

## SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 1 June 2015 at 7.00 pm  
at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

### **Present:**

#### **Councillors:**

Mr P Harris (Chair)    Ms B Moore    Mr K Morton  
Mrs L Prosser            Mr I Moore

### **Also in attendance:**

Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)  
County Councillor G Down  
Mr N Woollard (and assistant) – Tidal Lagoon Power  
Two members of the public

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance. He then introduced Mr Neil Woollard, Head of Local Engagement at Tidal Lagoon Power who proceeded to give a presentation on the planning process, positive benefits and environmental impact on the current tidal lagoon at Swansea and advised of additional locations earmarked for future lagoons.

A Question and Answer session followed, during which Mr Woollard was asked some very pertinent questions by members of the public, he agreed to respond to the questions that were posed.

Mr Woollard agreed to forward copies of his presentation. He also requested that he be invited to return to a Council meeting in January/February 2016 to provide an update on progress.

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

There was none.

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

Cllrs M Lenza, T Hughes and P Moles.

**3.** The monthly police report had been circulated prior to the meeting, but no officers were present. During the month there had been one break-in in Shirenewton between 8 - 21 May. There had been four calls to Brookacre, with one resident making a complaint to the police.

Response to be made to consultation by the Police and Crime Commissioner on police priorities and feedback.

### **Minute 3235 - To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.**

There were none.

### **Minute 3236 – to consider planning applications received.**

1. DC/2015/00431 'Oslo', Mynyddbach  
Erection of split level bungalow & a pair of semi-detached dwellings with ancillary works (amended details to DC/2014/00108).

Council were concerned at the number of applications that have been submitted for the development of this site. Clerk to contact Planning to clarify the current position. Previous observations and comments still apply and should be taken into consideration. Overdevelopment of the site has not been addressed.  
Recommendation: Refusal.

2. DC/2015/00423 'Brynawel', Earlswood

Two storey extension to the existing residential dwelling.

Council noted that the alterations were not visible from the road and there had been no objections on-line. Recommendation: Approval, subject to alterations not exceeding 30% of footprint.

3. DC/2015/00371 'The Roost', Great House Farm, Newchurch West

Single storey small extension porch with utility room with pitched gable roof.

Size: 4.725m x 5.500m.

Council noted the positive improvement to the outlook at the rear of the property; that matching materials will be used for the extension; that no objections had been made.

Recommendation: Approval, with the request that Planning monitors the development closely to ensure it complies with the application.

4. DC/2015/00533 Bluebell Farm, Penycycaemawr (Agricultural application)

Replacement barn for machinery and storage/delivery of agricultural materials eg., feed, fertilizer and hay.

Council could only comment on this application, and noted that the plans were inaccurate as the size of the barn was different on the drawings to the paperwork; that the barn had no allowance for ventilation; that it should not be used for the purpose of housing stock. Council recommends that a site visit is made by an agricultural expert.

5. DC/2015/00534 Bluebell Farm, Penycycaemawr (Agricultural application)

Access track for tractors, machinery and delivery of agricultural materials eg., feed, fertilizer and hay.

Council could only comment on this application, and noted that there was no track already existing; that as the field has a 20% slope, the drawing provided could not be installed; no indication of type of access/egress onto roadway; why could the track not run alongside the hedgerow as it would be less obtrusive and nearer to the barn; the proposed track partly runs up an existing bridleway which is always very wet, this alteration could allow water to flood onto the road/cycleway.

6. DC/2014/00535 Great House Farm, Old Road, Earlswood

New access to Great Barn over our field using the existing access onto Four Acre Field. **Application withdrawn.**

**Minute 3237** – The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 11 May 2015 were confirmed for accuracy and the minutes of the ordinary meeting held immediately after were approved, subject to one amendment, and duly signed by the Chair.

**Minute 3238 – Finance - to approve items listed for payment**

**Expenditure (by Standing Order)**

Clerk's salary/allowances -	May 2015	£510.09
Clerk's Pension (Council & Clerk's contribution) -	May 2015	£152.42

## Items for payment

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount £	Cheque No.
Clerk	May expenses	111.08	101247
Shirenewton PCC	Church Room hire x 2 and donation towards flower festival	125.00	101248
Information Commissioner's Office	Annual Data Protection registration renewal	35.00	101249

Council resolved to make all payments as listed.

### **Minute 3239 – To receive and consider quotes for fencing roadside of Earlswood Recreation Field.**

Two quotes had been received, but as the information provided was not consistent, the contractors to be asked to provide further information.

Council ratified the amended Annual Agreement for the field, which now has to be signed by the tenant.

**Minute 3240 - Update on traffic calming proposals** - County Cllr Down explained that the road surfacing being used is the first of its kind in the county and needs an extended period of dry weather before it can be laid. The job is currently out to tender and is expected to be completed in July/August. Cllr Harris gave a history of what has transpired over the past 18+ months regarding the traffic calming project to C Cllr Down and Councillors expressed their dissatisfaction at the length of time this work is taking.

