

MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Community Affairs meeting held on Monday 14 October 2013 at the Shire Hall, Monmouth

PRESENT: Chair Cllr J Gunter

Cllr R Bradley (RB) Cllr J Fletcher (JF)
Cllr G Bright (GB) Cllr G Pritchard (GP)
Cllr S Chivers (SC) Cllr A Were (AW)
Cllr A Dewhurst (AD)

Mr Nick Butler, Monmouth Leisure Centre Manager gave a presentation on this year's Play Scheme. See attached Executive Summary Report.

The following questions were put forward:

Question: How many people came from the Forest/England?

Answer: Outside of Monmouth area which included forest of Dean, Ross and Cardiff totalled approximately 9% (200 actual visits)

Question: Are they charged the same price?

Answer: Yes Cross border issues are difficult as Children from outside the area attend local schools.

Question: Simplistically the people of Monmouthshire subsidise people from England?

Answer: If you look at like that then yes but it is a small number.

Question: What area of Monmouth are most children from?

Answer: Monmouth Town 40% which includes all wards.

Question: Is a transport scheme used?

Answer: Originally a bus financed by Usk Town Council ran for a year or so from Usk but it wasn't well used. Out of the 5 schemes only one bus at Caldicot.

Question: Was there any outreach or park visits or was it all based at the Leisure Centre?

Answers: Trips to the Savoy and the Blake Theatre were organised where they took part in a 'Monmouth's got talent' show. It is difficult with the number of children to control on outside trips.

Question: Outside Areas: Could in theory ask Coleford for donations towards the scheme?

Answer: Mike Moran has asked in previous years.

Question: What percentage of children are subsidised?

Answer: Didn't have the figures which would be based on free school dinners but, will report back to the Town Clerk with an answer.

Question: Is it volunteers for the Breakfast Club?

Answer: No staff but the scheme is dependent on Volunteers.

It was pointed out how very helpful it is to have this presentation and information.

Mr Butler was thanked for his very informative and timely presentation.

AGENDA ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.</p> <p>Cllr Bright Agenda Item 9. Cllr Gunter Agenda Item 9</p>	
2.	<p>To receive apologies for absence.</p> <p>Cllr T Christopher, Cllr Ramsey, Cllr White and Cllr Wilson (Councillors attending MCC meeting regarding future funding being held at the Leisure Centre)</p>	
3.	<p>To approve minutes of the meeting of Monday 2nd September 2013.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record with the following correction.</p> <p>Agenda Item 4 Action Review: 106 monies, Line 3: Should read 'Properties occupied' not 'properties sold'.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr G Pritchard Seconded: Cllr Fletcher All in favour</p>	
4.	<p>To update the action summary.</p> <p>All items noted and updated. Press Release not printed in the local press, Chair to follow up. Play Provision in Osbaston To be reviewed after the presentation to the next Planning Committee by Mike Moran on 106 monies</p>	JG
5.	<p>To review and approve Committee's expenditure to date.</p> <p>Agreed.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr G Pritchard Seconded: Cllr Bright All in favour</p>	

6.	<p>To receive correspondence. (listed separately)</p> <p>Number 3 The Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Ltd: Request for funding was to be read to the committee.</p> <p>Number 11: Caravan Club Bank holiday noise annoyance, the Chair will write to enquire the validation of the licence in the future. Copies to be sent to the landowner and witness.</p>	JG
7.	<p>To note any items to report to CSATs. (SJW)</p> <p>None received.</p>	
8.	<p>To receive reports from working parties and sub-committees.</p> <p>i. Carnival/Festival working group (AD, AW) A brief summary of the Festival Committee's AGM was given by AD. The annual reports from both the Chair and the Treasurer emphasised the lively Carnival this year, with much community involvement.</p> <p>ii. Christmas Event working Group (AD, JG, TC, JF, D Evans, B Ramsey, A Atkinson) Next meeting to be held 22 October 1.00pm Mayors Parlour. Under discussion about taking the procession from St Mary's churchyard and not Monnow Bridge. Extra Community meeting to be arranged.</p> <p>iii. Larger grants/donations (Excluding. Community grants) (GB, SC, AD, JG, SW,) Agenda Item 12</p> <p>iv. Community Grants (GB, SC, AD, JF, JG, TC, SW, SJW)</p> <p>v. School Council Link now confirmed with the School Council. An extra Community Affairs meeting will be arranged to confirm holding the meeting of 25 November 2013 at Monmouth Comprehensive School subject to appropriate arrangements in place.</p> <p>vi. Monnow Vale Users Group/MIU update (GP) Cllr Pritchard has met with David Davies MP and Nick Ramsey AM to see if they wanted to support or not.</p> <p>A Freedom of Information request was put forward to the Health Board and found that 2,500 patients visited A&E at Nevill Hall from the NP25 area between April 2012/March 2013 (approximately 30 a week total visits.)</p>	<p>JG/ Town Clerk</p> <p>JG/ Town Clerk</p>

