

MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE EXTRA MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Monday 21 July 2014 at 6.00pm
The Shire Hall, Monmouth

Present: **Chairman:** The Mayor Cllr J Gunter

Cllr R Bradley	(RB)	Cllr J Hall	(JH)
Cllr G Bright	(GB)	Cllr R Hayward	(RH)
Cllr S Chivers	(SC)	Cllr A Owen	(AO)
Cllr T Christopher	(TJC)	Cllr G Pritchard	(GP)
Cllr A Dewhurst	(AD)	Cllr A Were	(AW)
Cllr S Davis	(SD)	Cllr S White	(SW)
Cllr J Fletcher	(JF)	Cllr S J Wilson	(SJW)

In Attendance: Mrs S James, Town Clerk, Mrs J Lloyd, Admin Officer.

1. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

None received.

2. To receive apologies for absence.

None received.

3. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23 June 2014.

Amendments to date, item 1 and 8b were confirmed.

The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed.

Proposed: Cllr Hayward Seconded: Cllr Hall **All in favour**

4. To co-opt a member for the Town Ward.

The Clerk confirmed the procedure as agreed at a previous Finance & Policy Committee meeting 7/7/14min 18 as:

- Candidates would be introduced to members at the beginning of the meeting and the process would be explained.
- Each candidate would be requested (although this cannot be enforced) to leave the room when the other candidate is presenting to Council and answering questions.
- Candidates will be invited (in alphabetical order), to individually talk to Council for 5 minutes or so, and then answer 4 questions put by the Mayor.

- The same 4 questions would be asked of each candidate by the Mayor. These questions would be decided by the Mayor from questions submitted to her by members before 5pm, Monday 14th July (through the office is acceptable)
- No additional or supplementary questions from members will be allowed.
- It is the choice of the individual candidate to remain in the Chamber for the vote or not.
- Voting will be as normal by show of hands, unless a request for signed ballot or a record of names is made before the vote.
- Votes for the first candidate alphabetically will be taken, and then votes for the second candidate will be taken.

Two candidates had applied to be co-opted to represent the Town Ward. Candidates' letters/CVs had been previously distributed to members.

The first candidate, Mr Chris Munslow then spoke to members for several minutes outlining his previous experiences and aims should he be co-opted as a member. The Mayor then asked the following questions selected from those previously submitted by members, which Mr Munslow responded to:

1. If you are co-opted as Councillor for the Monmouth Town Ward what specific initiative would you take in the ward in the next couple of years?
2. Would you feel willing to continue the work you are already doing for the local community, whether or not you are co-opted onto the Town Council?
3. Monmouth Town Council have meetings on a Monday evening and they are open to the public, however not many public attend. Why do you think this is?
4. As Monmouth has been given the title 'third best place to live' by The Times Newspaper, why do you think this is and how could you make it even better?

The second candidate, Mr Mark Williamson, who had been delayed due to a hospital appointment, then joined the meeting.

Mr Munslow left the room and Mr Williamson was invited to talk to Council, outlining his previous experiences and aims should he be co-opted as a member. Mr Williamson was then asked the same four questions by the Mayor which he responded to.

Both candidates then returned to the room for a vote to be taken.

It was proposed that Mr Munslow be co-opted as member for the Town Ward.

For: 14

It was proposed that Mr Williamson be co-opted as member for the Town Ward.

For: 0

Abstentions from both votes:1

Mr Chris Munslow was therefore co-opted as the new member for the Town Ward

The Mayor thanked Mr Williamson for applying and attending Council, and congratulated Mr Munslow on being co-opted as member for the Town Ward, and welcomed him to the Town Council.

5. Items for discussion for future meetings.

None received.

6. To confirm meeting dates.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 4th August 2014 at 7.00pm Shire Hall, Monmouth

There being no further business the meeting closed at 18.35pm.