

## SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 2 March 2015 at 7.30 pm  
at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

### Present:

#### Councillors:

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

### Also in attendance:

Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)  
Inspector Lysha Thompson  
CSO S Parker  
Three members of the public

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

#### 1. Public participation.

There was none.

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

#### 3. To receive the police report.

Newly appointed Inspector Thompson had been invited to attend the meeting, she introduced herself and explained the restructuring of the force and the new processes effective from 1.4.15.

Inspector Thompson confirmed the following points:

- That the Council will continue to receive a monthly report, a CSO will attend bi-monthly meetings and the Inspector will attend quarterly, or when requested for particular issues.
- The Inspector will circulate a monthly blog on the first Monday of the month.
- That calls to Brookacre will remain in the monthly police report as the Council considers it a concern in the community.
- Issues of noise and speeding traffic/motorcycles on the B4235 - there is to be proactive and visible police education and enforcement from Easter through the summer months. Yellow bike signs are to be reviewed; speed audits will take place; double white lines may be placed in key areas (local people to be involved in the locations).
- Meeting to be held with Community Councils on 6.3.15 at Chepstow Police Station to ensure communication and support. A Councillor suggested also inviting the Motor Cycle Action Group to take part in discussions.
- Article to be circulated through social media sites, biker magazines and the local press.
- Police to use the biker base in Abergavenny for education/safety and enforcement if necessary.

The monthly police report had been distributed prior to the meeting.

There were two reports of theft, one from a land rover parked at a property off the Usk Road and one from a garage lock up on the Usk Road where a large number of tools and some velux windows were taken.

There was also report of a white flat bed transit with a chevron tailgate acting suspiciously in the lane between West End/Brookacre and Pen-y-cae-mawr. No registration number was taken. There were five calls to Brookacre during February.

**Minute 3193 - To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed**

**business.**

Cllr L Dyke      Agenda Item 9

Member of Earlswood Hall Committee

**Minute 3194 - To receive an update on proposed earthworks on Recreation**

**Field.** This item was moved up the agenda as Mr G Hughes, Chair of the Recreation Association Committee (RAC) attended the meeting to hear discussions on this item. The Clerk and Chair advised that an Agreement that had been circulated to members had been signed by themselves and the resident giving him permission to carry out remedial drainage work to Upper House, with his acceptance of specified conditions. Mr Hughes expressed disappointment that the RAC had not been involved in the drawing up of the Agreement. He also expressed reservations on the Agreement itself. The Chair explained that there had been lengthy discussions over several Council meetings; the resident had attended two meetings to explain the proposal; the Clerk had consulted with the Legal Dept of Mon CC and members of the Council were content to raise a simple agreement for the resident to undertake the remedial work at his property. There was some discussion whether members' e-mail agreement was sufficient, or whether the document should have been ratified at a Council meeting.

Concern was expressed that two community Councillors who were members of the RAC, had not reminded Council that the RAC should be approached. It was also pointed out that the Chair of RAC had not contacted the Council and if this had happened, the misunderstanding might have been avoided.

Mr Hughes advised that the RAC is checking whether SCC should legally have consulted with them. It transpired that no meetings of the RAC had taken place for some months, but the Chair of the Council offered to meet with the RAC to explain the above. Clerk to contact resident to ask him, in the absence of the RAC Chair, to liaise with Cllr B Moore (also a member of the RAC) before starting work, also to remind him of an underground electricity cable crossing the property.

**Minute 3195 - To consider planning applications received.**

DC/2015/00103 Meadow Barn, Usk Road, Shirenewton  
Erection of a single storey oak framed extension.  
Council recommended approval.

**Minute 3196** - The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2015 were unanimously approved and duly signed by the Chair.

**Minute 3197 - Finance - to consider items for payment**

**Expenditure (by Standing Order)**

Clerk's salary/allowances - February 2015 £456.07  
Clerk's Pension (Council & Clerk's contribution) - February 2015 £171.33

**Items for payment**

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount £	Cheque No.
Clerk	February expenses	49.55	101225
Merlin Waste	Specialist bin emptying (Jan)	27.12	101226
One Voice Wales	Annual subscription	130.00	101227
BSSB Sandblasting	Kiosk refurbishment	809.00	101228

K Tayton	Kiosk removal/return and Levelling of kiosk site	150.00 145.00	101229
Mon CC	Grounds maintenance 2014/15	1197.05	101231
One Voice Wales	Councillor training x 2 (£35 bursary received)	35.00	101232
Mr K Tayton	Lease of kiosk site (99 yrs)	9.90	101233

Council resolved to make all payments as listed.

**Minute 3198 - To consider an annual incremental increase to the Clerk's salary from 1.4.15.** The Clerk left the room prior to consideration of this item. Council resolved to increase the Clerk's salary from SCP 17 to 18 from 1.4.15.

**Minute 3199 - To consider grant applications for funding available from 2014/15 budget.** Cllr Dyke took no part in the discussion on this item. Two applications had been received by the closing date and Council resolved to make payments of £60 to Shirenewton Local History Society and £100 to Earlswood Memorial Hall, as requested in their applications.

**Minute 3200 - To review the process of making future donations to local organisations.** Council resolved that with effect from the 2015/16 budget, £1,200 will be advertised on the website and in the Parish Magazine as available by application from organisations in the community in April, closing date end of June. Applicants will need to identify their project and its total cost. A further £300 will be available for other applications throughout the year which will be considered on their merit (no second payment to be made to an organisation in the same year). Clerk to draft a proforma for consideration/ratification at the next meeting.

