

Monmouth Town Council
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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
Held on Monday 28 March 2011 at 7.00pm
The Shire Hall, Monmouth

PRESENT: Chairman: the Mayor Cllr Mrs J Hall

Cllr R Bond	Cllr N Hacket Pain
Cllr G Bright	Cllr M Jones
Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst	Cllr C Munslow
Cllr J Fletcher	Cllr Mrs B Smith
Cllr Mrs J Gunter	Cllr Mrs S White
Cllr R Hayward	

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Susan James Town Clerk and Mrs Jane Lloyd Clerical Assistant

An update presentation was given by The Shire Hall Stewards who are the public's representatives for The Shire Hall.

The group have a contingency of which there is still a deficit of approximately 10%. Various activities have been organised to raise money including The Shire Hall lottery scheme which anyone can become a member.

This presentation has been put together by Mrs Barbara Wright and Mr Tony Crowhurst consisting of 5,000 images archiving the refurbishment of Shire Hall over the last 2 years. The presentation is called 'The Shire Hall Rejuvenates –a montage of Images'. The aim is to structure different formats for the different requirements of groups, topics include 'Community Room' and 'Plastering and Plumbing.

A second presentation was given by Ms Sarah Turvey-Barber (MCC) and County Councillor Mr G Burrows cabinet member for Social Care regarding Telecare equipment, from Careline. This is a twenty four hour seven day a week non intrusive sensor system with other comprehensive ways of managing risks to a person's health and home environment enabling people to live longer in their own home especially those in rural areas. This system is designed for both individual home units and sheltered settings with sensors being flexible according to the needs of the individual user. The Welsh Assembly has funded the increase for promotion of the scheme. The cost of the scheme to the individual would be a maximum of £5 per week.

At any one time the system is manned by two staff taking approximately 30 seconds to answer a call, there is a speaker system in the home for the staff to contact the client to access if there is any problem. The system usually takes six to twelve weeks to evaluate for the individual and is then checked annually.

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

None received.

133. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs S Chivers, Cllr T Christopher, Cllr J Saran and Cllr Mrs A Were.

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

None received.

135. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2011

The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed.

Proposed: Cllr J Fletcher
For: 11

Seconded: Cllr Mrs S White
Abstention 1

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

A visit to the CCTV monitoring station and shared resource centre at Blaenavon has taken place. Staff at the centre have expressed an open invitation to other members who were unable to attend on this occasion. The Clerk and Councillor Hayward attended the signing of the Charter in celebration of A Shared Community at County Hall last week. This aims to improve the working relationship between the Town Council and Unitary Authority.

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

The following correspondence was brought to the attention of the Councillors.

Attention 1: A letter was received from Monmouth Rowing Club requesting permission to use the Town Field for the Regatta to be held on 27 to 29 May 2011. Permission was granted.

Number 65 e-mail updating the costs for the running of Agincourt Street toilets: Three updated quotes had been received from MCC as requested by the Environment Committee for the commencement of the take over from 1 April 2011.

After discussion some members felt the prices had increased substantially and the item was deferred to the next meeting. Without a commitment the toilets could be closed from 1 April, MCC will keep them open in good will as long as the proposal is going ahead. The item has already been voted in favour of for a trial of one year. Set figures for opening and cleaning are required. This item to be deferred to the next Full Council meeting.

Late Correspondence

Mr Visram Veterinary Surgeon from Monmouth contacted the office today with concerns and a petition regarding the discontinuation of dog wardens by MCC. There is a problem in this area with people owning dogs and then just letting them go. In the long term stray dogs could increase costs to MCC more in the event of an accident. This could be more than employing a dog warden.

This service was intended to cease from 1 April 2011 but Mr Visram has been informed by another Veterinary surgery in Monmouth that dogs today were not being taken in by MCC. The Committee asked for a letter to be written to MCC to reinstate this position, as costs without a dog warden could be greater.

