

# MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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## COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the Extra Community Affairs meeting held on Monday 15 June 2015 at 7.00pm at The Shire Hall, Monmouth

**Present:** Cllr A Dewhurst (Chair)

|                    |                     |       |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------|
| Cllr G Bright (GB) | Cllr J Gunter (JG)  |       |
| Cllr Chivers (SC)  | Cllr C Munslow (CM) |       |
| Cllr Fletcher (JF) | Cllr Were (AW)      | Check |
|                    | Cllr White (SW)     |       |

**In attendance:** Cllr Hall, County Cllr Greenland and Aileen Atkinson and Mrs Barbara Wright.

| AGENDA ITEM |  | ACTION |
|-------------|--|--------|
| 1.          | <b>To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda.</b><br><br>None received.   |        |
| 2.          | <b>To receive apologies for absence.</b><br><br>Cllr Christopher and Cllr Fletcher.  |        |
|             | The Chair co-opted non Committee members Cllr Hall to the Committee.<br><br>Proposed: Cllr Dewhurst    Seconded: Cllr White <b>All in favour</b>   |        |
|             | <b>The Chair proposed to suspend standing orders.</b><br><br>Proposed: Cllr Dewhurst    Seconded: Cllr Wilson <b>All in favour.</b>  |        |
| 3.          | <b>To gather responses from the Public and Councillors to MCC's consultant's questions regarding the future use of Monmouth Shire Hall.</b><br><br>The Chair welcomed County Cllr Greenland and Aileen Atkinson from Shire Hall. |        |

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|------------------|--|-----------------------------|
|                  | <p>Aileen Atkinson gave a background to the costs and running of Shire Hall, pointing out that from April next year Shire Hall will have no funding from MCC and will have to be self-sufficient, it is at Aileen Atkinson confirmed that the 2015/2016 budget for Shire Hall is as follows:</p> <p>staffing costs are £120k<br/> building costs including maintenance, water, electricity, insurance, Council Tax etc is £65k<br/> income £128k<br/> shortfall of £57k funded by the County Council.</p> <p>Mrs Barbara Wright gave some background to the Heritage Lottery funding for the Shire hall, including the undertaking to fund 'a Hall for All' Monmouth's Village Hall (notes enclosed).</p> <p>County Cllr Greenland said all buildings under MCC control were being looked at to find a way forward. Shire Hall is very important to MCC and it does have very high overheads but the Manager is doing an excellent job. If possible they are trying to bring all services in Monmouth under one roof</p> <p>Questions raised:</p> <p>Question: Are there any strings attached with the Lottery grant that was given<br/> B.W. Answer: Yes The building had to become sustainable. (Lord Chancellor County Trust had maintained it not MCC. as it had been a law court)</p> <p>Question: Why hadn't offices in Market Hall been rented out?<br/> Cllr.R.G. Answer: Waiting for the outcome of the report. There's not much of a market.</p> <p>Question: Were there plans to sell the Market Hall?<br/> Cllr..R.G. Answer: Waiting for the outcome of the report.</p> <p>Question: What are the Consultants' fees?<br/> Cllr.R.G. Answer: £30,000 which is more cost effective than in house.</p> <p>Is the Community Room well used?<br/> A.A. Yes ,very popular. The most popular room in the building.</p> |                             |
| <p><b>4.</b></p> | <p><b>To agree a way forward by the Committee.</b></p> <p>The Chair thanked County Cllr Greenland, Mrs Aileen Atkinson and Barbara Wright for their input to the meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed to give the Working Group delegated power to produce a report for Amion (Consultations) on behalf of the Town Council. The Working Group will meeting tomorrow at 2.00pm to discuss the results of the meeting.</p>   | <p>AD/TJC/JH<br/> GP/SW</p> |

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| 5. | <b>Items for discussion for future meetings.</b><br>None received.                           |  |
| 6. | <b>To confirm date of the next meeting.</b><br>Monday 13 July 2015      Shire Hall Monmouth. |  |