

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 15 May 2017 at 8.00 pm
at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

Present:

Councillors:

Mr P Harris (Chair) Mr I Martin Ms B Moore Mrs M Davies
Mrs B Price Mr K Morton Mr I Moore

Also in attendance:

One member of the public
County Councillor L Brown
PCSO A Jones
Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. He congratulated County Councillor Louise Brown on her recent election. CC Brown wished to record her thanks to the residents of the Shirenewton community who supported her and said she looks forward to working on behalf of all residents within the community.

1. Public Participation.

Dealt with under agenda item 6.4. The resident reported HGV's regularly using Blacksmith's Lane for access. Clerk to report to Highways.

2. Apologies for absence.

None.

3. Monthly police report

The report was circulated prior to the meeting and PCSO A Jones attended, he reported that the police have continued regular patrols of the B4235 on the weekends and will continue to do so when able through the summer months. Go-Safe has recently had some speed monitoring completed on this road near Mynyddbach and they will share the results in the next few weeks.

PCSO Jones advised of a road traffic accident on the B4235 near the Tredegar Farm entrance and although an ambulance attended, there were no life threatening injuries.

He further reported the theft of a portable electric fence and battery taken from a field at a farm just off the B4235 near Shirenewton. The theft of a red antique style altar cloth and two other red cloths taken from St Thomas a Beckett church. The cloths were kept in the locked vestry but entry had been gained using a key and the items taken. The door was found locked.

There were no calls to Brookacre during the month.

Minute: 3530: To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.

County Councillor Brown gave no opinion in relation to the planning matters considered as she may become a member of the Mon CC Planning Committee.

Minute 3531 - Minutes of the last meeting – minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2017 were approved and duly signed by the Chair.

Minute 3532 – To consider planning matters.

1. DC/2017/00329 Bluebell Lane Barn, Earlswood

Proposed re-instatement of now demolished lean-to.

Due to an error in dates in which to respond, the Council was unable to make comment on this application.

2. E6840/A17/3172829 (Planning Applic. DC/2017/00082)

23 Clearview, Shirenewton. Removal of Condition 2 from planning consent DC/2015/01386.

Council agreed to respond to the Planning Inspectorate Wales recommending refusal of the removal of this Planning Condition. (Voting: 5 for/2 abstentions).

3. E6840/C/17/3172828 (Planning Applic. DC/2017/00082)

23 Clearview, Shirenewton. Appeal against Enforcement Notice E16/255.

Council agreed to respond to the Planning Inspectorate Wales recommending refusal of the removal of this Enforcement Notice. (Voting: unanimous).

4. DC/2017/00445 Olive Cottage, Crick Road, Shirenewton

Rebuild retaining wall and replace existing hedgerow with 1.5m high hit and miss fence for a distance of 13m along the western boundary with Blacksmiths Lane.

Council noted that the Planning Officer dealing with the application had been in contact with the applicant, also that the applicant is seeking a structural engineer's report. The applicant attended the meeting and advised the Council that no issues had been raised by the Conservation Officer. Council recommended approval on health and safety grounds. (Voting: 6 for/1 against).

Minute 3533 – Finance - to approve items listed for payment

Expenditure (by Standing Order)

Clerk's salary/allowances -	April 2017	£555.30
Clerk's Pension (Council & Clerk's contribution) -	April 2017	£158.20

Items for payment

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount £	Cheque No.
Clerk	April expenses	41.71	101351
One Voice Wales	Code of Conduct training (BP)	35.00	101352
Merlin Waste	Bin emptying (April)	27.12	101353
SLCC	Annual membership	108.00	101354
ALCC Union	Annual membership	10.00	101355
AVG Antivirus	Antivirus software	34.99	101356
Richard Brown	Website maintenance (April)	25.00	101357
Zurich Insurance	Annual insurance	780.91	101358

Council resolved to make all payments as listed.

Council noted receipt of £295.00 for the annual rental of the Earlswood field for 2017/18.

Minute 3534: To receive a report on a defibrillator for Mynyddbach

Mrs S Bushell attended the meeting and circulated photographs of potential locations for the siting of a community accessible AED. Mrs Bushell was thanked for providing the information and for seeking local approval in pursuing this initiative. Following due consideration, the Chair advised her that as the Council had no responsibility for the defibrillator, it was content to leave the location decision to her group. Mrs Bushell to contact Clerk with a list of local defibrillators to be posted in community noticeboards and on the Council website.

Minute 3535: To discuss future maintenance of the Council website.

Council agreed to the employment of Mr R Brown as discussed at last month's meeting. This is subject to review at the December 2017 meeting, in conjunction with review of the GoDaddy hosting agreement which ends in February 2018. Clerk to draw up an agreement for signature by Mr Brown, Clerk and Chair. Monthly payments of £25.00 from May 2017 to be made by Standing Order.