	<p>G.P attended a presentation by the Aneurau Bevan Health Board and the MCC Adult Select Committee in Usk. However, the meeting started earlier than the time told to the 3 public members, meaning the actual presentation had already been given when they arrived.</p> <p>At a questions and answers session afterwards, the Health Board made it clear that there was no intention of reopening Monmouth but would rely on GP's instead.</p> <p>Ebbw Vale was saved when campaigning alerted locals to the threat of closure and the numbers of users increased.</p> <p>Brecon (smaller than Monmouth) use A& E at Nevill Hall and Merthyr Tydfil which is open 7 days a week with 700 visits per month – (not sure why this is so different from Monmouth)</p> <p>Cllr Pritchard hopes to contact other MIU's (29) across Wales Other health Boards are keeping theirs open. It seems that achieving 25 visits a day minimum is being required, to keep the footfall sufficient.</p> <p>The Committee expressed their thanks to Cllr Pritchard for his hard work.</p> <p>vii. Others GAVO: Cllr Pritchard reported he will be attending his first GAVO meeting (AGM) to be held on Wednesday 16 October 2013.</p> <p>Police consultation on increasing Community Engagement. The Usk meeting had been attended by Cllr Dewhurst and Cllr Wilson. Cllr Dewhurst reported that real listening by the police seemed to be taking place. The common concerns by fellow Community and Town Councillors included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help at community events being withdrawn. • PCSO's working in pairs and officers failing to actively meet members of the community, despite having mobile police stations parked in their area. <p>Two more sessions were to be held in different parts of Gwent after which a report was to be circulated. Town Clerk to be asked to obtain the summary report from the Police.</p>	<p>GP</p> <p>GP</p> <p>AD/ Town Clerk</p>
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9.	<p>To consider and agree the Commemoration of the First World War.(GB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestions put forward were a small church service and formal assembly at Shire Hall. • Should this be part of the Remembrance Day event? • <p>Proposed by Cllr Gunter to set aside £200 for this event.</p> <p>(To be voted on at Agenda Item 14)</p>	
10.	<p>To discuss update from AONB on Wye Valley River Festival.</p> <p>£800 has been put towards the event with grants being applied for including The Arts Council, England Arts Council and the National lottery totalling £262,000.</p> <p>Concerns as no feedback from AONB to date, although AONB did mention there would be a lull through the summer months.</p>	
11.	<p>To discuss and agree response to regional bus network strategy.</p> <p>Monmouth is a desert for regional transport with no regional system only connections via Ross and Chepstow. Chair and Town Clerk to write to MCC Mark Youngman with individual letters written by Councillors.</p>	All Town Clerk/JG
12.	<p>To confirm this year's application form/ criteria for the Community Grants Scheme and closing date. (Suggestion of noon 31st January 2014).</p> <p>Joint working party will be arranged. Cllr Pritchard would like to join the larger Grants Group.</p>	JG
13.	<p>To agree and implement arrangements for Christmas Event.</p> <p>Next Christmas Event meeting is arranged for Wednesday 1.00pm 22 October after which an extra Community meeting will be arranged.</p>	
14.	<p>To consider and agree proposed Committee budget for 2014-2015. (For consideration by Finance and Policy Committee).</p> <p>Request the budget total remain the same as previous year and decide at the meeting of 25 November the Committee's allocation of expenditure.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr G Pritchard Seconded: Cllr Dewhurst All in favour</p>	

15.	To agree press release. Cllr Gunter	JG
16.	Items for discussion for future meetings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 106 monies /Osbaston Play Provision • To agree the Committee's allocation of expenditure. 	
17.	To confirm date of next meeting. Monday 25 th November 2013	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm