

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 4 August 2014 at 7.30 pm
at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

Present:

Councillors:

Ms B Moore	Ms L Prosser
Ms L Dyke	Mr I Moore (Chair)
Mr K Morton	Mr P Harris
Mr M Lenza	Mr T Hughes
Mr D Adams	

Also in attendance:

Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)
County Councillor G Down
Ms G MacDonald
Two members of the public.

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

1. Public participation.

There were two members of the public present to query traffic calming proposals, they were disappointed that Mynyddbach had not featured in recent discussions. County Councillor Down acknowledged that the speed of traffic had been an issue in the community for many years. He further explained the make up of the working party examining the issue and the background to the proposals, which he admitted were somewhat short of expectations. He confirmed that the responses are currently being analysed and the information will be made available to the Community Council and the working party.

C Cllr Down was able to confirm that:

- the police are looking to increase patrols on the B4235,
- noise monitoring equipment is not available to the Gwent Police but they are checking availability with other forces,
- Weyloed Lane is planned to be surface dressed in the near future.

2. Apologies for absence: Cllr P Moles.

3. To receive the police report.

The police report had been circulated prior to the meeting but no officers were available to attend. The report, containing minor incidents and one recorded call to Brook acre, was noted.

Minute 3113 - To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.

There were none.

Minute 3114 - To consider planning applications received.

1. DC/2014/00810 1 Usk Road, Shirenewton
Erection of detached garage and hobby room.

Recommendation: Refusal with the following observations:

- the two storey building is of excessive size and out of character with the other properties,
- it is located approx 30m from the house which is questionable,
- The plan for the garage floor level includes provision for a toilet/shower room, but

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the application makes no mention of how waste from this unit is to be dealt with. The effluent from these nine houses is a treatment plant in Llewyn-Celyn wood at the rear of the properties, its capacity is questioned, as is the ability to connect this new building to this system.

- It is noted that a new access needs to be constructed for this proposal, which in fact has already been done, from Llewyn-Celyn lane. Highways should check this complies with its requirements.
- The application states that the proposed building is not visible to the public, but it is visible from both Llewyn-Celyn lane and the Chepstow to Usk road - a main tourist route into mid Wales.

2. DC/2014/00108 'Oslo', Mynyddbach Amendment to siting of proposed development to reflect the siting under the previously approved outline permission.

Recommendation: Refusal with the following observations:

- The semi-detached houses are located in the NW corner of the site with parking some distance away, this implies increased use of the pedestrian access for deliveries, dropping off etc, this is a concern to neighbouring properties.
- as stated in the past, this Council considers three properties to be over development of the site, wherever they are located, which will create problems with access and parking and have a negative traffic impact.
- the current owners did not contribute to the maintenance of the unadopted lane as they did not use it, however, this development would access it.
- because of repeated applications and amendments neighbours are exasperated at the number of times they have to repeat their observations.

3. DC/2014/00843 Gaerllwyd Farm, Newchurch

Change of use of the land to the N/E from agricultural to the keeping of a horse. Within the garden curtilage the erection of 2 stables, hay barn, tack/storeroom and garage together with hard standing to the front and south of the stables. Fence off a section of the existing 1 metre high stone wall to the front of the property securing the garden area whilst hedging is given time to establish.

Recommendation: Approval

Council noted that Planning application DC/2013/00925 Buckwell Farm solar panels is to be considered by Planning Committee on 5 August 2014 (site visit on 4.8.14 at 1.15pm). Council agreed to the Chair, Cllr I Moore, voicing its representations. C Cllr G Down also confirmed his intention to attend.

Council further noted that amended planning application DC/2014/00857 had been received for Laurel Cottage, Earlswood and a response needed to be made before the September meeting. Council agreed to Cllr P Harris + one other making the recommendation within the next week.