138. To note the reports and minutes of the Councils committees and outside bodies

- a Planning Committee:** As per minutes. At the meeting held on 28 March. Wonastow Road: It was reported that a petition and leafleting would be organised along with setting up a surgery to gain opinions from the public regarding the building of 4,000 houses.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 11 April 2011
- b Environmental Affairs Committee:** As per minutes. At the meeting held on Monday 21 March 2011 it was reported
- The bench for Rifleman Jamie Gun would soon be in place but the bench for Mace Bearer Graham Powell is proving more difficult as a decision on the market is required before the placing of the bench can be decided upon.
 - Planting contract has been awarded to 'The Willows of Usk'.
- Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 3 May 2011
- c Community Affairs Committee:** As per Minutes. At the meeting held on Monday 21 February items discussed included
- Illegal parking and reporting to the Police on 101 with a good response received by Councillors
 - To date the Festival committee will be charged £5,000 by MCC for Road closures for the Kymin dash and Carnival putting this year's events in doubt.
 - Community Grant awards will be presented on Thursday 31 March at The Shire Hall.
- Next meeting to be held on Monday 4 April 2011
- d Finance & Policy Committee:** As per minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7 March 2011. Next meeting to be held on Monday 18 April 2011
- e CSATS Committee:** It was reported that the reporting of illegal parking or anti social behaviour should be reported to the Police by dialling 101 although Councillors had had a mixed response to reported issues
- f Monmouth Partnership Forum:** No meeting.
Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 13 April 2011
- g Vision Monmouth:** Report deferred to the next meeting as apologies received from Cllr Mrs Chivers
- h Others:**
- None

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

Members	Environment	Planning	Full Council	Community	Planning	F&P	Planning
2010/2011	07.02.11	14.02.11	14.02.11	21.02.11	28.02.11	07.03.11	14.03.11
Cllr R Bond	1	1	1		1	1	Apologies
Cllr G Bright	1		Apologies	Apologies		Apologies	1
Cllr Mrs S Chivers	1	1	1	1	Apologies	1	1
Cllr T Christopher	1		1	1		1	
Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr J Fletcher	1	1	1	1	Apologies	1	1
Cllr Mrs J Gunter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr N Hackett Pain			1			1	
Cllr Mrs J Hall	1	1	1	1	Apologies	1	1
Cllr R Hayward	1	1	1		1	1	1
Cllr M Jones	1	1	1	Apologies	1	Apologies	Apologies
Cllr C Munslow	1	1	1	Apologies	1		1
Cllr J Saran		1	Apologies		1		1
Cllr Mrs B Smith	1		1	1			1
Cllrs Mrs A Were	1		1	Apologies			
Cllr Mrs S White	1		1	1		1	
Total In Attendance	14	10	14	8	7	10	8+1
Members on Committee	14	10	16	12	10	12	10
KEY							
	Non Committee Member						
	Non Committee Member attendance						
	Absent						

140. To discuss and consider presentation from Shire Hall Stewards

No discussion took place

141. To receive report from working group regarding Shire Hall furniture and to confirm options and recommendations.

It was established that chairs stored in the Town Clerks office in the Shire Hall could be moved to the Mayors Parlour and the Community Room with four being stored at Market Hall for a limited time. Three more quotations will be obtained for the repairs as previous quotations were too high or cannot go ahead.

The chairs will still remain the property of Monmouth Town Council and loaned to MCC

Cllr R Bond left the meeting at 8.30pm

Cllr Mrs S White left the meeting at 8.31pm

142. To discuss Damage Assessment Report from CADW on Clawdd Du

Defer to the next meeting. Apologies received from Cllr Mrs Chivers. However it was reported that MCC will now back fill the ditch

143. To confirm decision of the Finance and Policy Committee 7 March 2011 to agree £500 contribution towards the production of a new Town Guide

Mandy Mardell from 'Monmouth Voice' gave a presentation to Finance & Policy meeting. The £500 donation will be towards the cost of £4,000

Proposed: Cllr R Hayward

Seconded: Cllr Mrs Dewhurst

Unanimous

144. Items for discussion for future meetings.

To discuss Damage Assessment Report from CADW on Clawdd Du
To discuss MCC quotation for cleaning of the Agincourt Street toilets

145. To confirm meeting dates

Next meeting (Annual Meeting) to be held on Monday 9th May 2011, at 7.00pm,
The Shire Hall, Monmouth

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm

Please contact the Town Clerk if you foresee any problems with the minutes and these can be resolved before the next meeting.