

## SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 4 January 2016 at 7.30 pm  
at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

### **Present:**

#### **Councillors:**

Mr P Harris (Chair)	Mr M Lenza	Mr K Morton
Mr R Kopp	Mrs L Prosser	Mr I Martin

### **Also in attendance:**

Mr M Hand, Head of Planning, Mon CC  
County Councillor G Down  
Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance, particularly Cllr Kopp to his first meeting as a co-opted Councillor and Mr Mark Hand from Mon CC. Cllr Kopp duly signed his Acceptance of Office.

Mr Mark Hand, Head of Planning, Mon CC attended this meeting to give a presentation and talk on the new Planning Act. He advised that a Key Objective is creating a positive, enabling planning system. Following the presentation, concern was expressed by Councillors and County Councillor Down regarding the future Enforcement timetable by Mon CC. The issue of the lack of affordable housing for local young people was also raised. Mr Hand agreed to forward the Clerk a list of contact details for Planning Dept. personnel. He also agreed to attend a future meeting to talk in more detail about the Community Infrastructure Levy.

#### **1. Public participation.**

There was none.

#### **2. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from:**

Cllrs B Moore and I Moore.

#### **3. The monthly police report – none received.**

#### **4. To consider any applications to fill co-opted vacancies**

There were none.

#### **Minute 3324 - To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.**

There were none.

**Minute 3325 – Minutes of the last meeting** – minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2015 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

#### **Minute 3326 - to consider planning applications received.**

1. DC/2015/01492 Gaerllwyd Bungalow, Earlswood Road, Shirenewton  
Alterations and extension to existing bungalow to form a two storey dwelling.

Council noted that although the bungalow has parts dating back some 200 years, it has since been altered and enlarged but appears to have no historical significance. Council expressed concern that two individual trees and a small group of five are to be removed to improve the view, however this will make the property more visible from the Earlswood road. The property already overlooks a neighbouring property and removal of the trees, plus the additional height will increase this loss of privacy, however, neither point was felt to be sufficiently serious to amount to an objection.

Recommendation: Approval (5 for/1 abstention).

Council to reconsider the way that current planning applications are dealt with by this Council (ie., continue with one nominated Councillor from each ward or nominate a Planning Sub-Committee).

### **Minute 3327 – Finance - to approve items listed for payment**

#### **Expenditure (by Standing Order)**

Clerk's salary/allowances - December 2015 £604.09  
(Salary increased/tax reduced for 4 months to recover overpaid tax to HMRC)  
Clerk's Pension (Council & Clerk's contribution) - December 2015 £150.80

#### **Items for payment**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason for expenditure</b>	<b>Amount £</b>	<b>Cheque No.</b>
Clerk	December expenses	65.45	101287

Council resolved to make payments as listed.

**Note:** Council further confirmed that both bank accounts remain with HSBC Bank for the foreseeable future and that any two of the five authorised persons listed may sign bank instructions on behalf of the Council.

### **Minute 3328 – To confirm and ratify the precept for 2016/2017.**

Council considered potential additional costings to the 2016/17 precept – grass cutting, website hosting and devolution of services by Mon CC. The 2016/17 precept was agreed and ratified at £19,726. Clerk to inform Mon CC.

### **Minute 3329 – To consider and adopt a website protocol.**

Issues being chased by Cllr Lenza concerning hosting and maintenance of the site are still ongoing. The Chair thanked him for continuing with the sizeable amount of work involved. Potential future hosting costs were included in 2016/17 precept. The protocol had been adopted by Council at a previous meeting.

### **Minute 3330 - To receive the Clerk's Report**

#### **Issues being pursued by the Clerk**

- **Telephone kiosk** – cheque for £40 for submission to Land Registry delivered to Evans & Ellis on 19.10.15. Council confirmed that registration of kiosk site is to be pursued. Clerk informed Mr Howells (E&E) on 11.11.15 and gave him copies of further information. E-mail reminders sent 30.11, 28.12.15.

Kiosk is leaking like a sieve – e-mail sent to BSSB Sandblasting on 30.11.15 asking for complete weatherproofing, as should have been included in refurbishment. Reply received - BSSB will look at it after the Christmas break.

- **Litter bin – Recreation Hall car park** – Bin now installed.  
Rec Assoc to pay half of the cost of £100 (when invoice received).
- **Repairs to Friends Burial Ground walls** – work well under way, fallen stones have been replaced.

- **Mynyddbach noticeboard** – has fallen apart. A1 Carpentry has been asked to check whether it can be salvaged or not and whether they want the work if it can be. A1 Carpentry has agreed to check after the Christmas break.
- **Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations on 12 June 2016** – consider holding a community event. Check date of Shirenewton Fete in 2016.

### **Issues being pursued by County Councillor Down**

- **Dumping of Waste at Ridge House Stables** – response made on to Planning Inspectorate on 5.10.15 regarding the applicant's Appeal, also formal complaint made to Chief Executive Officer, Mon CC on 20.10.15 over the length of time that Conditions to the planning approval are taking to be enforced. Response from Chief Exec received 27.10.15 regarding formal complaint – as this issue is being investigated by the Ombudsman, Mon CC will await those findings.
- **Reported footpath obstruction** on F/paths 119/120 (Ridge House Stables), formal complaint made (as above) to Chief Executive Officer, Mon CC over the length of time Conditions to the planning approval are taking to be enforced.

This point was referred to the Principal Officer for Countryside for assessment of current position, response received 9.11.15 with same info as that received from M Lewis on 21.10.14. After 2 reminders on 12 and 24.11.15, response received and circulated 1.12.15 – some progress as a draft path order is now being prepared with the agreement of the landowner. No timetable on further progress but this Council will be consulted by Mon CC at the pre-order and notice stages.

- **Traffic calming scheme** – C Cllr Down is liaising with the police to arrange a Community Speed Watch for Shirenewton. He advised that a Public Meeting would need to be arranged to gauge local interest in members of the public being asked to volunteer to assist with the Community Speed Watch exercise - the meeting is likely to be held mid-March (date tbc).

### **Minute 3320 - Items of local concern (information only)**

- It was noted that concerns from members of the public regarding potholes etc, can be reported direct to Mon CC via its website.

### **Minute 3321 - To receive items of correspondence.**

#### **Consultations received:**

#### **Monmouthshire County Council**

Flood Risk Management Plan (Responses to be made by 1.2.16) (Circulated 15.12.15)

#### **Welsh Government**

- Road and Street Works Strategy for Wales
- Antimicrobial Resistance Delivery Plan

### **Minute 3322 - To present short reports from meetings attended.**

There were none.

### **Minute 3323 - Date of next meeting:**

Monday 1 February 2016 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.