

Monmouth Town Council

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Community Affairs meeting held on Monday 4th February 2013 at the Shire Hall, Monmouth

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr Mrs J Gunter

Cllr T Ashton	(TA)	Cllr Mrs A Dewhurst	(AD)
Cllr R Bradley	(RB)	Cllr M. Jones	(MJ)
Cllr G Bright	(GB)	Cllr Mrs A Were	(AW)
Cllr Mrs S Chivers	(SC)	Cllr S.J. Wilson	(SJW)
Cllr T Christopher	(TC)	Cllr Mrs S White	(SW)

Louise McGuinness, Adventa, spoke regarding projects and ideas for 2013/14, namely: The Green Book of Growing 2013, Medieval Mayhem 2013, and River Wye Festival May 2014

1. The Green Book of Growing.

The book is a directory of gardening and similar events held throughout Monmouthshire in 2013. It is available imminently and will be placed in locations where persons interested in the subject will be able to pick up a free copy.

2. Medieval Mayhem

The event was planned to celebrate the 600th anniversary of the ascent of Henry V to the throne. The central event was to be a pageant staged on Vauxhall Field but unfortunately the re-enactment group has cancelled. Other events planned were an event at the wharf and a medieval market to be staged at the Shire Hall. With the cancellation of the main event it is difficult to see how the event can go ahead but further information will be forthcoming in due course.

3. Wye Valley River Festival 2014

The intention of the event is to celebrate the River Wye and its history and heritage. The Wye Valley AONB with lead partner The River Wye Preservation Trust is developing the Festival in cooperation with numerous organisations and with the towns along the length of the river. The event is scheduled to run from April 26th (Hay on Wye), to Sunday May 11th (Chepstow) with Monmouth on May 5th. There is a meeting at AONB Monmouth on February 22nd 6.30 – 7.00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.</p> <p>None received</p>	
2.	<p>To receive apologies for absence.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs J Hall and Cllr J Fletcher</p>	
3.	<p>To approve minutes of the meeting of Monday 2nd January 2013.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Wilson Seconded: Cllr Mrs Were Carried unanimously</p>	
4.	<p>To review the action summary.</p> <p>Christmas Event WG: The Working Group will undertake to arrange the meeting with the Police Kings Fee Notice Board: On point of being erected. Play Provision Gaps: Agenda item 14. Monmouth Games: TA has taken the matter up with Andrew Williams of Monmouth Comprehensive School who will get back. Minor Injuries Unit: A meeting had taken place but no representatives from Monmouth Town Council were present. Youth Council: Agenda Item 15 All other items completed.</p>	<p>On-going Complete</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>
5.	<p>To review Committee's expenditure to date.</p> <p>Councillor Mrs Were queried the amount of only £45 for Communication and Publicity against a budget of £1,000. The Chairman replied that further expenditure was anticipated.</p>	
6.	<p>To confirm virement of £100 from Christmas event budget to Diamond Jubilee budget (from 2/1/13 minute 6) to give total remaining Diamond Jubilee budget of £585. (see item 10).</p> <p>The Chair advised that the Town Clerk had received an invoice for £270 for the provision of the Diamond Jubilee Tree. Accordingly the amount of £585 should be amended to £315. Several Councillors expressed surprise at the size of the amount.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Bright Seconded: Cllr Mrs Were For: 8 Against: 2 Abstention: 1</p>	

