

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 7 July 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	Mr P Moles

Also in attendance:

Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)
County Councillor G Down
Pc A Jones
Mr N Foster, Manager of Brookacre Residential Home
Ms C Evans, Gwent Missing Children Team

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

1. Public participation.

There was one member of the public present to support Agenda items 5.4 & 5.5.

2. Apologies for absence: None.

3. To receive the police report.

Pc Jones attended the meeting to present the police report which had been circulated beforehand. Several incidents concerning road bikes in the area had been reported. There had been one incident concerning major damage to a property in Earlswood for which an arrest had been made. There had been one call from Brookacre during the month.

Mr Foster, newly appointed Brookacre Manager explained his background and acknowledged previous difficulties at the Home. He assured the Council that there is now a strong management team in place, with regular staffing which is already settling down. He confirmed that the Home can accommodate up to 4 girls aged up to 18 years and there are currently two residents. He explained that the girls are very vulnerable and Brookacre staff are working closely with multi-agency teams on their behalf. They encourage the girls and help them to feel valued, with staff offering structured and fulfilling opportunities - one resident is currently working in retail in Newport. Staff are looking to develop an on-site education programme.

Ms Evans, Gwent Missing Children Team explained her role, she reinforced Mr Foster's explanation and suggested that staff need to work in partnership with the community to safeguard young people. Mr Foster requested help from the community in reporting service users seen outside the Home - what they are wearing, car registration (if appropriate) and whether they are being followed.

Mr Foster agreed to allay the fears of local residents by visiting them to explain any disruption that occurs.

Finally, Mr Foster invited Councillors to visit the Home and meet with staff to view the positive changes that have taken place.

Minute 3100 - To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.

Cllr D Adams - Planning 5.4 and 5.5.

Minute 3101 - To consider planning applications received.

1. E6840/A/14/2217474 (DC/2013/00595) Tredegar Farm, Newchurch West
Change of Use to proposed caravan park and facilities block. Appeal against a refusal. Clerk to advise Planning Inspectorate of previous refusal and objections.

2. DC/2014/00679 3 Usk Road, Shirenewton

Proposed single storey extension to front of existing dwelling

Recommendation - Refusal, with the following observations:

- The house is located in a row of nine properties and would be the first one to build on the front.
- The proposal would alter features common to all nine houses.
- The proposal would alter the building line and detract from the visual aspect as the road is a main gateway to Wales.
- Council suggested a Planning Officer visit the site to look at the building line.

3. DC/2014/00603 'Porthcerrig', Shirenewton

Porch at front of house.

Recommendation - Approval

Cllr Adams took no part in the discussion or voting on the following two applications.

4. DC/2014/00667 Home Farm, Shirenewton

Stationing of mobile home for use of equine trainer.

Council noted the secluded, well screened location, 3 year tenure and all services on site. **Recommendation - Approval**

5. DC/2014/00666 Home Farm, Shirenewton

Retention of agricultural storage unit as stables (amended design to DC/2008/01204), timber stables and manege.

Council noted this was a retrospective application, the buildings were well constructed and in keeping with the area. **Recommendation - Approval**

County Councillor Down advised that reports regarding the application for a solar park at Buckwell Farm had been submitted to Mon CC and the application is due to be considered by Planning Committee on 5 August, however CC Down will contact the Chair to request it is postponed to September as August is a holiday period.

This Council's recommendation is on record.

It was noted that the Council had been invited by Kronos Solar Ltd to attend a public meeting in Earlswood Hall on 15 July regarding installation of a solar park at Rhewl Farm. CC Down confirmed this is in the Mathern area and no planning application has been received by Mon CC as yet.

Minute 3102 - The minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2014 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

Minute 3103 - Finance - to consider items for payment

Expenditure (by Standing Order)

Clerk's salary/allowances -
£449.42

June 2014

Clerk's Pension (Council & Clerk's contribution) - June 2014

£111.99

Items for payment

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount	Cheque No.
	Cheque cancelled	-	101179
Clerk	June expenses	£69.76	101180
Clerk	Best Kept Village costs	£16.86	101181
Clerk	Purchase of soft board and wood filler for notice board	£51.07	101182
SAMFAL	Annual membership	£15.00	101183
Merlin Waste	Specialist bin emptying (May & June)	£67.80	101184

Minute 3104 - To consider and approve expenditure on refurbishment of telephone kiosk.

The Clerk reported that the Big Lottery grant of £1213 had been received. The invoice from BSSB Sandblasting had been re-negotiated and the kiosk moved to the workshop in Caldicot to await refurbishment. The owner had been sent the draft lease for his approval. Council resolved to approve expenditure on the refurbishment.

Minute 3105 - Update on traffic calming proposals.

CC G Down gave members a preview of the proposals to be made at the public exhibition on 15 July from 3.30 - 7.00pm in the Church Hall. He also distributed copies of a letter being delivered to all residents of Shirenewton and Mynyddbach which details the proposals. These appear to bear little relation to the suggestions made by residents.

