

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

Tel: 01600 715662
Fax: 01600 715034
Email: townclerk@monmouth.gov.uk
www.monmouth.gov.uk



MINUTES OF MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Held on Monday 8th May 2006 at 6.00pm
In The Old Library Community Room

Present: Chairman The Mayor Councillor Mrs S Chivers

Deputy Mayor Councillor Mrs C Pearce, Councillor Mrs M Atkins, Councillor G F W Buckland, Councillor T Christopher, Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst, Councillor N Hackett Pain, Councillor R Hayward, Councillor Mrs V Mitchell, Councillor S Roberts, Councillor L Robson, Councillor D Stevens, Councillor Mrs A Were and Councillor Mrs White.

In Attendance: Mrs Sarah Robson Town Clerk.

1. To Receive Questions from Members of the Public for a Maximum of 10 minutes:
None received.

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:
None received.

3. To Receive Apologies for Absence:
Councillor R Bond and Councillor J Fletcher

4. To Consider Nominations received for Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Two nominations have been received for the position of Mayor, Councillors Christopher and Mrs Pearce. The Mayor invited candidates to give their presentation:

Councillor Mrs Pearce said that she has lived in Monmouth all of her life, attending local schools and then going on to work in Boots where she has remained for 28 years. She is a member of Wyesham Social Club, has been involved with the Carnival Committee and helped to organise many events also has had involvement with The Festival Committee. She is a founder member of The Lads Club, has joined The Twinning Association on numerous trips to Carbonne and Waldbronn and acted as host on return visits. She is also a member of The Off Centre Theatre and is presently rehearsing for their current production. Councillor Mrs Pearce has been a member of Monmouth Town Council for 7 years and during that time has had helped out with many different projects including the Millennium Committee, claypatch tree planting, the street decoration committee and was instrumental in the installation of the water irrigation system. Councillor Mrs Pearce was also involved in the procuring of a substantial grant for new Christmas Lights, and this year is presently working on a new design for the lights. Councillor Mrs Pearce said that during her year of office as Deputy Mayor that she had made many contacts and had also raised substantial amounts for charity.

Councillor Christopher said that he was born and raised in Monmouth and has been involved in community activities since a young age, with a number of different organisations including the football and bowls clubs. 25 years ago he formed a group called Monmouth Visually Impaired Club and has also been involved in other groups and associations for the blind. He has had extensive

experience of chairing meetings and has acted as chair for a number of different groups. Councillor Christopher feels that as town councillors, members should be more involved with their local communities. He has been a Town Councillor since 2004 and was involved along with other members in the formation of the 'Shaping our Future' document and feels very strongly that The Town Council needs to more involved with a broader spectrum of issues in and around town.

There was an opportunity for questions.

Councillor Buckland asked Councillor Mrs Pearce how she felt that her work commitment would fit in with her duties as Mayor, should she become elected.

Councillor Buckland asked Councillor Christopher if he felt that he had limited knowledge as he has only been a member for a relatively short time.

Councillor Mrs Chivers asked Councillor Christopher how he would cope with all of the evening commitments with his present work regime, and whether or not he would find it difficult to attend meetings and functions.

The following nominations have been received for the position of Deputy Mayor, Councillors Buckland and Bond.

Councillor Buckland withdrew his nomination as Deputy Mayor due to his other commitments and the time constraints that he has. He expressed his concern that neither of the two candidates would be an appropriate choice and he encouraged a younger member to come forward at this late stage.

Councillor Bond had submitted a written presentation as he was unable to be present and outlined the reason for his nomination. He stated that he felt that with nearly 20 years experience and having been a former mayor, he would be able to offer the new mayor the benefit of his experience, for consultation, representation or assistance.

It was agreed that as no other candidate came forward that Councillor Bond would go forward as the Deputy Mayor elect.

Councillor Robson proposed that a vote should take place to nominate a Mayor Elect, so that at the AGM a recommended choice of candidate could be proposed, and then duly elected. It is with this intention of ensuring that the Mayor Making ceremony could then be more dignified ceremony. It was agreed that a secret ballot should take place and the votes be counted and the result announced.

Proposed Councillor Robson

Seconded Councillor Mrs Were

For 9 Against 5 Abs 0

A secret ballot took place with the following result:

Councillor Christopher	9 Votes
Councillor Mrs Pearce	4 Votes
Spoiled Paper	1

5. Any other Business.

Councillor Mrs Mitchell advised members of the sad death of Terry Goodrich and informed them that the funeral would be taking place on Friday 12th May at 1.00pm at St Mary's Church, Monmouth.

Councillor Mrs Chivers advised members that a copy of two letters had been circulated for information and that she was seeking agreement to her signature before the response was sent out.

There was a proposal that the members of the press and public should be excluded so that Councillors could adjourn to private session.

Proposed Councillor Stevens
Unanimous

Seconded Councillor Buckland

6. To Agree Meeting Dates.

Confirmed.

The Clerk advised all members present that there was one change to the meeting dates list, the Planning Committee meeting that was due to be held on Monday 15th May 2006 has been cancelled.

The meeting adjourned to Private Session at 7.40 pm