

# Monmouth Town Council

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## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Monday 15 July 2013 at 7.00pm  
The Shire Hall, Monmouth

**Present:** Chairman: The Mayor Cllr J Hall

Cllr R Bradley	(RB)	Cllr S Davis	(SD)
Cllr G Bright	(GB)	Cllr A Dewhurst	(AD)
Cllr S Chivers	(SC)	Cllr J Gunter	(JG)
Cllr T Christopher	(TC)	Cllr A Owen	(AO)
		Cllr S J Wilson	(SJW)

**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 Fletcher, Cllr R Hayward, Cllr Mrs A Were and Cllr Mrs S White.

**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 Monday 3 June 2013.**

The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed.

Proposed: Cllr S Davis

Seconded: Cllr A Owen

Unanimous in favour

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

The Town Clerk was asked to read letters number 1 and 4.

Letter Number 1: Information regarding the visit to Shire Hall by the Rolls Royce Enthusiast's Car Club 26 – 29 September 2014.

Letter Number 4: Letter of resignation received from Cllr T Ashton.

The Town Clerk drew to the attention of the committee an invitation received from GAVO to attend a special consultative event (Continuity and Change) to be held on Thursday 18 July at Little Mill Village Hall and asked if any member would attend due to the resignation of the Town Council representative for GAVO.

Attention letters included MCC Improvement plan, now available online with a request for feedback.

Information regarding the free Wikipedia workshop being held on Saturday 20 July at Shire Hall.

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

**CCTV:** Confirm that a credit note of £875 has been received regarding delayed commencement of CCTV monitoring April 2013

**Mayors Allowance:** Accounts from Cllr Gerry Bright as Mayor 2012-13 and all is in order, with the allowance for the year spent appropriately. Distribution to his Mayor's Charities will be arranged shortly.

**Elections:** An election will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> July to fill the vacancy for the Drybridge Ward with costs to the council estimated at £2500.

An election has also been called for the vacancy for the Town Ward, and if more than one nomination is received, this election will take place on 29<sup>th</sup> August, with similar costs.

**National Play Day 7<sup>th</sup> August:** On Chippenham Mead the Three Counties Play provision will be holding a Play Day with equipment available and games and organised children's activities.

**7. To answer questions from Councillors**

*(Standing Orders 9: A member may ask the Mayor, the chairmen of Council Committees or the Clerk any question concerning the business of the Council, provided notice is submitted to The Clerk in writing two working days prior to the meeting, and the response will be printed within the minutes of the meeting. Every question shall be put and answered without discussion. Answers to verbal questions put to the Mayor, Chairmen of committees or the Town Clerk may be deferred until no later than the next meeting. No supplementary questions will be allowed.)*

None received.

**8. To receive and consider reports and minutes of the council's committees and outside bodies:**

**a Planning Committee:** As per minutes. Cllr Wilson reported that the application for further housing to be included in the LDP for Monmouth has been turned down.

- b Environmental Affairs Committee:** As per minutes.
- Members agreed to pay for a litter pick at Chippenham Mead to cover 5 weekends starting 28 July 2013.
  - Cllr Christopher reminded the members of the Christmas Lights and Riverbank/Town Field Working Groups that meetings would take place this week.
  - An exhibition of the winning photographs will be held at Shire Hall, One Stop Shop and the Library. The next stage will be Members visiting all schools to give a presentation regarding the effects of litter. Litter Group meeting will be held on 15 July to discuss dates for the exhibition.
- c Community Affairs Committee:** As per minutes. Cllr Gunter reminded members of the Carnival on Sunday 28 July at 2.00pm with a request for help from members.
- d Finance & Policy Committee:** As per minutes.
- e CSATS:** Cllr Wilson reported that he had asked the Police for information on how many tickets had been issued for illegal parking in Monmouth, the information was not forthcoming.  
Cllr Hall also added there were plans to put double yellow lines along Goldwire Lane. The Youth Project will have the Drug Awareness Bus at Monmouth Festival to talk to vulnerable youngsters. Companies have donated £400 towards the bus and MCC has offered to donate a further £200.  
The Skateboard Park is deemed not safe but costs are very high to remove it. It was asked for a letter to be written to find out exactly what issues CSAT's covers. The Town Clerk confirmed that CSAT's deals with multi agency affairs in Monmouth, any issues for individual agencies should go directly to that particular agency.
- f Monmouth Partnership Forum:** Cllr Owen reported the last meeting had been held at the new MCC County Hall in Usk which included a tour of the building.  
Andy Mason (MCC) gave a presentation regarding OWL the online Neighbourhood Watch scheme.  
Mr D Hoyle had asked for the Town Council to restart negotiations with the Welsh Government for a second Wye crossing to access Wyesham to alleviate the on-going travel problems. Cllr Owen will speak with Mr Hoyle and also Mr C Munslow who dealt with this issue previously.  
Cllr Dewhurst reported that the Police Commissioner will be attending the next Partnership meeting to be held at Shire hall on Wednesday 17 July, if Councillors had questions to ask to let her know or attend the meeting.
- g Vision Monmouth:** No Meeting

