

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 12 May 2014 at 8.00 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 D Adams
Mr T Hughes
Mr P Moles
Mr M Lenza

Also in attendance:

Mrs G MacDonald
Mrs H Counsell (Clerk)
County Councillor G Down
Four members of the public

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

1. Public participation.

Road safety concerns were raised at the speed of traffic through Mynyddbach. C Cllr G Down later confirmed that this issue will be considered alongside the current traffic calming proposals for Shirenewton.

2. Apologies for absence: There were none.

3. To receive the police report.

There was no report available and no officers present at the meeting.

Minute 3086 - To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.

Cllr B Moore - Planning (Agenda item 5.5)

Minute 3087 - To consider planning applications received.

1. DC/2014/00425 Westfield Cottage, Mynyddbach

Proposed extension and alterations.

As the alterations are sympathetic to the existing property and there were no objections from neighbours the **Council recommended approval.**

2. DC/2014/00387 Improvement of the entrance to track leading to former Whitemill, Welsh Water treatment works, Mynyddbach

Entrance to be widened requiring the removal of a mature oak tree.

Council recommended refusal of this application with the following observations:

- This treatment works is closed so why is there a need for the entrance to be altered? When the works was in operation it was serviced by large vehicles via the current entrance.
- There were serious concerns regarding the removal of the mature oak tree which is subject to a Tree Preservation Order, as it was felt that this would not improve

- visibility and three neighbours had objected to this.
- Removal of the tree would not improve safety as no accidents have been recorded at this location.
- Council would be prepared to reconsider a more inclusive application in the future.

3. DC/2014/00108 'Oslo', Old School Lane, Mynyddbach
Erection of 1 pair of semi-detached dwellings and a bungalow with additional works.
To allow for closer consideration this application was deferred to the June meeting.

4. DC/2014/00494 Upper House, Earlswood Road, Shirenewton
Removal of redundant chimney at rear of property, replace roof tiles to blend in with existing roof, install guttering in line with existing guttering.
Council recommended approval.

5. DC/2014/00486 5 Tan House Court, Shirenewton
Ground Floor - remove existing prefabricated garage and build a replacement extension incorporating a utility room, garden store and double garage.
Lower Ground Floor - extend an existing bedroom to include an en-suite and walk-in wardrobe. Alter existing utility and bathroom to a new kitchen area and erect an 1800mm fence to part of the boundary.
There had been requests that the fence be lowered from 6' to 5' but Council was informed by the applicant that they had been advised by Mon CC that the fence was not subject to planning permission. **Council recommended approval.**
Cllr B Moore took no part in discussion or voting on this item.

6. DC/2014/00511 1 Oakview Cottages, Mynyddbach
Create a single storey garage which will be attached to the house including internal access via the current porch on a corner of the existing driveway.
To allow for closer consideration this application was deferred to the June meeting.

Minute 3088 - Minutes of the meeting held on 7April 2014 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

Minute 3089 - Finance - to consider items for payment

Expenditure (by Standing Order)

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

Items for payment

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount	Cheque No.
Clerk	April expenses	£38.45	101170
Earlswood Hall	WW1 commemorations	£150.00	101171
Aon UK Ltd	Annual insurance	£1088.52	101172
SLCC	Membership 2014	£101.00	101173
Merlin Waste	Bin emptying - April	£20.34	101174
Noah's Ark Appeal	Annual donation	£50.00	101175

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Minute 3090 - Update on traffic calming proposals.

C Cllr Down confirmed that the Highways proposals had been drawn up and revisions submitted by the Shirenewton Working Party. He is expecting a further Working Party meeting to confirm the proposals, to be followed by a public viewing in or around mid-June.

Minute 3091 - to discuss arrangements for the Best Kept Village Competition.

Cllr Hughes brought the Council up to date on the arrangements that are in place and the numbers of residents involved in bringing the village up to standard. Council thanked him for his efforts in co-ordinating the tidy up for the first time this year.

Minute 3092 - To receive the Clerk's Report

- **Earlswood Community Recreation Field** - Confirmation from solicitor on 25.4.14 that the registration application has been accepted by the Land Registry and will be dealt with 'as soon as possible' (may be a couple of months). Sub-committee to meet and agree a proposal/lease for the future of the field.
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- **Play area** - Area of bark has been topped up. Horses head has been replaced. Cllr Moles has other outstanding work in hand.
- **Community Council Website** - Cllrs Lenza and Dyke offered to assist with the production of the website.
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- **Telephone kiosk** - Refurbishment funding request of £1213 from Big Lottery has been successful. Meeting to be arranged with Mr Tayton (owner) re. lease.
- **Damaged Keep Left bollard central Shirenewton** - Clerk informed Highways and police of bollard being smashed early am on Sunday 23.3.14. Mon CC has confirmed that the signs are on order.

Issues being pursued by County Councillor Down

- **Earlswood Hall directions signs** - CC Down has met with Highways and is progressing this.
 - **Yew Tree Bungalow, Earlswood/Rights of Way 53/54/55** - notice issued and due process taking place.
- **Reported footpath obstruction** on 119/120 (Ridge House Stables) - Ian Blomeley, Mon CC, taking action.
- **Residents request for signage at top and bottom of Weyloed Lane** - signage received and will be fitted in to work schedule.
- **Poor quality of patching Mynyddbach road surface** - C Cllr Down reported that road surfacing will not be taking place within the next couple of months.
- **Noise monitoring on the Usk Road** - the monitoring equipment provided last year was not suitable for outside use and C Cllr Down confirmed that there is no other available. Clerk to contact Wpc Thorpe to enquire whether the police have monitoring equipment.

Minute 3093 - Items of local concern (information only)

- TV aerial at the Tan House pub hanging by a wire near the bus shelter - Cllr Hughes to contact owner to request its removal.
- Query made regarding a response from Planning on comments made on a planning application for Bluebell Farm - Clerk to pursue.

Minute 3094 - To receive items of correspondence.

1. Letter from Welsh Government regarding a report from the National Assembly for Wales Public Accounts Committee on Governance in Small Public Bodies (circulated 8.5.14).

Minute 3095 - To present short reports from meetings attended.

- Joint meeting with Caerwent CC and the MoD held on 28.4.14 - a major exercise taking 11 days will take place at the Training Area during June/July. 40,000 man training days had taken place. Wormtech - waste is still draining but it was confirmed that the residue contains no contaminants of concern.
- One Voice Wales Area meeting - speaker was the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner who confirmed a cut in budget of 20% (£17m). There will be no police recruitment. The police should attend Community Council meetings, (also sergeant and inspector). Information was given on calls to Brookacre. Questions were raised whether the Mon CC Charter is legally enforceable. No responses received from Mon CC's boundary review - Clerk to pursue. Next area meeting: 10 July 2014 at Llandenny.

Minute 3096 - Date of next meeting:

Monday 2 June 2014 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

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