

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the remote Council meeting held on Monday 4th January 2021 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Councillors: Mr P Butterworth (Chair), Mrs J Mckenna, Mrs L Brown, Mr K Dunn, Mr A Williamson, Ms E Nigogosian and Ms E Chapman.

Also in attendance:

Mrs H Counsell (Clerk to the Council)

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and apologised for having to hold another remote meeting because of the Covid-19 pandemic, he thanked all present for their attendance.

1. Apologies for absence:

Cllr I Martin due to technical issues.

2. To note advertisement of a vacancy in the Shirenewton ward.

Council noted that the vacancy advertised by Mon CC will close on 8th January 2021. If no applications are received this Council will be able to follow the co-option process.

3. Issues raised by members of the public

- pedestrian crossing at Clearview – Council had passed this request on to Highways at Mon CC for their consideration. It will be considered by the Traffic Team but the initial response was not hopeful as it was felt there would not be enough pedestrian use to warrant it.
- reports of potholes – see “Clerk’s Report”.

4. To receive the monthly police report.

Crime

11/12/20 – Barns broken into on a farm in Earlswood items stolen from within.

Public Safety – Calls for flooding on 23/12/20 - various local areas, council notified and appropriate measures taken.

Anti-social behavior – Call for off road bikes using bridle path causing a nuisance to local residents. Patrols by local team whenever possible. Signage has also been put up by CO70 Jones to warn riders of the offences of using the bridle ways and other land.

Pub owner reported food dumped in the pub carpark, arrangements made for its removal. No Covid related calls this month.

Notable arrests

No arrests

Operations

We continued to patrol our rural areas due to rural breaks. Also patrolling for off-road bikes locally.

5. Minute 4052- To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in listed business.

There were none.

6. Minute 4053 - To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2020.

The minutes were confirmed as a true record.

7. Minute 4054 - To consider planning matters.

There were no planning applications to consider.

DM/2020/01451 Gaerllwyd Barn, Newchurch – removal of two oak trees and a section of hedgerow. The Planning Officer confirmed that the oak trees had been felled as they were diseased (photographic evidence provided) and that the hedgerow removal was being monitored

8. Minute 4055 - Finance –

1) Expenditure (by Standing Order)

Clerk's salary/allowances -	December 2020	£679.17
Clerk's Pension (Council & Clerk's contribution) -	December 2020	£241.79

(Includes £58.33 towards £700 pa LGPS pension deficit)

Payments

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount £	Vat £	Total	Cheque No.
Mrs H Counsell	Expenses - December	40.95		40.95	101613
Merlin Waste Invoice No: 4367	Bin emptying – Dec '20	42.25		42.25	101614
Llanvair Landscapes Invoice No: 2923	Grass/hedge cutting, weed control, removal of dead tree in play area.	1170.00		1170.00	101615
Distinct IT Ltd Invoice No: INV20790	Remote support to website	20.40	4.08	24.48	101616
Planning Aid Wales Invoice:OP/26/20	Training – Planning Start to Finish (12 months)	150.00		150.00	101617

Council resolved to make all payments as listed.

2) 2021/2022 Precept request

Following consideration of last month's discussions, the updated precept was agreed and ratified. Council resolved to claim a precept of £30,167.00 (Thirty thousand, one hundred and sixty seven pounds) from Monmouthshire County Council for the 2021/2022 financial year.

9. Minute 4056 – To consider a quote from Mon CC for grounds maintenance costs 2021/22.

Council resolved to accept the quote from Mon CC of £1368.17 for grass cutting (to confirm 16 cuts for the season) and £92.72 for the annual play inspection. Total of £1460.89 + vat.

10. Minute 4057 – To consider the 2021/22 Annual Agreement for the Earlswood field

Any amendments to the Agreement need to be made by 1st February 2021 to allow the tenant time to consider them before the current Annual Agreement ends on 29th April 2021. To be further considered before the next Council meeting on 4th February. Councillors Butterworth, Martin, McKenna and Nigogosian to consider a Licence rather than an Agreement. Clerk to distribute original lease.

11. Minute 4058 - Update on 20 is Plenty road safety campaign

Finalisation of the petition document was still ongoing. Judging of school road safety poster still ongoing, hope to have the results next month and display them in the windows of the recreation hall so they can be seen by members of the public while socially distancing.

It was suggested that when the statutory 20mph comes to Shirenewton that the 40mph along the road from the Spout should be extended (it is currently 60mph).

12. Minute 4059 – To receive information on a meeting with Mon CC regarding the hard path around the recreation field and agree a task and finish group.

This meeting was cancelled due to the current pandemic and Tier 4 lockdown in Wales and will be rearranged when restrictions ease. The Task and Finish group was agreed as Councillors Butterworth, Chapman and Williamson, with the Clerk as required. The Recreation Association to be asked to nominate members to the group.

13. Minute 4060 – Update on the planting of trees in the community.

Phase 1 saw the successful planting of 60 trees in the community with a further two for Mynyddbach green. The meeting on the field with the Recreation Association to decide the location of trees was cancelled due to the current pandemic, it will be rearranged when restrictions are eased. There are 31 trees still available for planting in Phase 2. Clerk to check whether any are needed in Earlswood.

