

# MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MONMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Monday 12 September 2016 at 7.00pm  
The Shire Hall, Monmouth

**Present:** **Chairman:** The Mayor Cllr C Munslow

Cllr Bradley	Cllr J Fletcher
Cllr Bright	Cllr J Hall
Cllr S Chivers	Cllr R Hayward
Cllr S Davis	Cllr R Roden
Cllr A Dewhurst	Cllr S White
Cllr M Feakins	Cllr S Wilson

**In attendance:** Mrs J Lloyd

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

None received.

**2. To receive apologies for absence.**

Cllr Gunter and Cllr Were.

**3. To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1st August 2016 and Pink Paper minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**

**The minutes from Monday 1 August were confirmed as a true record and signed.**

Proposed: Cllr Feakins      seconded: Cllr Davis

**All in favour.**

**Motion carried.**

**The Pink Paper minutes from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June were confirmed as a true record and signed.**

Proposed: Cllr Hall      seconded: Cllr White

**All in favour.**

**Motion carried.**

**4. To receive questions from members of the public for a maximum of 10 minutes.**

None received.

**5. To receive the Office report (for information only).**

Mrs Lloyd reported on information received today regarding candidates standing for the Drybridge Ward.

**6. To receive correspondence that the Mayor wishes to place before the Council.**

Letters brought to the attention of the members were:

- **MCC John Pearson:** notification of election for the Drybridge Ward which will be held on Thursday 6 October 2016 with three candidates standing.
- **Welsh Government:** Information received regarding the Diversity in Democracy project holding a 'Be a Councillor Workshop' being held on Thursday 22 September Pontypridd.

**7. To answer questions from Councillors.**

*(Standing Orders 9: A member may ask the Mayor, the chairmen of Council Committees or the Clerk any question concerning the business of the Council, provided notice is submitted to The Clerk in writing two working days prior to the meeting, and the response will be printed within the minutes of the meeting.*

*Every question shall be put and answered without discussion. Answers to verbal questions put to the Mayor, Chairmen of committees or the Town Clerk may be deferred until no later than the next meeting. No supplementary questions will be allowed.)*

None received.

**8. To note the reports, including Annual Committee reports, and minutes of the council's committees and outside bodies:**

**a Planning Committee:** As per minutes and:

Cllr Wilson also gave a verbal report on the Chippenham Mead meeting held on Friday 1 September 2016, as was given to the Planning Committee.

Cllr Wilson reported that the Chippenham Mead issue is one of viability. If moved the playground will cost approximately £60,000+ based on similar projects. In addition, the old playground will need to be demolished, grassed over, permissions sought with a survey and plans made for the new site. This would mean the bulk of the £85,000 assigned to the project would be spent before getting to the building stage of the play equipment, this versus spending all of the money on new play equipment at the original site.

There is also the time factor affecting viability. The existing playground can be refurbished immediately, whereas a new one will require waiting for permissions (which are not guaranteed - see below) and will probably take years based on similar projects. There is the problem of scheduling the planned works, possibly at short notice to ensure the work is completed on time. The current site was initially meant to be refurbished in Spring 2016 but now could be next Spring, it has flexibility of ample time that moving it does not.

The second issue is legality. Moving the playground specifically violates Article three of the Chippenham Village Green Regulation and also planning policy wales TAN 15 regarding building highly vulnerable development in a C1 flood zone on a green field site. Developments attempting to breach either one of these regulations have been stopped recently with NRW and the Welsh government directly intervening when necessary, so Cllr Wilson felt it highly unlikely a development breaching both regulations would be approved.

In either scenario MTC will not proceed with developments since the applicant is MCC, the 106 money is MCC's and the landowner of Chippenham is MCC.

- b Environmental Affairs Committee:** As per minutes.
- c Community Affairs Committee:** As per minutes.  
Cllr Dewhurst reported that Ms Miranda Thomason from Community Connections Befriending Scheme gave a presentation. Also explained that the scheme is promoted to various organisations and groups using leaflets websites and presentations and asked members if they could highlight the befriending scheme to their constituents wherever possible.  
Concerns raised by several members regarding the Hub not working as it should. A letter will be written to MCC Cheryl Haskell and ask her to attend a future meeting.  
Questions were raised and agreed for the Police and Crime Commissioner Event on Tuesday 27 September 2016.
- d Finance & Policy Committee:** As per minutes.  
Cllr Hayward reported Mr Stuart Bees had been reappointed as the official auditor for 2016/2017.  
The rental of another office within Shire Hall had been agreed.
- e Monmouth Partnership Forum:** No update.
- f Central Monmouthshire Area Committee:** Cllr White reported the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28 September 2016.
- g Place Plan:** last meeting was held on Tuesday 6 September 2016; the minutes will be circulated to members.
- h Others:** As per minutes.

**9. To consider and confirm request by Monmouth Rotary Club for use of the Town Field for Bonfire night, Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November and time to set up/clear site.**

It was agreed for Monmouth Rotary Club to use the Field on Saturday 5 November 2016.

It was requested to add in the letter for the field to be re-instated if damage occurs.

Proposed: Cllr White

seconded: Cllr Feakins

**All in favour.  
Motion carried.**

**10. To review the Member's attendance summary of committee meetings.**

Agreed.

**11. To note the Mayors engagements 2016/2017.**

Noted.

**12. To consider and confirm members (2) to attend the "Cluster meeting" with MCC on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 6.30-8pm (Any agenda items to submit agreed at Planning Committee 30/8/16)**

After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Feakins and Cllr Chivers would attend the Cluster meeting on 13 September 2016 at Monmouth Library/Hub.

Proposed: Cllr Munslow

seconded: Cllr Dewhurst

**All in favour.  
Motion carried.**

**13. To consider and agree to invite other bodies such as the Chamber of Commerce and police to contribute towards funding of CCTV in Monmouth before renewal is due. (GB)**

Cllr Bright raised this issue as some councils have stopped supplying CCTV. Crime has lessened in the Town although it has moved out to the wards. The contract has been signed for the next three years but Cllr Bright requested a letter be written to the Chamber of Commerce and the Police Commissioner requesting donations towards the Town Council costs of running CCTV when the contract is renewed.

Proposed: Cllr Bright                      seconded: Cllr Feakins                      **All in favour.  
Motion carried.**

**14. To confirm Cllr Feakins as a member of the Environmental Affairs Committee.**

It was agreed for Cllr Feakins become a member of the Environment Affairs Committee.

Proposed: Cllr Hayward                      seconded: Cllr White                      **All in favour.  
Motion carried.**

**15. To confirm committee membership of Cllr Richard Roden.**

It was agreed for Cllr Roden to become a member of the Environment Affairs Committee.

Proposed: Cllr White                      seconded: Cllr Feakins                      **All in favour.  
Motion carried.**

**16. To consider and confirm issues for CSATS.**

Cllr Fletcher had brought to the attention of the office issues to be raised at the next meeting. Cllr Wilson informed the members that the issues raised were for the independent authorities not CSAT's, CSAT's cannot deal with individual cases.

Mrs Lloyd will write to the relevant parties the Police and Monmouthshire County Council to report Cllr Fletchers issues.

**17. Items for discussion for future meetings.**

To receive feedback from the Cluster meeting held on Tuesday 13 September 2016.

**18. To confirm the date of the next meeting.**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 7.00pm Shire Hall, Monmouth.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.36pm**