

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 1 September 2014 at 7.30 pm
at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

Present:

Councillors:

Ms B Moore	Mr I Moore (Chair)
Mr K Morton	Mr P Harris
Mr M Lenza	Mr T Hughes

Also in attendance:

Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)
County Councillor G Down
Two members of the public.

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

1. Public participation.

There were two members of the public present with an interest in Agenda item 5.5.

2. Apologies for absence: Cllrs L Dyke, L Prosser, D Adams and P Moles.

3. To receive the police report.

The police report had been circulated prior to the meeting but no officers were available to attend. The report, containing two house breaks and one shed break in Shirenewton, as well as three misper calls to Brookacre, was noted. It was further noted that Inspector R Giles, newly appointed police inspector for Chepstow, will attend the October meeting.

Minute 3122 - To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.

There were none.

Minute 3123 - To consider planning applications received.

1. DC/2014/00857 Laurel Cottage, Earlswood

Amendment to approved drawings to erect annexe to cottage and replace flat roof with a pitched roof to cottage. **Recommendation: Approval**

2. DC/2014/00736 Well Cottage, Earlswood

Variation of Condition 1 on DC/2008/01365 to extend period in which consent can be commenced. **Recommendation: Approval**

3. DC/2014/00774 Hillside House, Shirenewton

Erection of a two storey extension to improve accommodation.

Council noted that the proposal is not obtrusive; there is no increase in height; materials will be used that match existing and no objections have been received.

Recommendation: Approval

4. DC/2014/00980 Hillside House, Usk Road, Shirenewton

Erection of an agricultural shed, including the provision of an access drive.

Council noted that this is a conventional shed for the purpose of wood storage for a biomass boiler; it is not visible from the Usk Road; there are no Rights of Way issues and access will be via a spur from the access into the field. **Recommendation:**

Approval

5. DC/2014/00939 Rhewl Farm, Shirenewton.
 Provision of photovoltaic solar park and ancillary infrastructure.
 Council noted that although the property is within the Mathern community, we are being consulted as much of the land falls within the Shirenewton community. A working party was formed to consider this complex application and visit the site. Clerk to contact Mathern CC for details of their next meeting and Planning Dept to request an extension to the consultation period.

Council noted information from Mon CC on the requirement for local authorities to consider Non-Material Amendments to an Existing Planning Permission.

It was further noted that the planning application for 'Oslo', Mynyddbach will be considered by Planning Committee on 2.9.14. C Cllr Down to attend.

Planning application DC/2013/00925 proposed solar park at Buckwell Farm, C Cllr Down reported that he is investigating other possibilities to see whether this application/decision could be reviewed or challenged.

Minute 3124 - The minutes of the meeting held on 4 August 2014 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

Minute 3125 - Finance - to consider items for payment

Expenditure (by Standing Order)

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

Items for payment

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount	Cheque No.
Clerk	August expenses	£84.55	101190
Gillett & Johnson	Annual clock service	£176.40	101191
Mazars	External audit fees	£246.00	101192

Notices of conclusion of external audit and right to inspect the Annual Return posted in four community notice boards from 1st September for a minimum of 14 days.

Minute 3126 - Update on traffic calming proposals.

C Cllr Down advised that responses made at the public exhibition on 15 July had been analysed and a summary submitted to Mon CC Highways Department. He confirmed that he needs to pursue this issue.

Minute 3127 - To receive the Clerk's Report

Issues being pursued by the Clerk:

- **Registration of Earswood Community Field** - Payment made to solicitor of original estimate plus disbursements and VAT = £419.00. Lease discussions ongoing with sub committee.
- **Best Kept Village Competition 2014** - invitation received for two representatives to Presentation evening at Chepstow Garden Centre on Friday 19 September from 6pm. It was agreed that Cllr Hughes and the Clerk attend. It was further agreed that the Clerk may purchase two replacement baskets for the railings on the wall opposite the entrance to Rec car park.
- **SCC website** - currently under construction by Cllrs Lenza and Dyke, website is likely to be available to the public in a couple of months. Currently working on designing a response page for members of the public.
- **Telephone kiosk** - refurbishment being undertaken following approval from this Council at the meeting in July 2014. Meeting to be arranged between SCC Chair, Clerk and owner to confirm and sign lease. Quotes to be sought for provision of internal notice board/shelving. Kiosk to be returned to site on 6.9.14.
- **Wild Flower planting 2015** - Cllrs Hughes and Morton have measured the Crick Road and verges at The Spout - approx 70 square metres. Two areas in Mynyddbach (village green and play area at Blethyn Close) were considered to be unsuitable as they are areas well used by members of the public. Other suggested sites - the bus shelter at Spout Hill to Postman's Lane, Cock-a-Roosting triangle, area around bus shelter at Gaerllwyd crossroads and top road junction to Earswood. Clerk to contact Mon CC with suggested sites and offer to pay £100 towards the purchase of seed.
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- **Annual play inspection** - inspection carried out on 20.8.14 at a cost of £75 +VAT. Quote for remedial work to follow.
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- **Leaflet** - 'A walk through history around the villages of Shirenewton and Mynyddbach' distributed to Councillors. It was felt presumptuous of the author to advertise the Recreation Hall car park as 'public' parking. Clerk to respond.

Issues being pursued by County Councillor Down:

- **Earswood Hall directions signs** - CC Down has met with Highways and the purchase has been approved - CC Down to pursue.
- **Yew Tree Bungalow, Earswood/Rights of Way 53/54/55** - Section 125 Untidy Land Notice issued w/c 31.3.14, compliance to be made by 13.8.14. Compliance not made, Legal Dept to become involved. Some tidying up has taken place.
- **Reported footpath obstruction** on 119/120 (Ridge House Stables) - I Blomeley, Mon CC reported on 28.7.14 that under Section 130(6) of the Highways Act 1980 a diversion order is required (the process may take some time). If no further response received, Clerk to request update in Dec 2014.
- **Residents request for signage at top and bottom of Weyloed Lane** - signage installed. Clerk contacted P Keeble 6.8.14 to advise that the sign at bottom of Weyloed Lane should be moved to opposite verge to improve visibility. CC Down has requested signage on both sides of the lane.

- **Repair of the 20mph traffic restriction signage near the school** - this has been out of action for some time - C Cllr Down pursuing.

Minute 3128 - Items of local concern (information only)

- News on high speed broadband - CC Down advised that 'Spectrum' has agreed with Highways on the depth of trench required for the school and is aiming to get connection by the end of the month. Although, it was suggested by a council member that fibre optic will not be available until May 2015.

- The Footpaths Officer advised that there are several reported footpath obstructions in the community, which remain unresolved. A meeting is to be arranged with A Thomas, Lower Wye Ramblers Association to draw up a definitive list of obstructions. Cllrs Morton and Hughes to arrange.

- Whilst the Council appreciates that the notes of meetings that appear in the Parish Magazine are a light hearted take on the formal business of Council meetings, concern and disappointment was expressed over the particularly flippant and some felt disparaging nature of the article in the September issue.

Minute 3129 - To receive items of correspondence.

1. Invitation to take part in the Annual AONB Study Tour to be held on Friday 26 September from 9.30am. Meet at Wilton Car Park, Ross on Wye - to visit Model Farm, Ross; Brockhampton Estate; Presentation from Harewood End Agricultural Society; Broome Farm visit. £10 payable towards lunch. Responses by 15 September 2014. Cllr Morton to attend.
2. Letter from Lyn Cadwallader, Chief Executive of One Voice Wales listing the eight motions being put forward by various Councils at the AGM on Saturday 4.10.14.
3. Home Start, Bridges Community Centre, Monmouth - Annual Report 2013/14.
4. An invitation to the Charter Liaison Meeting and discussion on Thurs 11.9.14 at 6pm at The council Chamber, County Hall, Usk. Clerk to attend. Cllrs I Moore/ P Harris nominated as Charter representatives.
5. Shelter Summer Newsletter and request for financial support.

Minute 3130 - To present short reports from meetings attended.

There were none.

Minute 3131 - Date of next meeting:

Monday 6 October 2014 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.