Minute 3106 - To receive the Clerk's Report

Issues being pursued by the Clerk:

- **Registration of Earslwood Community Field** - Solicitor met with Cllr Hughes on 16.6.14 as Land Registry had requested additional information to the Declaration, this was completed and posted to the LR the same day. LR is giving notice to adjoining landowners, to respond by 23.7.14 with any objections.
Payment for grass crop 2014 received 11.6.14.
- **Best Kept Village Competition 2014** - will know of results in September 2014.
- **SCC website** - currently under construction by Cllrs Lenza and Dyke. Good progress being made with lovely photographs already on the website.
- **Telephone kiosk** - The draft lease has been passed as fit for purpose by Mon CC and sent to the owner for his approval. The invoice from BSSB Sandblasting

has been re-negotiated. The Big Lottery grant of £1213 has been received. The kiosk has been removed to the Caldicot workshop for sandblasting, further refurbishment will be undertaken following approval from this Council - approval granted.

- **New Mynyddbach notice board** - has been installed thanks to Cllr Dyke and soft board and external bolt purchased to allow access to the public (Clerk). Council approved purchase of a further notice board replacement for Shirenewton. The current board to then be resealed and varnished for use at Gaerllwyd as that board is deteriorating.
- **Reminder of unveiling of Blue Plaque at Shirenewton Hall** - Tues 15.7.14 at 2 pm (Cllrs Prosser, Lenza and the Clerk attending).
- **Request for Clerk's annual leave from 21 - 25 July 2014** (5 days) - granted.

Issues being pursued by County Councillor Down:

- **Earlswood Hall directions signs** - CC Down has met with Highways and the purchase has been approved.
 - **Yew Tree Bungalow, Earlswood/Rights of Way 53/54/55** - Clerk e-mailed for update on 17 and 27.3.14 - G Delamere has passed issues on to Enforcement - Section 125 Untidy Land Notice issued w/c 31.3.14 (compliance to be made by 13.8.14. CC Down to supply copy of Notice to the Clerk when he receives it.
- **Reported footpath obstruction** on 119/120 (Ridge House Stables) confirmation received from Rights of Way, Mon CC that access has been blocked for some time. Clerk requested that this be pursued via Enforcement as a priority. CC Down has raised a complaint with the Head of Service due to lack of response. Clerk contacted I Blomeley for an update on 30.6.14 - no response.

Residents request for signage at top and bottom of Weyloed Lane to aid emergency services has been agreed and will be fitted in to work schedule within the month.

Minute 3107 - To consider and nominate sites within the community for wildflower planting.

Council agreed to nominate the verges of the Crick/Shirenewton Road (beyond Caerau House); an area of ground opposite Kirrin House at the footpath to the school; Spout Hill from beyond the Spout to the village sign.

Minute 3108 - To discuss whether to hold future Council meetings in the month of August.

Council resolved to consider planning applications only, subject to receipt, at August meetings, from 2015. If no applications received then the meeting will be cancelled.

Minute 3109 - Items of local concern (information only)

- safety concerns due to lack of hedge cutting by Mon CC - Clerk to contact Highways.
- Condition of road from The Cayo to the crossroads - road not upgraded, potholes a foot deep and unable to access by car. Clerk to contact Highways.
- Lack of response from Planning Department regarding enforcing planning conditions at Ridge House Stables. Chair to pursue.

- Cllr Moles reminded all of the Shirefest Festival at the Huntsman Inn on 19.7.14.

Minute 3110 - To receive items of correspondence.

1. E-mail from Lower Wye Area Committee informing of a Public Meeting regarding 21st Century Schools Programme in Caldicot School on 2 July 2014.
2. Consultation on the future funding strategy of BIG Lottery Funding from 2015-2021. Webinar to take place on Thursday 3 July, 12.30 - 1.30pm.
3. Invitation to Home-Start Monmouthshire AGM on 15 July at 2 - 4pm at the Bridges Centre, Monmouth.
4. One Voice Wales - notification of AGM of Monmouth /Newport Area Committee on 10 July 2014 at Llandenny, Usk - Cllr Harris to attend.
5. E-mail from Giles Roland, new police inspector for Chepstow , who would like to attend SCC meeting - Clerk has sent list of dates to the end of the year.
6. Notification and invitation from Kronos Solar Ltd to a Public Meeting on Tuesday 15 July 2014 from 8 - 10pm at Earlswood Hall regarding installation of a solar park at Rhewl Farm.
7. Information from Tim Miles advising that the Buckwell Farm solar panel planning application will be considered by Mon CC Planning Committee on 4 August 2014. Further information supplied on second e-mail (circ 7.7.14).
8. Letter from Chair of Recreation Association regarding damage to the field at the fete on 14.6.14. Council resolved to wait for further information following the Recreation Association meeting next week.

Minute 3111 - To present short reports from meetings attended.

- Joint meeting with Caerwent CC and Cadw held on 25.6.14 - verbal report received from Cllr Morton and minutes circulated by the Clerk on 5.7.14.

- Meeting with Mr Dew, owner of the Tan House pub - Cllr Hughes reported that the site has been tidied, electrical wiring and aerial removed, along with bags of sand, etc. The property has been gutted, and a lot of interior work done - including weather proofing, central heating and rewiring.

Owner assures that he will not be seeking change of use, still proposing a pub/Post Office/shop/day time facility. Owner is currently seeking a business partner to progress the project. This Council to continue to keep in touch with owner.

Minute 3112 - Date of next meeting:

Monday 4 August 2014 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.45 pm.