

Monmouth Town Council
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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Held on Monday 10 May 2010 at 7.00pm
at The Priory Monmouth

PRESENT: Chairman the Mayor Councillor Mrs A Were
Councillor R Bond, Councillor G Bright, Councillor Mrs S Chivers,
Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst, Councillor J Fletcher, Councillor Mrs J Gunter,
Councillor N Hacket Pain, Councillor Mrs J Hall, Councillor Mrs B Smith
and Councillor Mrs S White

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr R Nicholas Acting Responsible Person, Mrs Jane Lloyd Admin Assistant
and Mrs Susan James

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

None received

2. To elect the Mayor for the coming year:

The departing Mayor Councillor Mrs A Were thanked her family for their support over the past year and fellow councillors for allowing her the opportunity to serve the Town Council and felt incredibly privileged to have had this experience .

It had been an interesting year and sometimes challenging. She is very grateful to the Councillors who kept the office ticking over in the absence of staff and Mr Roy Nicholas who stepped in to help over the last two weeks as the proper officer.

The Council has had a successful year such as contributing to the new lighting on Monnow Bridge, picnic benches by the cattle market car park, and many other projects have been fulfilled. More projects are under way, including the reopening of Shire Hall, Rolls Royce centenary celebrations and the day in the life of Monmouth project. We should continue to fight for the employment service to be back in Monmouth.

Finally the Mayor paid tribute to all the volunteers and the volunteer groups in and around Monmouth. The community would be so much worse without them and they are all heroes.

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

Proposed: Councillor B Hayward
Unanimous

Seconded: Councillor M Jones

3. Mayor installation and election of the Deputy Mayor:

There were two nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor, Councillor G Bright and Councillor R Bond. When put to the vote by secret ballot it was agreed that Councillor Bright should become the Deputy Mayor for the coming year

Proposed: Councillor M Jones Seconded: Councillor B Hayward
Unanimous

4. To name the Mayor's Chaplain:

Reverend David McGladery was named by the Mayor as her chaplain for the year

The Mayor's Chaplain to lead the meeting in prayer

5. To confirm the date for the Civic Service: Sunday 13th June 2010:

The date was confirmed

6. To receive apologies for absence:

None received

7. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17th March & 21st April 2010:

The minutes were confirmed correct and signed

Proposed: Councillor T Christopher Seconded: Councillor Mrs A Were
Unanimous

8. To receive the Town Clerk's report:

Reported on the road closures and resurfacing in Wyesham.

A book was received from the Ombudsman concerning the code of conduct for our members. Mr Nicholas was a little disappointed that Monmouth did not contribute to it as there has been so much criticism of this and it was a chance to have an input.

MCC Emergency Committee has asked by for contact numbers for the Town Council. For the time being Mr Roy Nicholas and Councillor R Hayward's numbers have been put forward.

Councillor G Bright will attend the Health Council meeting on 11 May meeting

An important meeting of the Local Service Board is to be held on 23 June at Chepstow Race Course.

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

Councillor Mrs Chivers asked for the letter from Open Spaces to be read before the meeting

10. To consider and approve reports and minutes of the council's committees:

- a **Planning Committee:** As per minutes.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 24 May 2010

- b **Environmental Affairs Committee:** No meeting.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 1st June 2010
- c **Community Affairs Committee:** Councillor Mrs Dewhurst reported that at the meeting held on Monday 4 May Sergeant Dick Hall who gave a presentation on policing since his arrival. There is now 1 extra Bobbie in place and funding has been achieved to combat graffiti. The Committee is disappointed that the Police station will only be open Mon-Fri 12. Noon - 4.00pm. He reported that there is low crime in this area but a lot of antisocial behaviour and rural crime.

Councillor Munslow and Councillor R Bond will be going to the Llanderneau celebrations inviting local producers to contribute to the exhibition.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 14 June 2010

- d **Finance & Policy Committee:** No meeting.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 17th May 2010
- e **Monmouth Partnership Forum:**
Councillor B Smith reported that at the meeting held on Wednesday 5 May Paul Mathews (Chief Executive MCC) attended just to answer questions. He did say that after the closure of County Hall some staff will be placed in Monmouth and thought it essential that there be a presence in Monmouth.
A film was presented by Sally Turner who has managed a programme funded by the Welsh Assembly for 1 million pounds to look at adapting secondary schools in Monmouthshire for the 21st century. This will look at each school and come up with plans of adapting them or rebuilding to incorporate the community.
Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 16 June 2010

f **Others:**

A day in the life: Councillor C Munslow reported that everything was going to plan

11. To appoint members to committees:

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

12. To confirm arrangements for the appointment of the Town Clerk

The new Town Clerk Mrs Susan James was introduced to the members and will start her position on Monday 1 June 2010

13. To confirm the date of the next Meeting

Monday 7 June 2010

A presentation of the past Mayor's badge was awarded to Councillor Mrs Ann Were

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____