

MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Community Affairs meeting held on Monday 2nd September 2013 at the Shire Hall, Monmouth

PRESENT: Chair Cllr J Gunter

Cllr R Bradley (RB)	Cllr J Fletcher (JF)
Cllr G Bright (GB)	Cllr J Hall (JH)
Cllr S Chivers (SC)	Cllr G Pritchard (GP)
Cllr T Christopher (TC)	Cllr A Were (AW)
Cllr A Dewhurst (AD)	Cllr S Wilson (SJW)

Cllr Gunter welcomed Sergeant Thorpe and explained the invite was given to increase communication between the Council and Police and to address concerns the Committee have regarding litter and car parking, also to explain the difference between Police and CSATS issues.

Sergeant Thorpe firstly informed the Committee that he was disappointed to learn on his return from holiday by telephone that he is to be moved from Monmouth. As a local resident he is really disappointed with this decision and at the moment doesn't know who will be replacing him.

CSATS deal with the wider picture dealing with issues such as graffiti, road signs neighbour/neighbourhood issue and Christmas campaigns. There is involvement from different partners of the community such as Probation Officers and Councils all trying to make the town a safer place.

Sergeant Thorpe explained that there are over 30 parish Councils within his area so he could not attend all each month but thought it possible the Police could attend Full Council meetings, due to his imminent departure he would have to pass this on to his successor.

Litter: Litter offences are very rarely enforced because they can't be continually enforced and there is an on-going problem with children on Chippenham Mead. One idea Sergeant Thorpe had was the placement of a skip at Chippenham collecting rubbish for a month, then put a sign to say 'One month's waste collected from Chippenham Mead' to try and shame people.

Parking: If officers see an offence they will book the person but the Police do not have the numbers to put an officer out every day for parking problems. If the Police do blitz over a period of time the problem still returns when they are not present.

Sergeant Thorpe did suggest if a problem is identified then ring the Police station and someone will go out. The committee explained that there were problems getting a response via 101 by which time the problem had gone.

Cllr Wilson pointed out that he has seen officers on occasions in town witnessing parking offences but walk on by.

Sergeant Thorpe suggested if officers were seen not doing their job properly then it should be reported back to him. He said the Town Clerk should have his calling card and if there is anything amiss or problems, he is happy to give out his contact details so he can be contacted until the new Sergeant is in place, he did point out though that he is often out of the office.

Cllr Fletcher raised issues that have been going on for a while in the lower end of the town which could block emergency vehicles if they were required; Sergeant Thorpe explained that the Police can deal with obstruction but the Police licencing Officer should be informed regarding the specific issue.

Cllr Christopher pointed out the restrictions on A boards and tables, Cllr Christopher also explained he had reported this to the police who forwarded the complaint to the Licencing Officer and asked Sergeant Thorpe to chase this problem as to date nothing had happened. Sergeant Thorpe hadn't realised this was such a problem.

CCTV: receives a monthly report. Sergeant Thorpe praised the CCTV system in Monmouth especially the quality which he thought was the best in the Monmouthshire area.

The Chair Cllr Gunter thanked Sergeant Thorpe for his time and comments and wished him good luck in his new position.

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda</p> <p>None.</p>	
2.	<p>To receive apologies for absence</p> <p>Cllr White.</p>	
3.	<p>To approve minutes of the meeting of Monday 22 July 2013</p> <p>The minutes of Monday 22 July 2013 were approved as a true record and signed.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Hall Seconded: Cllr Were</p> <p>(Cllr Fletcher out of the room when voting took place.)</p> <p>For:9 Against:0 Abstention: 1</p>	

<p>4.</p>	<p>To update the action summary</p> <p>106 monies: Cllr Pritchard: explained he had dealings with Mike Moran who explained that 106 monies would be available when properties were occupied, which should be imminent for recreational social and activities for the town. Cllr Pritchard suggested that Mike Moran should be asked regarding this issue as soon as possible.</p> <p>Cllr Wilson: Plan to use monies for Highways and Community i.e. playground but won't know more until meeting happens. This item is also on Planning and being duplicated and as Planning meets more often, Cllr Wilson suggested that the issue be dealt with on Planning Committee.</p> <p>Cllr Bright suggested Cllr Pritchard join the Planning Committee as well as Community.</p> <p>Cllr Christopher proposed that Mike Moran be invited to a meeting to explain how the 106 money from Rockfield Estate should be spent with ideas given from this Committee.</p> <p>Cllr Pritchard proposed that Mike Moran be invited to a meeting and asked</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How this procedure works? • How do organisations access the money? • What is the timetable for this? <p>A copy also to be sent to MCC Democratic Services. Cllr Hayward will be asked to attend the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Christopher Seconded: Cllr Hall Unanimous in favour</p> <p>All other items noted and updated.</p>	<p>Town Clerk</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>To review and approve Committee's expenditure to date</p> <p>Agreed and noted.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>To receive correspondence. (listed separately)</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>To note any items to report to CSATs. (SJW)</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	

<p>8.</p>	<p>To receive reports from working parties and sub-committees.</p> <p>i. Carnival/Festival working group (AD, AW)</p> <p>It was noted that Cllr Christopher is the MTC representative for the Carnival/Festival.</p> <p>ii. Christmas Event working Group (AD, JG, TC, JF, D Evans, B Ramsey, A Atkinson) meeting date needs to TBA.</p> <p>Meeting scheduled for 10.00am 26 September 2013.</p> <p>iii. Larger grants/donations (Excluding. Community grants) (GB, SC, AD, JG, SW,)</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> <p>iv. Community Grants (GB, SC, AD, JF, JG, TC, SW, SJW) Meeting date needs TBA for any improvements to current procedure/forms</p> <p>Working Group to be arranged.</p> <p>v. School Council</p> <p>Cllr Christopher to contact Mr V Davies (Mon Comprehensive School) for the date of their next meeting.</p> <p>vi. Monnow Vale Users Group</p> <p>Decision made to place on the Action summary sheet.</p> <p>vii. Others:</p> <p>None.</p>	<p>TC</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>To discuss future action by the Monmouth Town Council regarding Monnow Vale Minor Injuries Unit. (GP)</p> <p>It was agreed for Cllr Pritchard to contact Chepstow Town Council to establish whether or not a joint approach to the Aneurin Bevan Health Board with a view to re-establishing the minor injury units would be viable.</p> <p>Cllr Pritchard will investigate further.</p>	<p>GP</p>

<p>10.</p>	<p>To agree to informally explain to the public the dangers of illegal parking on Priory Street and Monnow Bridge. (AD)</p> <p>The question of legality of this was discussed and was proposed by TC that the proposed letter be paraphrased within the committee's press release.</p> <p>And within the press release only to mention Priory Street.</p> <p>Proposed: TC Seconded: JG For: 8 Against: 2 Abstention: 1</p>	<p>JG</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>To agree press release.</p> <p>Cllr Gunter.</p>	<p>JG</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>Items for discussion for future meetings.</p>	
<p>13.</p>	<p>To confirm date of next meeting.</p> <p>Monday 14 October 2013.</p>	