Minute 3115 - The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2014 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

Minute 3116 - Finance - to consider items for payment

Expenditure (by Standing Order)

Clerk's salary/allowances -	July 2014	
£449.42		
Clerk's Pension (Council & Clerk's contribution) -	July 2014	£111.99

Items for payment

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Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount	Cheque No.
Clerk	July expenses	£40.30	101185
SLHS	Annual subscription	£15.00	101186
M Hoare (Solicitor)	Registration of Earlswood field.	£419.00	101187
HMP Usk	New noticeboard	£90.00	101188
Merlin Waste	Bin emptying (July)	£27.12	101189

Minute 3117 - To approve and sign the Annual Return of the external auditor.

Confirmation had been received from Mazars LLP that there were no issues or misstatements to be pursued in the Annual Return for 2013/14. The Return was approved and duly signed by the Chair for return to the auditor. Council expressed their thanks to the Clerk for the successful completion of the financial audit.

Update on traffic calming proposals.

This item was covered in public Participation. Council accepted the resignation of a member of the working party and nominated Cllr L Prosser as to replace him.

Minute 3118 - To receive the Clerk's Report

Issues being pursued by the Clerk:

- **Registration of Earlswood Community Field** - Confirmation from Solicitor on 29.7.14 that Possessory Registration has taken place with the Land Registry. Council agreed payment to the solicitor of his original estimate of £300, plus disbursements. Cllrs B Moore, Morton and Harris to consider future lease options of the field, Cllrs Adams and Hughes to advise.
- **Best Kept Village Competition 2014** - will know of results in September 2014.
- **SCC website** - currently under construction by Cllrs Lenza and Dyke who confirmed that the website would be available to the public in around two months. They are currently devising a page for community engagement.
- **Telephone kiosk** - Contractor has confirmed that painting has started and frames/glass are being fitted, kiosk to be returned in 1 - 2 weeks. Meeting to be arranged between SCC Chair, Clerk and owner to confirm and sign lease.
- **Church clock repairs** - completed last week, all faces now in working order. Council's contribution to be calculated within next 4 weeks.
- **Wild Flower Planting 2015** - Mon CC has suggested that this Council pays for seed for nominated sites at £1 per square metre. Cllrs Morton and Hughes to measure sites, including two in Mynyddbach.
- **Ridge House Stables** - (Information only) Council officers to meet with owner on 8.8.14 to resolve location of manure stockpile.

Issues being pursued by County Councillor Down:

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- **Earlswood Hall directions signs** - no progress.
- **Yew Tree Bungalow, Earlswood/Rights of Way 53/54/55** - Section 125 Untidy Land notice issued - compliance to be made by 13.8.14. C Cllr Down to supply copy of Notice to the Clerk.
- **Reported footpath obstruction** on 119/120 (Ridge House Stables) - I Blomeley, Mon CC reported on 28.7.14 that under Section 130(6) of the Highways Act 1980 a diversion order is required (the process may take some time). If no further response received, Clerk to request update in Dec 2014.
- **Residents request for signage at top and bottom of Weyloed Lane** - signage installed, Clerk to request alteration to sign at bottom of lane.
- **Repair of the 20mph traffic restriction signage near the school** - this has been out of action for some time - C Cllr Down pursuing.

Items of local concern (information only)

There were none.

Minute 3119 - To receive items of correspondence.

- Invitation to OVW Conference and AGM to be held on Saturday 4 October at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells from 9.30am. Fee: £80 per member. (£70 if booked by 29.8.14). (Circ 28.7.14).

- White Paper consultation on Reforming Local Government. Closing date for responses 1.10.14. (Circ 28.7.14).

- Green Paper consultation on improving the availability of allotments and community gardens. Closing date for responses 6.10.14. (Circ 28.7.14).

Exhibition invitation 'A Sense of Energy' from 30 September - 2 October from 10am - 4.30pm at the Senedd, Cardiff. (Circ 29.7.14).

Minute 3120 - To present short reports from meetings attended.

One Voice Wales Area meeting - Cllr Harris summarised disruptions that will occur during the NATO Summit Conference at the Celtic Manor on 4/5 September 2014.

Minute 3121 - Date of next meeting:

Monday 1 September 2014 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55 pm.