**Minute 3201 - To consider quotes for grounds maintenance contract for 2015/16** Three quotes had been received:

Mon CC	£1260.48
Chepstow Cricket Club	£1500.00
Haines Bros, Caerwent	£3750.00

Council resolved to accept the quote from Monmouthshire County Council.

**Minute 3202 - Update on traffic calming proposals** - County Cllr Down did not attend the meeting (See Item 3, Police Report). Clerk to request update from P Keeble, Highways, Mon CC.

**Minute 3203 - Update on lease options for Earlswood Recreation Field.**

Clerk had requested 'Expressions of Interest' from the community on the website and in the March issue of the Parish Magazine.

Council agreed that a local agreement would suffice for the rental of the field, with the option of the following year, if agreeable to both the Council and the tenant.

Clerk to contact the Land Agent and ask him for his invoice for advice so far. Clerk to draft an agreement for consideration at the next meeting, also to contact previously interested people if no response to advert in Parish Magazine.

**Minute 3204 - To receive the Clerk's Report**

**Issues being pursued by the Clerk**

- **Telephone kiosk** - . Kiosk refurbishment completed on 1.2.15. Owner has decided to donate the kiosk to this Council for the benefit of the community and just lease the square metre of ground it stands on. A Deed of Gift and Lease had been drawn up and agreed by Mr Tayton, paperwork also agreed by Council and signed by Chair at this meeting. Clerk to meet with Mr Tayton for his signatures. Invoices for cost of work paid at this meeting, shelving to be installed in the next few weeks then Clerk to inform Big Lottery that work has been completed and finalise paperwork.
- **Mynyddbach notice board** - refurbished and returned to position on 6.2.15.
- **Tan House site** - e-mail sent to owner on 11.1.15 asking for timescale of project. Also requested that gas tank area is filled in for health & safety reasons. No response - further email sent 26.1.15. Checked site 24.2.15 no action taken. Clerk to contact Mon CC to request a site visit.
- **WW1 exhibition/Flower Festival** - organised by SLHS and financially supported by this Council. Will run from 17/18/19 April in the Church Room. SCC has been invited to attend next meeting (date tbc). Cllrs I Moore, L Prosser and Clerk to attend, subject to availability. SLHS is also looking for the loan of WW1 memorabilia for the exhibition.
- **David Davies MP will attend SCC meeting on 13 April** - in response to the Council's letter on traffic issues on B4235.
- **Reminder of joint meeting between MoD, Shirenewton and Caerwent Councils on 29 April at 2pm in the Church Room, Shirenewton church.**

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

- **Earlswood Hall directions signs** - Cllr Harris has met with G Kinsella of Mon CC regarding location of signage, Council confirmed its agreement.
- **Reported footpath obstruction** on 119/120 (Ridge House Stables) - Under Section 130(6) of the Highways Act 1980 a diversion order is being sought (the process may take up to 18 months). E-mail circulated from M Lewis, Countryside Manager, Mon CC on 21.10.14 confirming the above. Clerk to request progress report in March 2015.

#### **Minute 3205 - Items of local concern** (information only)

- Highways Dept has acknowledged receipt of an e-mail regarding water on the road between Earlswood Hall and West End. No further action so Clerk to pursue.
- it was reported that there are problems with the bus service this week due to roadworks at Little Mill.

#### **Minute 3206 - To receive items of correspondence.**

The following items were brought to the attention of Councillors who should contact the Clerk should they wish to respond.

1. E-mail from OVW on 3.2.15 - consultation on the Reforming Local Government Power to Local People White Paper - Welsh government's vision for the future of local government. Responses to be received by 28 April 2015.
2. Mon CC consultation on Community Infrastructure Levy: Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule. (Circulated 12.2.15) Responses required by 28.3.15.

3. Welsh Government consultation document - Tax Devolution in Wales / Land Transaction Tax. (circ 12.2.15). Responses required by 6.5 15.
4. Copy e-mail dated 15.2.15 from P Shuttleworth to Peter Davies, MoD with a complaint regarding lack of notification of noise from the Caerwent Training Area from 5.30am on a Sunday morning. Further copy e-mail received 15.2.15 from Peter Davies advising that the MoD will investigate the unscheduled activity. It was noted that this complaint came from a Caerwent resident.
5. Mon CC, LDP consultation on Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance Documents and Draft Planning Advice Note (circ 19.2.15). (Affordable Housing, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, plus Wind Turbine Development). Responses required by 2.4.15.
6. Letter received from Forresters Car Club on 19.2.15 to inform of a Motor Rally to be held at Caerwent Training Area on Sunday 22 March 2015. Properties within Caerwent and Crick that back onto the training area have been notified. Notices to be posted on SCC notice boards.
7. E-mail received from Homestart Monmouthshire on 23.2.15 advising of the service they offer in the county and requesting a donation.

**Minute 3207 - To present short reports from meetings attended.**

- the Area Committee meeting dealt with traffic issues, the Newhouse roundabout and impact on the motorway. As for traffic issues on the B4235, Committee is working with the police and OWL consultation with local residents. A county wide, multi agency speed reduction group has the B4235 on its agenda, the next meeting is on 29 April in the Church Room, Shirenewton, Cllr B Moore to attend.

- One Voice Wales training on Community Engagement had proved to be very useful.

**Minute 3208 - Date of next meeting:**

Monday 13 April 2015 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.  
Mr D Davies MP to attend this meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.20 pm.