

MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRA MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Monday 9 December 2013 at 6.00pm
The Shire Hall, Monmouth

Present: Deputy Chairman: Cllr J Gunter (JG)

Cllr R Bradley	(RB)	Cllr R Hayward	(RH)
Cllr G Bright	(GB)	Cllr A Owen	(AO)
Cllr S Chivers	(SC)	Cllr G Pritchard	(GP)
Cllr T Christopher	(TC)	Cllr B Ramsey	(BR)
Cllr A Dewhurst	(AD)	Cllr S J Wilson	(SJW)

In attendance: Mrs S James, Town Clerk

- 1. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.**
- 2. To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Hall, Cllr Davis, Cllr Fletcher, Cllr White and Cllr Were.

- 3. To discuss and agree S106 monies.**

The Chair invited Cllr Wilson, Chair of Planning Committee, to initially explain the availability and process of S106 monies.

Total 106 monies from the three local developments is £940,894, split principally between education, transport and recreation.

This can be broken down into:

Drybridge Ward, Charles Church houses, £596,376 of which £212,856 for recreation,

Wyesham Ward, Old School Site, £300,228 of which £189,228 for recreation,

Dixton & Osbaston Ward, Almshouses, £44,290 of which £37,490 for recreation.

There is hence a sum of £439,574 available to be spent as capital on new or improved recreational or open space projects within 3 miles of each development, in effect, the Monmouth Town Council boundary.

Further sums are also to be spent on education and transport, however it is the capital funding for recreation/open space projects that groups, including the Town Council, have been invited to apply for. Cllr Wilson pointed out the application receipt deadline of 10th January, which in

practice would be the 6th January- being the date of the final Full Council meeting before then to approve any MTC applications. He made members aware that all preliminary work would have to be completed by themselves over the Christmas period, with applications complete and ready to submit by then. He also gave examples of projects which may qualify for such funding, as cycle paths along the river, local football club or scouting funding for capital projects, play areas or allotments.

The Chair read aloud correspondence from Cllr Were expressing an interest in the council applying for funding for the provision of allotments in the Overmonnow area, and a commitment to investigate this further.

The Chair invited members to make suggestions for projects for S106 funding.

Cllr Pritchard suggested considering an Osbaston play area, resurfacing of Drybridge Park Play area, improvements in pathways and benches at the Rockfield Road Nature park, and an increased number and improved condition of notice boards throughout the Monmouth Town Council area, especially within the town.

Cllr Hayward suggested capital funding for the provision of a play area within Osbaston, with background work on this project already completed by Cllr Hall, and which he was happy to take on at her request. Cllr Hayward also noted that Council commitment to future revenue/expenditure for maintenance of projects may be required and this would also support bids. Land available at the end of Wallis Close in Osbaston was also suggested as being suitable for the provision of allotments.

Cllr Bright raised the issue of possible expansion of the Special Needs Unit at Overmonnow Primary School, and also the replacement of a bench required within his ward.

Cllr Dewhurst suggested improvements to the footpath from the Wyebridge traffic lights to Chippenham play area, adjacent to the dual carriageway after asking opinions of members of the public.

Cllr Chivers suggested the provision of a bandstand which had been discussed at meetings over past years. It was felt that much work would be needed in identifying a suitable location, perhaps being incorporated within the plans for the Gateway project.

Cllr Wilson reminded members of the capital funding available, but also of potential implications of required future revenue costs. These revenue and budget implications should be noted. He also reported that funding could be applied for up to 100% of capital funding, but if there is over subscription of applications for funds, then match funding projects would be favourably considered.

Cllr Ramsey reminded members that there was also funding available from the Armed Forces Community Covenant, of up to £69,000 which should also be considered, perhaps for match funding.

Discussion took place regarding noticeboards, and it was noted that they should be monitored, locking, placed in prominent positions, such as outside the Oldway Centre, but could also potentially be provided by the Community Affairs Committee.

Cllr Dewhurst suggested further capital funding needs around the Inglis Bridge area of Vauxhall, - being poor car parking surface, edging and access issues, and the existence of an informal "Friends of Vauxhall Fields" group which may wish to submit a S106 funding application.

Cllr Bright asked regarding funding and progress of the skateboard/bmx park at Rockfield, with Cllr Ramsey updating members of the progress of Phase 1 and plans for Phase 2. It was felt this would be a potential project to benefit from S106 funding.

Cllr Owen wished to follow-up suggestions of funding for a cycle way along the riverbank or alternatives.

Cllr Dewhurst suggested further allotment provision in all wards.

