

Monmouth Town Council

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL Held on Monday 1 August 2011 at 7pm The Shire Hall, Monmouth

Present: Chairman: the Mayor Cllr Bright

Cllr R Bond	Cllr N Hacket Pain
Cllr Mrs S Chivers	Cllr M Jones
Cllr Christopher	Cllr C Munslow
Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst	Cllr Mrs B Smith
Cllr J Fletcher	Cllr Mrs A Were
Cllr Mrs J Gunter	Cllr Mrs S White

In Attendance: Mrs S James, Town Clerk and Mrs J Lloyd, Administration Assistant

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

None received

2. To receive apologies for absence.

Cllr Mrs Hall, Cllr R Hayward and Cllr J Saran

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

None received

4. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2011

Confirmed as a true record and signed

Proposed: Cllr Mrs White	Seconded: Cllr C Munslow.
For: 10	Against: 0
	Abstention: 3

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

We have received a thank from Ceri Poyelle of Sur le Pont Language Learning for the Town Council support of the Language Festival on Saturday 16th July. It was a great success with a real sense of community. Over 350 people attended the various activities, and many other local businesses including 28 shops also participated and contributed to the event.

Mrs Gunn has also contacted the office to express her thanks for the dedication of the bench to Jamie.

The Mayor kindly covered the office for personal callers last Friday when I attended the Greater Gwent Society of Local Council Clerks meeting. Assembly Member Alun Davies (Blaenau Gwent) spoke briefly about the new Welsh Measures and their impact on Town and Community Councils.

Jane and I will be taking annual leave separately in August and September. The office will remain open and manned by one of us for the basic normal hours.

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

Letters of attention from The Wye Valley AONB were read before the Council regarding study tour and sustainable tourism strategy workshop.

All other correspondence has been noted.

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

- a **Planning Committee:** As per minutes, the committee still has concerns regarding retrospective planning applications.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 15 August 2011.
- b **Environmental Affairs Committee:** As per minutes, Presentation from Mrs J Brettle and Mr D Harrison regarding the cemetery.
Agreed funding for a bench at King's Fee and match funding of a bin on Chippenham.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 5 September 2011.
- c **Community Affairs Committee:** As per minutes,
 - The committee agreed to continue supporting papers for the library.
 - Agreed to fund the Hire of Shire Hall for the Children's Language FestivalNext meeting to be held on 8 August 2011
- d **Finance & Policy Committee:** As per minutes, it was reported that the CCTV budget can't be moved to reserves as it has already been budgeted for in the precept but, will be moved to cover the costs of the Agincourt Street Toilets.
Next meeting to be held on Monday 22 August 2011
- e **CSATS Committee:** No report, although a group has been set up called the 'Task and Finish' Group to look at alcohol and drug problems in the Town.
- f **Monmouth Partnership Forum:** Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst reported that County Councillor Mrs Hacket Pain had given a report on the Play Project to the Partnership Forum.
Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 10 August.

g Vision Monmouth: No report

h Others: Chippenham Field: Cllr Munslow reported that Issues have been raised regarding people dropping litter which includes glass on Chippenham field and its dangers, the Police are trying to monitor the problem which has been made more difficult this week with the Festival. The Community Officers have found it difficult to issue fixed penalties as proof and measurements are required with the paperwork.

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

Members	Planning	Full Council	Community	F&P	Planning	Environment
2011/2012	20.06.11	20.06.11	27.06.11	11.06.11	18.06.11	25.06.11
Cllr R Bond	Apologies	Apologies		1	1	
Cllr G Bright		1	1	1	1	1
Cllr Mrs S Chivers	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr T Christopher	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies		Apologies	1
Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr J Fletcher	1	1	Apologies	1	1	1
Cllr Mrs J Gunter	1	1	Apologies	1	1	1
Cllr N Hackett Pain		1		1		
Cllr Mrs J Hall	1	1	1	1	1	
Cllr R Hayward	Apologies	Apologies		1	1	Apologies
Cllr M Jones	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies			
Cllr C Munslow	1	1	1	1	Apologies	1
Cllr J Singh Saran	Apologies	Apologies			Apologies	
Cllr Mrs B Smith	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllrs Mrs A Were	1	1	1		1	1
Cllr Mrs S White		1	1			Apologies
Total In Attendance	8	11	7	9+2	9+1	9
Members on Committee	12	16	12	11	12	12
	Non Committee Member					
	Non Committee Member attendance					
	Absent					

Noted

9. To receive an update regarding the enforcement of the Regulations regarding the use of Chippenham Mead.

Cllr Chivers read a letter from Tim Bradfield (MCC) regarding the gates being opened at the weekend. The Council pointed out that for two weeks the gates had been closed but now this has now lapsed and they are being left open again. It hadn't helped that a sign for the overflow parking for the festival had been put near the gates. It was suggested that the sign be moved beyond the gate to hopefully alleviate the problem. Request a reminder letter be sent.

- 10. To approve sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return of Accounts 2010-2011, as recommended by the Finance and Policy Committee.**

Agreed

Proposed: Cllr N Hacket Pain Seconded: Cllr C Munslow Unanimous

- 11. To approve recommendation of Finance and Policy Committee that the Agincourt Street Toilets budget be delegated to the Finance and Policy Committee**

Agreed

Proposed: Cllr Fletcher Seconded: Cllr Mrs White Unanimous

- 12. To discuss MCC Review of Polling Districts & Polling Places 2011**

Noted

- 13. To resolve for Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst to join the Finance and Policy Committee.**

Agreed

Proposed: Cllr Mrs White Seconded: Cllr R Bond Unanimous

- 14. To agree to invite Councillors from other Community Councils to attend a Planning Training session at Shire Hall on Monday 10th October.**

Agreed

Proposed: Cllr Mrs Dewhurst Seconded: Cllr C Munslow Unanimous

- 15. To resolve that the National Joint Council for Local Authorities' car allowance and subsistence rates form the basis upon which Councillors and officers of the Council may claim for expenses incurred when carrying out authorised activities on behalf of the Council.**

A report was previously circulated to members with information, and appropriate advice from One Voice Wales.

After discussion, it was agreed that although 45p per mile was the amount allowed by HMRC without declarations for tax having to be made, this was felt as too generous. An amended resolution was proposed that Town Councillors could receive 25p per mile with 5p per extra passenger carried.

It was agreed that officers mileage allowances would be discussed at a later date.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs Were Seconded: Cllr Christopher

For: 7 Against: 4 Abstention: 2

- 16. Items for discussion for future meetings**

Traffic problems at Mayhill and the Wye-bridge were outlined by Cllr N Hacket Pain as necessary for further action.

Chippenham Mead for updates

- 17. To confirm meeting dates.**

Next meeting to be held on Monday 12th September 2011, 7pm at the Shire Hall, Monmouth

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm