

Monmouth Town Council
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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Held on Monday 6 September 2010 at 7.00pm
Shire Hall Monmouth

PRESENT: Chairman the Mayor Councillor Mrs J Hall

Councillor R Bond	Councillor G Bright
Councillor Mrs S Chivers	Councillor Mrs J Gunter
Councillor N Hacket Pain	Councillor R Hayward
Councillor M Jones	Councillor C Munslow
Councillor Mrs B Smith	Councillor Mrs A Were
Councillor Mrs S White	

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Sue James Town Clerk and Mrs Jane Lloyd Admin Assistant

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

None received

54. To receive Apologies for absence

Councillor Mrs A Dewhurst, Councillor T Christopher, Councillor J Fletcher,

55. To receive questions from members of the public for a maximum of 10 minutes:

Mr Roy Nicholas brought to the attention of the Council the notice near the Old Slaughter House's referring to 'No alcohol Zone' this cannot be seen properly and suggests moving the position.

Mr Nicholas also reported that he attended the meeting of the Community Health Council where changes to Monnow Vale minor injury unit were discussed as it is not used sufficiently. Mr Nicholas raised the point that there are no notices to inform the public and the facility is kept 'low key' he fears this is could be one reason for the decline in numbers.

Mr Nichols also pointed out his disappointment in the abolition of the MRI facility at Cheltenham

Mr Charles Boase asked why the press and public were being excluded from Agenda Item 66; he thought this item would be of interest to the public and press and they should be included. It was explained that as the Council were co-opting a member as no one had come forward for election therefore the Council would decide on the procedure this would take.

56. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2010 and 2nd August 2010:

Minutes for the meetings were confirmed correct and signed

Proposed: Councillor R Bond Seconded: Councillor Mrs White Unanimous

57. To receive the Town Clerk's report (for information only):

1. Green Travel Day will be taking place in Monmouth on Saturday 19th September. A number of events have been planned including a guided walk, a harness horse parade and a cycle and pedestrian rally. There will also be an opportunity to travel local bus routes free of charge plus a display of low emission vehicles, information stalls will be situated near the Oldway Centre entrance. A number of leaflets have been produced which have been financed by the Environmental Affairs committee in support of this event.
2. Shire Hall move: Furniture from the back room for the Mayors Parlour will be moved on Wednesday 15th September. The office will be moving back probably the following week –date is yet to be confirmed, which will entail a days office closure.
3. The official opening of the Shire Hall is to take place on Monday 27th September. All Councillors are to be invited, the anticipated time being 2pm, although invitations will not be sent until close to the date due to security issues.
4. Rolls Royce have kindly agreed to re-arrange the spitfire flypast which was sadly cancelled at the Rolls Centenary Event 12th July to now take place at the opening of the Shire Hall on the 27th September. This has been agreed with Mr Mike Booth, Shire Hall Manager. It will of course only take place subject to weather conditions again

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

The following letters were brought to the attention of the Council.

A1. Time and Place: Invitation to the hard hitting presentation to reduce teenage deaths on the roads. Presentation to be held at Monmouth Comprehensive School on Wednesday 17 November 2010

A2. MCC: Central Monmouthshire Area Committee request a representative

Councillor Mrs Chivers asked for Letter number 5 from Geoffrey of Somerset to be read out to the Council.

Councillor Munslow left the room to turn off the fan which was given hearing problems to some members of the Council and public, and returned

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

- a) Planning Committee: As per minutes with concerns regarding Monmouth Hospital the committee will continue to fight against its demolition.
Plans for Merlins have also been received
Next meeting to be held on Monday 13 September 2010