Cllr Wilson suggested allotment provision in Wyesham and the improvement of the Tudor Road play area also in Wyesham.

Some consideration was also made of future possible purchase of part of Vauxhall Fields as a town park, although this was viewed as more of a long term aspiration, with too short a time span available for consideration within this round of S106 monies funding. This should be considered again with the introduction of CIL –Community Infrastructure Levy, from which the Town Council should benefit directly, based on current figures and assuming all proposed developments proceed, in the region of £900,000.

The Chair then suggested that proposals be made regarding all suggestions put forward.

- a) It was proposed that Monmouth Town Council apply for S106 funding for the provision of an Osbaston Play area.

Proposed: Cllr R Hayward, Seconded: Cllr G Pritchard
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

It was then proposed that the preparation of this application be delegated to Cllr Hayward.
Proposed: Cllr J Gunter, Seconded: Cllr R Hayward
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

- b) It was proposed that Monmouth Town Council apply for S106 funding for the provision of new and improved noticeboards around the town.

Proposed: Cllr G Pritchard, Seconded: Cllr G Bright.
For: 5, Against: 5, Abstension:1
Chairs casting vote: Against.
The proposal failed.

- c) It was proposed that Monmouth Town Council apply for S106 funding for allotment provision for each ward.

Proposed: Cllr J Gunter, Seconded: Cllr R Hayward
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

It was then proposed that the preparation of this application be delegated to Cllr A Dewhurst and Cllr A Were.

Proposed: Cllr J Gunter, Seconded: Cllr S Wilson
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

- d) It was proposed that Monmouth Town Council would support a bid for S106 funding by the Off Street Project for the skateboard/BMX park, and that Cllr Ramsey be delegated authority to liaise with the group on behalf of the Town Council.

Proposed: Cllr R Hayward, Seconded: Cllr S Wilson
For: 10, Against: 0, Abstentions: 1
The proposal was agreed.

- e) It was proposed that Monmouth Town Council would support a bid for S106 funding by the "Friends of Vauxhall Fields" group and that Cllr Dewhurst be delegated authority to liaise with the group on behalf of the Town Council.

Proposed: Cllr B Ramsey, Seconded: Cllr A Dewhurst
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

- f) It was proposed to defer the issue of a bandstand, for possible provision within the plans for the next stage of the Gateway Project.

Proposed: Cllr J Gunter, Seconded: Cllr R Hayward
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

- g) It was proposed that Cllr Owen be delegated authority to liaise with appropriate cycleway groups to apply for S106 funding, with Town Council support considered on submission of detailed proposals.

Proposed: Cllr R Hayward, Seconded: Cllr A Dewhurst
For: 10, Against:1
The proposal was agreed.

- h) It was proposed that Monmouth Town Council apply for S106 funding for the provision of improved play area in Tudor Road, Wyesham, and that the preparation of this application be delegated to Cllr J Gunter, Cllr S Wilson, Cllr R Bradley and Cllr A Were

Proposed: Cllr R Hayward, Seconded: Cllr A Dewhurst
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

- i) It was proposed that Monmouth Town Council apply for S106 funding for the provision of new surfacing for the Drybridge Play area, and improvements to the Rockfield Road Nature park, and that the preparation of this application be delegated to Cllr T Christopher and Cllr G Pritchard.

Proposed: Cllr J Gunter, Seconded: Cllr R Hayward
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

- j) It was proposed that Cllr Dewhurst be delegated authority to investigate capital costs and ways of improving the footpath adjacent to the A40 between the traffic lights and Chippenham play area, and that this issue should be returned to the meeting of 6th January for further consideration.

Proposed: Cllr R Hayward, Seconded: Cllr B Ramsey
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Christopher reported that at a Vision Monmouth meeting, the Town Council was asked if it would support a bid for S106 funding towards the Gateway project. It was suggested that Colin Philips should be contacted for confirmation. (Town Clerk)

4. To confirm delegation to Planning Committee the continuation of the S106 monies process for final recommendation to Full Council on 6th January 2014.

It was confirmed that as deadlines were short, these processes should be continued by the Planning Committee for recommendation to Full Council.

Proposed: Cllr R Hayward, Seconded: Cllr G Pritchard
The proposal was unanimously agreed.

5. To agree items of business to be discussed at next meeting.

Newsletter (GP)

6. To confirm date of next meeting.

Planning Committee: Monday 16th December 2013, 6.00pm Shire Hall

Full Council: Monday 6th January 2014, 7pm, Shire Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.30pm