**h Central Monmouthshire Area Committee:**

- Gateway Project was given the backing of the committee so that funding may now be applied for.
- A presentation was given by Mr G Smith Area manager of Sustrans about the proposed cycle route from Usk to Pontypool which is hoped to follow the old railway line but there are four owners of land to be considered first.
- The next MOD Community Grant applications have to be in by 5 July.
- The Deputy Manager of Shire Hall will be sharing the role of General Manager for the next 12 months. Mike Booth has been seconded to carry out a project for the Museum Service. Roles and responsibilities have been divided equally although Mike Booth will remain responsible for the Monmouthpedia seeing the project through to the end.
- Cutting of hay at the Cemetery will be Thursday 25 July 2013.
- St Thomas Church is looking for support for a sound enhancement system at a cost of £1,000
- Cllr Hayward asked for news concerning the accident at the Leisure Centre. Nothing to report at the present time.

**i Others:**

**Monmouth Festival:** Cllr Dewhurst reported that the group are being warned by the police that Marshalls will be required for every float and vehicle, with a request to all Councillors to help from 2.00pm to approximately 2.30pm.

**Litter Group:** Cllr Christopher reported that the winning photographs from the recent competition will go on show at three locations in Monmouth during September and there is a plan to visit schools to talk about litter and associated problems.

**Partners Against Crime:** Cllr Hall reported at the meeting held on 10 July Sergeant Thorpe came to answer questions put forward by the group, he explained he has a team of 13 who cover Usk, Abergavenny, Chepstow and Monmouth.

Litter and dog fouling on Chippenham: Sergeant Thorpe had said if feelings were so strong regarding this issue he would look into it and do what he could. During the festival the Police will be targeting the area around the Festival.

Although the MPAC has not had a meeting for two years they had now made a decision to meet every six months.

**9. To review the Member's attendance summary of committee meetings.**

Members	Full Council	Planning	Community	Planning	Full Council	Planning Sp Meeting	Planning	Environment
2012/2013	3.06.13	03.06.13	10.06.13	17.06.13	17.06.13	24.06.13	01.07.13	08.07.13
Cllr T Ashton	1		Apology	Resigned				
Cllr R Bradley	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr G Bright	1	1	1		1			1
Cllr S Chivers	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr T Christopher	Apology		1		Apology			1
Mr S Davis	1	1		Apology	1	1	1	Apology
Cllr A Dewhurst	1	Apology	1	Apology	1		1	Apology
Cllr J Fletcher	Apology	Apology	Apology	1	Apology	1	Apology	Apology
Cllr J Gunter	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cllr J Hall	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Cllr R Hayward	1	1		1	1	1	1	Apology
Cllr A Owen	1				1			1
Cllrs A Were	1		1		1			1
Cllr S White	1		1		1			Apology
Cllr S Wilson	1	1	1	1	1	1	Apology	1
Total In Attendance	13	7+1	10	7	12	8	7	7+1
Members on Committee	15	9	12	9	14	9	9	12
<b>KEY</b>								
		Non Committee Member						
		Non Committee Member attendance						
		Absent						

Proposed: Cllr Gunter  
Unanimous in favour

Seconded: Cllr Davis

**10. To confirm Environmental Affairs Committee membership of Councillor G Bright.**

Agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Gunter  
Unanimous in favour

Seconded: Cllr Dewhurst

**11. To confirm recommendation of Environmental Affairs Committee to recognise service of Rudolph Griffiths with a commemorative bench and presentation.**

Cllr Christopher reported at the last Environment meeting a decision was made to thank Mr Rudolf Griffiths for all of his work over the last twenty years by placing a bench by the river on the Town field in his honour.

Proposed: Cllr Christopher  
Unanimous in favour

Seconded: Cllr Hall

**12. To confirm permission for use of the Town field for the Rotary Club for the Raft Race weekend of 31/8-1/9/13.**

Agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Davis      Seconded: Cllr Dewhurst  
In favour: 9                  Against: 0      Abstention: 1

**13. To consider and submit evidence of experience of using Public services in Wales as per request from the Commission on Public Service and Delivery (c/s all 17/6/13).**

None received.

**14. To confirm permission for the Deputy Mayor to take chain of office to the Twin Town of Waldbronn 2<sup>nd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> August 2013.**

Agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Dewhurst      Seconded: Cllr R Bradley  
Unanimous in favour

**15. To discuss location of Full Council meetings.**

A suggestion was put forward to hold Full Council meetings in wards around the Town as in previous years. Venues still to be considered.

Proposed: Cllr Davis      Seconded: Cllr Christopher  
For: 1                  Against: 0      Abstention: 1

**16. To discuss future use/ownership of the Market Hall (SC).**

Cllr Chivers wants to look into the possibility of purchasing Market Hall she had hoped that Cllr Hayward would look into the financial aspect of this but as he had given apologies for this meeting Cllr Chivers asked for item to be put on the next agenda.

**17. Items for discussion for future meetings.**

- To discuss the possible purchase of Market Hall (SC)
- To discuss how to Commemorate the Centenary of the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War (GB)

**18. To confirm meeting dates.**

Next meeting is the Meeting to be held on Tuesday 27 August  
7.00pm, at the Shire Hall, Monmouth

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.43pm**