant plans at a total cost of £250 to the Town Council. The committee resolved to hold a special meeting to discuss this proposal as, if left till the next meeting, would be too late to implement this year.

AGENDA ITEM	DETAILS	ACTION
50.	<b><u>To receive declaration of interest of items on the agenda:</u></b> Councillor Christopher, Councillor Dewhurst and Councillor Fletcher declared an interest in item 63.	
51.	<b><u>To receive apologies for absence:</u></b> Councillor R Bond, Councillor Ms C Edwards, Councillor R Hayward, Councillor M Jones and Councillor Mrs B Smith	
52.	<b><u>To approve the minutes of the meeting held 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008:</u></b> The minutes were confirmed correct and signed. Proposed Councillor Mrs Hall Seconded Councillor Christopher <b>For 6 Against 0 Abstention 1</b>	

<p>53.</p>	<p><b><u>To review action review plan and and receive Town Clerks report:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lights in Blestium Street: Check progress. Has there been any?</li> <li>• Cycle racks – still sourcing information. Will check again for possible local suppliers.</li> <li>• Steps on Chippenham bund: It may be that this is part of the flood defences and, therefore, permission to construct steps may be needed from the Environment agency. Please would the clerk check this.</li> <li>• Site visit to Wormtech, MCR and Cardiff to be organised</li> </ul> <p><b>Town Clerks report:</b>  Members wish to retain the notice board near to the Oldway centre and would like to install a tactile map. Investigations to look into the possibility of this should be carried out.  Members would also like it painted black to make it look slightly tidier. Councillor Mrs Were agreed to organise the painting.  It was noted that Councillor Mrs Dewhurst has a spare notice board available if the Wyesham group would like it. Please could the Clerk liaise with the group to establish this  Proposed: Councillor Mrs Hall  Seconded: Councillor Mrs Dewhurst  <b>Unanimous.</b></p>	<p>Clerk  AD  Clerk  AW  TC  AW  Clerk</p>
<p>54.</p>	<p><b><u>To receive correspondence:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter 1 Mrs Mitchell: Councillor Mrs Dewhurst will discuss further points with Mr Frost regarding the maintenance for the planting contract</li> <li>• Letter 13 County Councillor Mrs V Smith; It was agreed that a letter should be sent to respond to Councillor Mrs Smith's request with the following points:  more provision for recycling plastics, why no provision for recycling diy waste, particularly wood which currently goes to landfill. Members agreed that the Troy recycling centre was generally good but it would be preferable to have more local facilities along the lines of those at Buchannon Close.  Councillor Mrs Were agreed to draft a response and circulate it to members for approval before sending.</li> </ul> <p>Concern was raised that the clothes collecting receptacle in the Somerfield car park is still blocking the disabled access to the river bank foot path. Please could the Clerk write to Somerfield to ask them to move it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter 15 International Components; please could a quote be obtained from this company for the Christmas Lights. Members considered that as MCC pay the electricity bill perhaps there could be a match funding scheme.</li> </ul>	<p>AD  AW  Clerk  Clerk</p>

55.	<p><b><u>To discuss moving the Skateboard Park:</u></b>  Members decided that it would be desirable to move the Skate park to the field opposite the Fire Station if possible.  Please could the Clerk write to MCC to;  1) check that they would give permission for this to happen, and  2) get a quote</p>	Clerk
56.	<p><b><u>To discuss allocating funding for energy efficient and renewable energy schemes:</u></b>  Members agreed in principle and Councillor Mrs Were agreed to get more information before setting next year's budget.</p>	AW
57.	<p><b><u>To consider outside contract arrangements:</u></b>  The increased costs for the outside contracts were accepted for the Dog Bins and Town Maintenance. The members agreed that a letter should be sent to the Christmas Light Contractors to query the increased cost for this year especially as there would be a reduction in the number of lights being erected due to the refurbishment of the Shire Hall.</p>	Clerk
58.	<p><b><u>To consider recommendation of working party for purchase of additional Christmas lights and trees:</u></b>  The members agreed to accept the quote for the LED Icicle lights for the bottom of Monnow Street at a cost of £1631 plus vat, with the proviso that they should be of a similar style and colour to those at the top of town. The cost of these should be paid for from the Street Decorations budget and the balance from the Town Centre Enhancements budget. It was agreed to consider the proposal of installing individual 3ft Christmas Trees with coloured lights on the exterior of retail units in Monnow Street when the budget is set for next year. This was deferred due to the cost of load testing all of the brackets.  Proposed: Councillor Mrs Chivers  Seconded Councillors Mrs Hall  <b>Unanimous</b></p>	Clerk
59.	<p><b><u>To consider funding request of installation cost of new bench on Vauxhall Field:</u></b>  Members agreed up to a maximum of £150 for installation costs. Councillor Mrs Dewhurst requested the opportunity to discuss the siting of the new bench with Tim Bradfield. It was agreed that the bench would be made from recycled material. As the Town Council is to provide maintenance for the bench it must be included on the Towns asset list. This funding to come from the Match Funding budget. Please could the Clerk liaise with MCC and Mr Rose to make arrangements.</p>	Clerk

60.	<p><b>To discuss support for the ‘Monmouth Transition Town’ initiative:</b> This was considered to be an issue for full Council and should be included on the next full Council meeting agenda.</p>	Clerk
61.	<p><b>To confirm costs for maintenance work at Drybridge Park play area:</b> Members agreed to accept the quote from MCC for the necessary work at the play area. It was confirmed that the sum of £313 would be paid out of the Town Maintenance budget.</p>	
62.	<p><b>To discuss match finding for steps on the bund near the play area at Chippenham:</b> No information available. See item 53 above. Defer to next Environment meeting.</p>	
63.	<p><b>To discuss match finding of £485 for a kissing gate and two benches at the Millennium Field:</b> Members were advised that money from Agenda 21 had been awarded for these items and match funding from the Town Council is requested. It was agreed that the responsibility for the maintenance of these items would lie with the Millennium Field Project. One kissing gate: £256 – It was approved. For 2: Against 1. Two benches: maximum £200 – It was approved. For 2: Against 1: Abstention 1 The funding is to come from the Match Funding budget.</p>	
64.	<p><b>To agree contents of Press Release:</b> Additional Christmas lights in Monnow Street. Town map by the Oldway centre Kissing gate and benches on the Millennium field Drybridge Park play area improvements. Possible energy efficiency and renewable energy scheme.</p>	
65.	<p><b><u>Any other Business:</u></b> Councillor Mrs Dewhurst agreed to circulate a copy of Phil Bly’s response to the SEWTA consultation. Members were asked to write in support of it, the deadline is October 10th.</p>	
66.	<p><b><u>To confirm date of next meeting:</u></b> Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at 6.00pm Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 6.30pm</p>	

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_