14. Minute 4061 - reports from the County Councillor and the Clerk

County Councillor Brown advised:

As an update of the December 2020 report:

Monmouthshire County Council Revised Local Development Plan (RLDP)

The non-statutory consultation on the Growth and Spatial Options is taking place for a 4-week period from 4th January to midnight on the 1st February 2021. The full details of this consultation can be found at the following link:

<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/planning-policy/planning-policy-current-consultations/>

The consultation asks questions on your views on the preferred growth option 5 (of 12,443 more people and 7,605 more homes) and the spatial option 2 of (distribute growth proportionately across the County's most sustainable settlements), which is summarised in the Easy read version at the following link:

<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/app/uploads/2020/12/Growth-and-Spatial-Options-Easy-Read.pdf>

Please note that it is possible to submit a response by registering online but it can take 3-4 days to do so before you can login, so advisable to do so ASAP, alternatively there are links to submit a response form by email in the first link above.

Clerk's Report:

Hill View Cottage, Shirenewton (DM/2019/01614) –Enforcement case open – E19/130.

Non Material Amendment application for velux roof lights and slated canopies received 18.10.19. Community Council approved canopies but recommended refusal of velux rooflights at November 2019 meeting. Application refused by Mon CC.

Damaged planter at Blethyn Close - Mon CC agreed to remove and replace the damaged concrete planter at their own cost as it is on their land – reminder sent 28.5.19 and 25.7.19 and 23.9.19 and 25.10.19 – J Wassal, Mon CC to put on works schedule w/c 27.1.2020. Residents to be asked if they would rather have a grit bin instead. Clerk to cost one.

Mobile Post Office – mobile service no longer running in current COVID-19 lockdown.

Footpath 30 – Earlswood Road to Newton Manor – poor condition of top part of path reported to Mon CC Footpaths Officer on 16.3.20. Report No: 09961. Footpaths Officer agreed and will arrange repair. Checked 23.10.20 – only emergency repairs due to Covid restrictions, but will address when working at the school in the near future.

Bus shelter at Earlswood – front of bus shelter partially collapsed on 15.12.20. Reported to R Cook, Mon CC on 16.12.20 and shelter cordoned off with high fencing. No news yet on when repairs will be made.

Reports to My Monmouthshire

Mon CC Countryside team – reported blocked and impassable junction of footpaths 53/54/55 at Old Cock a Roosting. Countryside has informed Enforcement Officer. Reminded 5.12.20 – no updates as yet.

6841876 – Request for road sweeper through Shirenewton and surrounding roads.

Under review. Reminded 27.11.20 – will arrange as soon as possible.

8175434 – Pothole at 'Montrose', Earlswood

8175533 – Pothole at 'Springhill', Earlswood

8175560 – Pothole at Marcellus Kennels, Earlswood

Chapel Road, Earlswood - Erosion of road edges

The Nook to Rocks Cottage, Earlswood, erosion of road edges

Mon CC Footpaths Officer currently investigating Report 16361 the bridge at Lower Lodge, Chapel Lane which has washed away (restricted byway 380/126), and Report 16541 steps into Wentwood forest at bottom of Earlswood Valley (380/136). Has offer of assistance from local volunteers to help with repairs and has arranged site visits on 6.1.21.

Temporary road closure – Mounton Road, from 11 – 13 January 2021 for Dwr Cymru to repair a box defect.

15. Minute 4062- Items of local concern –

- it was reported that Lower Argoed road, Earlswood has little road surface;
- the 20mph flashing sign at the Crick road entrance to Shirenewton was not working;
- the grid at the bottom of Blacksmiths Lane was partially blocked with silt and debris;
- Mon CC requirement for bilingual 'No Smoking' sign at the play area in Shirenewton.

Clerk to report all to Mon CC and order the sign.

- Cllr Butterworth advised that accessibility modifications to the website had been completed. Cllr Chapman offered to assist with website administration. It was suggested that there be a competition for residents to enter photographs of the local area to be displayed on the home page of the Council website and changed regularly, in order to encourage people to visit the website.

16. Minute 4063 - To receive correspondence as per attached schedule.

Council noted receipt of the following correspondence:

Covid 19 arrangements during lockdown - Various information and guidelines during the coronavirus outbreak and further Tier 4 lockdown in Wales from 21.12.21 from the Welsh Government and One Voice Wales.

NHS Social Care and Frontline Workers Day on 9th July 2021.

Council to consider holding an event.

Monmouthshire Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033

Growth and Spatial Options Non-statutory Consultation and Engagement

This document is available for non-statutory public consultation from **Monday 4th January to Monday 1st February 2021.**

Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales – Review of the Electoral Arrangements for the County of Monmouthshire (4 hard copies received). Representations may be made from 10.12.20 to 10.3.21.

WG Consultations

Code of Practice on the Provision of Autism Services.

17. Minute 4064 – date of next meeting

Informal meeting to be held on 20th January to discuss the Local Development Plan consultation and the annual tenancy agreement for the Earlswood field.

The next full Council meeting will be held on **Monday 1st February 2021 at 7.00pm** at the Recreation Hall, Shirenewton if the lockdown is lifted, if not, the meeting will be by Councillors remote attendance.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.