

Monmouth Town Council
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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Held on Monday 11th May 2009 at 7.00pm
In Monmouth Priory, Priory Street, Monmouth**

PRESENT: Chairman the Mayor Councillor T Christopher
Councillor R Bond, Councillor G Bright, Councillor Mrs S Chivers,
Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst, Councillor J Fletcher, Councillor N Hackett Pain,
Councillor Mrs J Hall, Councillor R Hayward, Councillor M Jones,
Councillor C Munslow, Councillor L Robson, Councillor Mrs B Smith,
Councillor Mrs A Were and Councillor Mrs S White

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Sarah Robson Town Clerk and Mrs Jane Lloyd Clerical Assistant

A minutes silence was observed for Mr Graham Powell, the Mace Bearer who died on Monday 4th May 2009.

1. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None received

2. To elect the Mayor for the coming year

The Mayor Councillor Christopher gave his outgoing speech in which he stated that he hoped he had accomplished the three goals he set himself when first taking office. These were to take the Town Councils profile to a higher level, to be an effective ambassador to the Council and the Town, and to instil the ethic of team work within the Council. Whether or not these ambitions have been accomplished he believed was for the people of Monmouth to judge.

The Mayor thanked the deputy Mayor and members of the Council for their support, Mrs Jane Lloyd for her help and the mace bearers, with a special mention for Mr Graham Powell as today noted the closure of a chapter in which he played a dignified, distinguished and significant role and will be sadly missed by everyone.

Councillor Christopher gave a final thank you to the Town Clerk Sarah Robson, who has been vital in her role to the Town Council for all her help and support to him during his three years of being Mayor.

The Mayor announced that he had earlier in the evening presented cheques to his named charities which he has supported over the last twelve months, each was presented with a cheque for £1,143.15. The Mayor thanked all friends and supporters and the people of Monmouth for their generosity in raising this amount.

In conclusion the Mayor stated that it had been a great privilege, honour and pleasure to have been the Mayor of the Town of his birth.

There was only one candidate for the position of Mayor, Councillor Mrs Ann Were. When put to the vote with a show of hands it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Mrs Were be elected Mayor for the coming year

Proposed: Councillor Christopher
Unanimous

Seconded: Councillor Mrs Hall

Councillor Mrs Ann Were in her acceptance address said she hoped to serve Monmouth and the Council as Mayor of Monmouth well, it was a great privilege to be chosen and praised the out going Mayor for all his work over the last three years.

The Mayor's three charities for the coming year will be:
A Charity to be chosen in memory of Graham Powell which will be one that he would have supported, 1st Wyesham Scouts and Transition Monmouth.

3. Mayor installation and election of the Deputy Mayor

There was only one nomination for the position of Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mrs Jeana Hall. When put to the vote with a show of hands it was unanimously agreed that Councillor Mrs Hall become the Deputy Mayor for the coming year

Proposed : Councillor Christopher
Unanimous

Seconded: Councillor Mrs Dewhurst

4. To name the Mayor's Chaplain

Reverend Kevin Cecil of Wyesham was named by the Mayor as her chaplain for the year he was unable to attend the meeting and in his absence the prayers were taken by Reverend Jeremy Harris.

The Mayor's Chaplain to lead the meeting in prayer

5. To confirm the date for the Civic Service: Sunday 14th June 2009:

Councillor Mrs Were confirmed that arrangements were in hand for the Civic Service which will take place at St Mary's Church on Sunday 14th June with a reception afterwards in the Priory. Invitations would follow.

6. To receive apologies for absence

None received

7. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2009

The minutes were confirmed correct and signed

Proposed: Councillor Fletcher
For: 14

Against: 0

Seconded : Councillor Mrs Dewhurst
Abstention: 1

8. To receive the Town Clerk's report

1. Monmouth Rowing Club's Regatta will be taking place over the weekend of 23rd 24th May. The club has asked for permission for the use of Dixton field on the same basis as previous years.
2. There is an invitation to all Councillors to attend a meeting due to be held on Thursday 14th May at 6.30pm in the Leisure Centre which is being hosted by the 'All Wales Convention'. It provides an opportunity to come and debate the topic 'tell us how you think Wales should work in the future'. The panel includes: Monmouth MP, David Davies, Plaid Cymru MP, Adam Price and Sir Emyr Jones Parry, Chair of the All Wales Convention. The Mayor will be making the introductions to the proceedings.
3. The Stewards have organised a concert to raise funds for the Shire Hall which will be taking place on Saturday 13th June at 7.00pm. The Cwmbran Male Choir will be singing at St Mary's Church. There will also be a musical recital by the Monmouth Comprehensive Flute Group. The cost is £10.00 and I have a number of tickets for members wishing to support this event.

9. To receive correspondence that the Mayor wishes to place before the Council:

This item is to be deferred to the next meeting to be held on Monday 8th June 2009

10. To note the reports and minutes of the council's committees and outside bodies:

- a. **Planning Committee:** As per minutes
Next Meeting to be held on 26th May 2009
- b. **Environmental Affairs Committee:**
No meeting. Next Meeting to be held on 1st June 2009
- c. **Community Affairs Committee:** As per minutes
At the meeting held on Monday 5th May Councillor Mrs Dewhurst reported on the attendance of PC Wayne Bolwell regarding his new role as community officer, his work will be exclusively for the town only.
It was also reported that the Community Grant awards had a very successful evening. There was also a brief summary given regarding the disappointing Jobcentre response.
Next Meeting to be held on 15th June 2009
- d. **Finance & Policy Committee:**
No meeting. Next Meeting to be held on 18th May 2009
- e. **Monmouth Partnership Forum:**
Councillor Mrs Smith reported that Adventa have funds available for the Festival of the Air Events. A Meeting will take place on 21st May at Monmouth Museum and interested parties should attend.
Tenders have gone out for the cemetery chapel, the group will also be holding a Hay making day which will be on 29th July 2009
Millennium Field group: The kissing gate has now been completed, with many donated plants now planted
Green Travel Day: This will be Saturday 19th September followed by a Transition Day harvest feast.
- f. **Others:**
None

11. To appoint members to committees:

The members agreed to accept the appointment of committees as per the circulated sheet.

12. To confirm meeting dates:

Confirmed

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signature: _____

Date: _____