- b)** Environmental Affairs Committee: As per minutes. The Christmas lights contract has now been awarded.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 4 October 2010.
- c)** Community Affairs Committee: As per minutes with the litter problems of Monmouth and the Jobcentre ongoing items.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 18 October 2010
- d)** Finance & Policy Committee: As per minutes. The long standing dispute over CCTV has now been settled amicably.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 20 September
- e)** CSATS Committee: Councillor Hackett Pain gave an outline report. The detection rate in this area is rising now the national average. There has been a three month campaign on antisocial behaviour during which the police have arrested 33 people although this not regarded as a high number by the police. Councillor Hackett Pain pointed out that this number is greater than all the arrests throughout the county as a result of CCTV at the expense of a quarter of a million pounds.
One third of the burglaries in this area are the result from windows and doors being open, and the police are to run a 'Be Aware campaign'
Graffiti is the number one antisocial behaviour problem.
Superintendent Johnson who arrived in Monmouth approximately eighteen months ago is leaving for a position in Newport
- f)** Monmouth Partnership Forum: No meeting.
Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 8 September
- g)** Vision Monmouth: No meeting.
Next meeting to be held on 1st October 2010
- h)** Others
Shire Hall Management meeting: Councillor Mrs White reported that the Tourist Information Centre are to become part of the reception at Shire Hall, although the fire officer has stated that the reception area has to be kept clear of all papers and obstructions.
Chartist play the filming is now complete.
The furniture in Court Room 1 has been painted unfortunately the table has been painted to match the rest of the furniture thus covering the patina this at the instruction of the Architect, it is now feared that these are now lost.
The clock is still losing time but can be corrected by adjusting the pendulum

60. To receive the Member's attendance summary of committee meetings

Members	Planning	Town Council	Community Committee	Special Meeting Town Council	Planning	Finance & Policy	Planning	Env Committee
	19-Jul	19-Jul	26-Jul	02-Aug	02-Aug	09-Aug	16-Aug	23-Aug
Cllr R Bond	Apology	Apology		1	1	1	1	1
Cllr G Bright		1	1	1		1		1
Cllr Mrs S Chivers	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr T Christopher	Apology	Apology	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr J Fletcher	Apology	Apology	Apology	1	1	1	1	Apology
Cllr Mrs J Gunter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr N Hackett Pain		Apology		1		1		
Cllr Mrs J Hall	1	1	1	1	1	Apology	1	1
Cllr R Hayward	Apologys	Apology		1	1	1	1	Apology
Cllr M Jones	1	1	1	1	1	Apology	Apology	1
Cllr C Munslow	1	1	1	1	1		Apology	1
Cllr Mrs B Smith		1	1	1				1
Cllrs Mrs A Were		1	1	1				Apology
Cllr Mrs S White		1	1	1		Apology		1
Total In Attendance	6	10	11	15	10	9	8	10+1
Members on Committee	10	15	12	15	10	12	10	13

KEY: Yellow = non committee member attendance
 Black = Non Committee member

61. To discuss why some Monmouth residents cannot receive full Freeview TV channel coverage

Councillor Chivers reported when the digitalisation took place in Monmouth it was publicised as being able to access up to forty different channels, reality is proving that some residents can only obtain fifteen. Town Clerk will write to 'Ofcom' with copies to MCC.

Councillor Hackett Pain also raised the issue of broadband speeds with the need of more people to complain to the servers and BT as this becomes a vicious circle with no results.

62. To review membership of the Committees in view of Councillor Christopher's resignation from the Environmental Affairs F&P and Planning Committees with Councillor Mrs S White to be co-opted onto Environmental Affairs Committee

The Mayor Mrs Jeana Hall thanked Councillor Christopher in his absence for all of his hard work with the Committees. This issue will be dealt with at the individual meetings.

63. To Appoint representatives for the following outside bodies: CAB, Chamber of Commerce, Monmouth Partnership Forum One Voice Wales, Monmouth Festival Committee, Monmouth Youth Project

The Mayor Mrs Jeana Hall had today spoken with Councillor Christopher who has withdrawn his resignation from the outside bodies.

64. Items for discussion for future meetings.

Councillor Bond raised the issue regarding Monmouthshire County Councils ward changes and its affects.

65. To confirm meeting dates

Next meeting to be held on Monday 11 October 2010 7.00pm Shire Hall Monmouth

66. To resolve that by virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the Press and Public are excluded from discussions on the following items on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

Mr Charles Boase continued with his objection to press exclusion but was corrected by Councillor Mrs A Were who pointed out that Standing Orders had not been suspended so he could not continue to speak.

Councillor Hayward stated the decision for the layout for the co-option selection had previously been agreed at the Finance & Policy meeting.

Proposed: Councillor R Hayward Seconded: Councillor C Munslow
For: 11 Against: 1 Abstention: 0

Councillor Mrs Chivers wished to point out the reason for her objection as she agreed with Mr Boase there being no harm with the press and public hearing what the two candidates had to say in their presentations.

67. To consider the nominations for the co-option to the vacancy in the Wyesham Ward and invite applicants to address the Council.