### **Minute 3241 - To receive the Clerk's Report**

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

- **Election of Councillors** – Notices of two vacancies have been advertised on all noticeboards, Parish Magazine and the website, applications to be made to the Returning Officer, Mon CC by 10.6.15. Then either an election will take place, or the Community Council will be able to fill the vacancies by co-option.
- **Annual insurance** – the premium has been paid for this year. Clerk to provide further information to Cllr I Moore to allow him to check quote against other companies.
- **Telephone kiosk** - A Deed of Gift and Lease has been drawn up and agreed by Mr Tayton, but paperwork has yet to be signed. As this is a long term lease, it has to be compliant and registered with the Land Registry. Paperwork has been completed and submitted to Land Registry. Clerk has tried to contact BSSB Sandblasting regarding ingress of water, by e-mail and phone/text but no response as yet. Clerk to write to them and continue to try to make contact.

- **Best Kept Village Competition** – all residents on the list have been contacted and all were willing to do the work they undertook last year. Baskets and troughs have been planted up, so has the triangle at Shirenewton Hall. Reminders have been sent re. grass cutting, hedge cutting and road sweeper. Members sincerely thanked all residents that have given their time to support the competition again this year.
- **Shirenewton Fete on Saturday 13 June 2015.** A goody box has been received from Fields in Trust. Council decided that, due to members not being available, **not** to run a stall on the day.
- **Appointment of SCC representative on the Recreation Association.** – Cllr B Moore agreed to feedback information, but made the Council aware that she is currently a member of the Recreation Association Committee in her own right.
- **Give Dog Fouling the Red Card'** meeting in County Hall, Usk was held on 19 May 2015. Clerk attended – Mon CC is looking at a consistent approach to dog fouling and is looking to sign up all T&CC's in the county to this scheme. They provide signage, template letters and free dog waste bags for local dog owners- a supply could be kept in the kiosk. Residents can contact Mon CC with a complaint, they will either pass it back to the CC to deal with or have the power, in serious cases, to impose a penalty and eventually prosecute. One additional dog waste bin has been applied for via the scheme. Signage to be installed at the Recreation Field, SAMFAL gate (and bin), Blethyn Close play area.

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

- **Earlswood Village Hall signage** - G Kinsella, Mon CC has confirmed that installation will take place as soon as possible, during next tranche of work. Confirmed on 6 and 20.5.15 that there is no definite date as yet. C Cllr Down to pursue.
- **Drainage/freezing road surface West End/Earlswood** - update requested several times but no response as yet from Engineer. Phone call from Mark Watkins on 11.5.15 – no funding for improved drainage, salt bins or bags will be supplied. Residents asked to inform Highways if/when the problem re-occurs. Council not satisfied with this response - C Cllr Down to pursue.
- **Reported footpath obstruction** on 119/120 (Ridge House Stables) - we were advised on 14.10.14 that under Section 130(6) of the Highways Act 1980 a diversion order was being sought (the process may take up to 18 months). Contacted M Lewis, Countryside Manager, Mon CC on 9.3.15 for update on the above. Response to enquiry received 2.4.15 - no progress at all. C Cllr Down agreed to pursue at a meeting he has with M Lewis and will have a full update for the July meeting.

#### **Minute 3242 - Items of local concern (information only)**

- The Recreation Association is currently in talks with a local company interested in booking a yurt on the field on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July. This will be a ticketed event providing workshops/education/dance/bar/entertainment.
- C Cllr Down advised that he will be attending the Public Inquiry on Rhewl

Farm solar panel application on 17.6.15.

- Ridge House Stables – buildup of waste from the stables, despite detailed planning conditions on the retrospective application 2 years ago. Prosecution was withdrawn on a technicality. A further application was expected by end of May, but not received. C Cllr Down was urged to get involved to progress this issue as a matter of urgency.
- The Agent of the Buckwell Farm solar panel application is having difficulty in gaining access to link the cable from the solar park to Magor.

**Minute 3243 - To receive items of correspondence.**

1. Invitation from Mon CC for Chair to attend National Eisteddfod Proclamation Ceremony in Caldicot on Saturday 27 June from 1.30pm. Respond by 8.6.15.
2. Letter from South Wales Automobile Club on 27.5.15 informing of Mid-Summer Rally at Caerwent Training Area on 21<sup>st</sup> June. Copies to be posted on noticeboards and the website.
3. Letter from Monmouthshire County CAB on 1.6.15 requesting that this Council continues with the annual donation. Also advised that an SCC representative could attend a CAB meeting if they wished.

**Minute 3244 - To present short reports from meetings attended.**

Cllr I Moore reported that he had attended a meeting on 13.5.15 at Chepstow Police Station on B4235 traffic issues, he felt that it was generally a useful meeting, with Paul Keeble of Mon CC to liaise with Highways, including a reduction in speed limits.

**Minute 3245 - Date of next meeting:**

Monday 6 July 2015 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15pm.