7.	<p>To consider virement of £1,600 remaining from Summer Play Scheme budget.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Dewhurst suggested the amount should be transferred to Major Grants but as the scheme had been completed for the current year this was not feasible. Cllr Mrs Were suggested the amount should be moved to the current Diamond Jubilee budget.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Mrs Were Seconded: Cllr Mrs Gunter For: 7 Against: 4</p>	
8.	<p>To receive correspondence. (listed separately)</p> <p>The Chair read out a letter that had just been received from the Monmouth Women’s Institute advising that their application for a grant under the Community Grants scheme had been posted on 21st January. In a later discussion the committee agreed that the rules of the Scheme were quite clear and that no exceptions could be made. MWF to be advised accordingly.</p>	
9.	<p>To receive reports from working parties and sub-committees</p> <p>i. To note any items to report to CSATS (SJW) None</p> <p>ii. Carnival/Festival working group (AD, AW) Meeting arranged for Thursday 7th February at 1930</p> <p>iii. Christmas Event working Group (AD, JG, TC, JF, D Evans, B Ramsey, A Atkinson) Meeting to be arranged.</p> <p>iv. Larger grants/donations (excl. Community grants) (TA,GB,SC,AD,JG,SW) Agenda Item 11</p> <p>v. Community Grants (TA,GB,SC,AD,JF,JG,SW,SJW) Agenda Item 12.</p> <p>vi. Others None.</p>	
10.	<p>To confirm responsibility/delegation for actioning suggestion of trees in Monnow Street. (SC)</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Chivers reported little headway had been made with MCC but would continue to speak with MCC Highways Department. Initial impressions were that the project was not feasible. Cllr Christopher suggested an approach to the Shared Space Scheme may produce results. Cllr Wilson outlined the problems of having trees in a main thoroughfare and Cllr Bradley suggested that trees could be placed in large pots. It was agreed to leave the matter with Cllr Mrs Chivers to be progressed.</p>	

<p>11.</p>	<p>To confirm larger Community Project grants procedure for 2013-14, to agree virement into one budget heading and invite existing beneficiaries to apply for 2013-14 as per new application.</p> <p>Application forms had already been approved and the closing date for applications was 31st March 2013. The Town Clerk suggested that separate headings for grants under this scheme should be vired into one budget – The Larger Community Grants Scheme. After some discussion a vote was taken:</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Mrs Chivers Seconded: Cllr Bright Passed unanimously</p> <p>Discussions then took place on whether invitations should be sent to existing beneficiaries to apply for the current round of grants. Cllr Ashton that such invitations should not be sent as all potential applicants should be treated equally. Cllr Mrs Chivers said she did not understand why the existing beneficiaries should receive the same amounts year after year. A vote on whether to send such invitations was then taken.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Mrs White Seconded: Cllr Christopher For: 7 Against: 4</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p>To confirm Community Grant working group recommendations for Community Grant distribution.</p> <p>Details of the grants agreed had been circulated to all Councillors. Cllr Mrs Were queried the reason for denying a grant to Monmouth Town FC. Cllr Ashton advised the main reason was that the project was considered to a self- help project which could easily be carried out by the members.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Mrs Dewhurst Seconded: Cllr Mrs Were Passed unanimously</p>	
<p>13.</p>	<p>To agree and confirm arrangements for Community Grants presentation evening 18th February, including budget for reception.</p> <p>Time of the event was 7.00 p.m., the room to be confirmed. Cllrs Mrs White, Mrs Chivers, Mrs Dewhurst and Cllr Jones volunteered to help on the night. Costs would be met by the Communication and Publicity budget. As the Mayor would be away at that time, he agreed to approach Cllr Mrs Hall, Deputy Mayor to present the grants</p>	

14.	<p>Review gaps in provision of play facilities (from Forward Plan).</p> <p>A letter from Cllr Mrs Hall was read out asking if an application for a major grant for a play area in Osbaston for small children could be made. Cllr Jones said that the Full Council had supported the scheme so such an application was in order.</p> <p>Cllr Christopher queried if there were any other areas which needed to be considered. Cllr Mrs White mentioned a play for Wyesham had been mooted but no application for support had been received. It was presumed that the shop owner had the wherewithal to move the matter forward.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Were advised that the BMX track was going and good progress was being made.</p>	
15.	<p>To confirm co-ordinating youth representation with Monmouth Town Council.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Dewhurst referred to the remarks by Mr A Williams of Monmouth Comprehensive School at the Full Council whereby he did not appear to know what steps had already been taken in this regard. Cllr Mrs Dewhurst then tabled a letter she suggested should be sent to all youth organisations in the town and asked for comments before it was despatched. It was agreed that Councillors would respond individually to Cllr Mrs Dewhurst in this regard.</p>	
16.	<p>To agree press release. To be compiled by the Chair.</p>	
17.	<p>Items for discussion for future meetings. Trees in Monnow Street Bench in small garden over the bridge Medieval Mayhem</p>	
18.	<p>To confirm date of next meeting.</p> <p>Monday 18th March 2013</p> <p>The Meeting closed at 2035 hrs.</p>	