

Monmouth Town Council

Mayor's Parlour,
Shire Hall,
Monmouth NP25 3DY

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**You are requested to attend a meeting of the
Finance & Policy Committee
to be held on Tuesday 4th December at 7.00 pm
In the Community Room Shire Hall**

AGENDA

65. To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda
66. To receive apologies for absence
67. To approve minutes of the previous meeting dated 22nd October 2007 and the 'Pink Paper' minutes dated 22nd October 2007

The minutes were approved and signed as correct

**Proposed Councillor Stevens
Seconded Councillor Buckland**

Unanimous

It was agreed by members to bring item 71 forward up the agenda

71. To receive and review proposed budget for 2007/2008 and consider precept requirement

Councillor Stevens introduced this item by reminding members that at the beginning of the life of this council there had been an informal agreement that council tax rises through the precept demand should be kept low. This has been achieved and in recent years the increase had been kept to 3%.

The committees had met to discuss their requirements and The Clerk had submitted a draft budget for consideration.

There was a brief discussion regarding general items however the question of whether or not to support the CCTV system was raised in the light of a letter that the chair read out from MCC. It informed The Council that for financial reasons due to Monmouth Town Council not making its contribution the system would be switched off in Monmouth town centre at the end of the week. Members still felt that the outstanding issues that had led to the withdrawal of funding had not been addressed and that there was no evidence available that the system was providing any value and in the light of this there was no justification to spending the electors council tax on this system. Councillor Stevens agreed to draft a letter advising MCC of the position.

With the exception of taking out £11500.00 for CCTV the budget was accepted as it stood and the recommendation from this committee of a 5% increase will go forward to the next full Council meeting.

68. **To receive the summary of expenditure**
- i) **Decision Required.** To approve the accounts between 13/10/2007 & 27/11/2007 for payment. (Page 1)
 - ii) To review a statement of the bank reconciliations as at 31/10/2007. (Pages 2,3,& 4)
69. **To receive correspondence**
- a) **Heddlu Gwent Police Chief : Response to refusal re funding of additional PCSO**
72. **To receive report from the Council's internal auditors on paid invoices and petty cash vouchers**
73. **To receive and review proposed budget for 2007/2008 and consider precept requirement**
74. **To review Staff Appraisals and confirm National Salary Award for 2007/08**
75. **To confirm letter to The Shire Hall Stewards outlining conditions of financial guarantee**
76. **To consider recommendation from working party regarding the appointment of a Deputy Mace Bearer**
77. **To review and consider Town Council insurance policy**
76. **Matters arising from previous meetings**
- i) Policy on Unacceptable Behaviour
 - ii) Risk Assessment.
 - iii) Connecting the Spheres/Making the Connections/Delivering Beyond Boundaries.
 - iv) Response to ' A Shared Community' consultation on relationship building measures
 - v) Town Council move to Market Hall
 - vi) Any other matters arising from Finance and Policy Meeting of 22nd October not covered elsewhere. As they are not specifically listed, no decisions may be taken on any of these other matters arising.
77. **Any Other Business, i.e. general information or notification of future discussions, no decisions can be made at this meeting on items that arise under this heading.**
78. **Next meeting Old Library Community Room Monday 14th January 2008**

Town Clerk

27th November 2007

Minutes of the meetings can be found on our website