It was suggested that a Councillor train up or a local person be approached to maintain the website at some point in the future.

Minute 3536: To discuss progress on Community Benefit agreement.

The Clerk reported that following contact with Helen Geng of ReneSola the invoices for the first payment of community benefit had been passed to a Director for signature and payment.

Minute 3537: To discuss coffee morning arrangements – Saturday 20th May

Councillors agreed to attend the coffee morning to be available to local residents. Clerk to produce posters on Who's Who on the Council, how the Council supports local organisations and a questionnaire, the results of which will be considered at the June meeting. Second coffee morning to be held on 16 September 2017, again at the Village Market.

Minute 3538 – Best Kept Village Competition June 2017

All volunteers and residents had been contacted to confirm their support, it was noted that the take up was not as enthusiastic as in previous years. Reminder to be put in Parish Magazine and posters up on Shirenewton noticeboard and in the Recreation Hall.

Minute 3539: To receive the Clerk's Report

- **Amended planning application DC/2017/00082, wall at 23 Clearview** – advised by M Hand/P Keeble on 9/5/17 that the Highways and Planning Departments will pursue a joint approach on the issue of encroachment on to the highway.
- **Hill View Cottage, Shirenewton** – 22.3.17, Helen Etherington, Enforcement Monitoring Officer, Mon CC, has requested a discharge of conditions application from the landowner for the several pre-commencement conditions on the 2012 planning application - Enforcement Notice E17/126. She was awaiting information from the agent today (15.5.17)
- **Dumping of builders rubble, Lower Lane, Mynyddbach** – reported to Environmental Health, Mon CC on 18.4.17. Response from Kate Arnold 23.4.17, no rubble tipped, part

of wall on bank had collapsed which builder at 'Oslo' offered to clear up. No rubble tipped in Lower Lane.

- **Earlswood field annual rental agreement** – Agreement for 2017/18 signed and payment of £295.00 received.
- Listing Little Mill – to be pursued.
- Commoners Rights – Wentwood – to be pursued.
- Trees at 'Oslo' – to be pursued.
- **Financial Regulations action plan** – a backed up copy of the external hard drive of the Council pc was passed to the Chair for safe keeping off-site.

Highways issues –

Road repairs at West End – Ref 023595, 17.1.17 Clerk reported poor road surface to P Keeble who confirmed a Highways Engineer inspection. Additional report made 25.1.17.

Cracks in 'cobbles' - This has been raised with the project team since the surfacing will be under the maintenance period. The project engineer will be following up any necessary repairs.

School Hill, Mynyddbach, disintegrating - This is a maintenance issue and has been referred to the highway maintenance engineer, it is on the maintenance schedule for 2017/18.

Dumping of Waste at Ridge House Stables

Mr M Hand, Head of Planning e-mailed Mr Smith to arrange a meeting with Mr Harris and Mr Smith in the near future to try to resolve the issue one more time (date not arranged at 5.5.17. There is the possibility of a third Notice being served.

Minute 3540: Items of Local Concern

- Concern was expressed at the condition of the Friends Burial Ground wall. It was explained that £600 had been spent on repairing the wall two years ago. Clerk to request Mr Saysell to check condition.

Minute 3541: To receive correspondence as listed.

Council noted receipt of the following correspondence:

1. Letter from the Open Spaces Society explaining their work and requesting a donation towards a legal action fund in defence of commons, green spaces and public paths.

2. E-mail dated 8.5.17 from the OSS advising of the opportunity to register 'lost' commons in Wales with the unitary authority (Mon CC). From 5.5.17 (for 3 years), the Welsh Government will bring into force legislation which ensures that any commons which failed to make it to final registration under the Commons Registration Act 1965 can now be rescued. Once common land is on the register, it potentially gives the public the right to walk and possibly ride there, and it has additional protection from development and encroachment. The application for registration is made to the unitary authority and the applicant must submit evidence to show that the land was open, uncultivated and unoccupied at the date of the application. OSS recommends studying the commons registers held by their commons registration authority and note any provisional registrations which did not become final. These commons are potentially registerable. Clerk to request list of registered commons from Mon CC.

Welsh Government Consultations

- National standards and outcomes framework for children and young people
- Proposed reduction in the membership of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
- Review of the Private Water Supplies (Wales) Regulations 2010
- Proposed sustainable management measures for the Welsh whelk fishery
- The draft Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the NDF
- Regulatory reform of Registered Social Landlords

Minute 3542: Short reports from meetings attended

Councillors attended the joint meeting between the MoD, Shirenewton and Caerwent CC's on 28.4.17 (minutes to be circulated when received). Next meeting to be held at the Saysell Centre, Shirenewton on Thursday 30 November at 6.00 pm followed by a curry supper.

Minute 3543: Date of next meeting – Monday 5 June 2017 at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

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