

Monmouth Town Council

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on
17th November 2008
in Market Hall, Priory Street, Monmouth

PRESENT: Chairman Councillor A Were
Councillor R Bond, Councillor G Bright, Councillor S Chivers,
Councillor T Christopher, Councillor J Fletcher, Councillor J Hall and Councillor B Smith.

AGENDA ITEM	DETAILS	ACTION
73.	<u>To receive declaration of interest in items on the agenda:</u> Item 82. Councillor T Christopher declared a personal interest.	
74.	<u>To receive apologies for absence:</u> Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst and Councillor M Jones,	
75.	<u>To approve minutes of the previous meetings dated 6th & 20th October 2008:</u> Minutes of meeting dated 6 th October approved Minutes of meeting dated 20 th October Item 67 amended to read 'Councillors Christopher, Mrs Were, Mrs Smith, and Mrs Dewhurst declared a personal interest and abstained from voting. The vote was 3 in favour and 4 abstentions'.	Clerk
	Standing orders were suspended to invite a member of the public to participate. Mr Trevor Hooper addressed the meeting on behalf of the Allotment Association. He presented a plan showing how 15 to 20 half size plots could be provided on a 5 year lease along the side of the allotments opposite the A 40. The plots could be offered to new applicants and also allotment holders unable to cultivate their existing large plots. He also pointed out that in his opinion the allocation of allotments in Beech Close to schools and young offenders should be stopped as they were overgrown and neglected. He distributed letters to committee members. Standing orders were reinstated	

82.	<p><u>To consider current provision of Allotments in Monmouth:</u> It was agreed to bring this item up the agenda. The Village Green status of Chippenham makes any changes difficult legally and the further erosion of common land is unwelcome. It would however be the cheapest solution to providing further allotments. The fenced area on the Link Road is unused and could be made available for use as temporary allotments. It was unanimously agreed to invite Debbie McCarty to the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
76.	<p><u>To review Action Summary and receive Town Clerk's report:</u></p> <p>Repair to river walk bench may be unsatisfactory. Members to check and suggest remedial action at next meeting.</p> <p>Chase up quote for cycle racks</p>	All AW
77.	<p><u>To receive correspondence:</u> 2 Grass cutting charges. Obtain other quotes to try to reduce cost of cutting bank between the bridges. 5 Skate Park. Obtain quotes to resite it opposite Fire Station. 7 Ask to be kept informed of Ryder Cup working group meetings.</p>	Clerk Clerk Clerk
78.	<p><u>To consider and agree budget for 2009/2010</u> Shire Hall project £10k Match Schemes £10k (to be used for projects e.g. Insulation of community buildings) Town maintenance £10k Street Decorations £25k (to cover Heritage Schemes, Town Centre Enhancements and Christmas Lights to allow a more integrated approach. Some decorations to be discarded and saving on storage used for replacements) Contingency £5k Total £55k All in favour of proposal. A breakdown of monies committed this year but as yet unspent was requested.</p>	Clerk
79.	<p><u>To consider match funding new lights on the old Monnow Bridge:</u> The members agreed that up to £5k for match funding could be earmarked from this year's budget for the capital purchase. This is on condition that MCC undertake responsibility for on-going maintenance and running costs.</p>	
80.	<p><u>To confirm policy regarding use of Town Council field for recommendation to Full Council:</u> It was agreed to defer any decision in light of further information requested regarding the removal of the skate park from this area.(see item 77)</p>	

81.	<p><u>To consider funding for benches at the play area sites at Tudor Road and Kings Fee:</u></p> <p>It was unanimously agreed to commit a sum of up to £1k from the Town Centre Enhancements budget for the purchase of benches in recycled plastic for the Wyesham play area and Kings Fee play area. It was agreed that MCC would be approached to install and maintain the benches.</p> <p>It was suggested that encouragement should be given for donations of benches from the public for use in appropriate places.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>AD, AW</p>
83.	<p><u>To agree contents of Press Release:</u></p> <p>It was agreed to defer this until the next meeting when benches could be one of the topics included.</p>	
84.	<p><u>To agree items of business to be discussed at next meeting:</u></p> <p>To consider provision of litter/dog bins near the Town Ditch.</p> <p>Members are keen to explore the idea to developing the river bank area. Clerk to make further enquiries about progressing this issue.</p> <p>To consider match funding a floodlight for St Thomas' Church</p>	
85.	<p><u>To confirm the date of the next meeting:</u></p> <p><u>Monday 15th December 2008</u></p>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Date: _____

Signature: _____