

## SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the remote Council meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 7.00 pm

### **Present:**

**Councillors:** Mr P Butterworth (Chair), Mrs J McKenna, Mrs L Brown, Mr K Dunn, Mr A Williamson, Mr I Martin, Ms E Nigogosian and Mrs E Wixcey.

### **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 restrictions, he thanked all present for their attendance.

### **1. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from:**

Cllr E Chapman.

### **2. To consider applications for a co-opted vacancy in the Shirenewton ward.**

One application had been received, Cllrs Butterworth, McKenna and Martin to arrange informal meeting with applicant.

### **3. Issues raised by members of the public**

- parked cars in Shirenewton village. CO A Jones was requested to check all on road parking in Shirenewton, which he did on 20.2.21 and reported that there were no parking offences at that time, therefore no police interest.

### **4. To receive the monthly police report.**

#### **Notable arrests for January/February 2020**

4 persons arrested after several drugs warrants carried out across Severnside & Lower Wye

#### **Operations/Our Work**

Patrols are still being carried out by Response Officers and Neighbourhood Officers in relation to dwelling/outbuilding breaks in our area. We are still asking residents to be vigilant, use CCTV, Lighting if you have it, ensuring you lock any outbuildings and report anything suspicious to Gwent Police on 101.

#### **ASB Calls**

Most ASB calls recorded this period have been in relation to Covid breaches/parties or people suspected of breaching lock down, few calls for youths being a nuisance these are areas we already know about and patrol. Some flytipping calls and some calls for a homeless person in the area. No new areas of concern highlighted.

#### **Your Voice Update**

The Your Voice surveys have gone live this week and are being circulated to the wider Community to vote on what matters to them. The surveys will be live for one month after which we will be discussing the results with our Partners. Please encourage residents to complete the survey which will take only a few minutes:-

English:

<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=161279491391>

Welsh

<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=161296624518>

We urge the public to continue to follow Government Guidelines, keep yourselves safe, wear face coverings inside, keep 2 meters apart. For more information visit their website <https://www.gov.uk>

**5. Minute 4078- To disclose personal and pecuniary interests in listed business.**

There were none.

**6. Minute 4079 - To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.**

The minutes were confirmed as a true record.

**7. Minute 4080 - To consider planning matters.**

No planning applications had been received for consideration this month.

**Update on application DM/2018/02066** - Outline application for the construction of 11 dwellings and associated works at Clearview, Shirenewton – outline planning permission was granted by Mon CC on 12.2.21, reserved matters (siting, design, lighting etc) subject to a future application which will be consulted upon at the time. If all applications approved, Section 106 contribution to be made for 5 dwellings @ £4,173 each = £20,865 (2 private and 4 affordable houses exempt). “To carry out improvements at the village play area at Shirenewton playing field and for offsite recreation”.

**8. Minute 4081 - Finance –**

**Expenditure (by Standing Order)**

Clerk’s salary/allowances -	February 2020	£679.17
Clerk’s Pension (Council & Clerk’s contribution) -	February 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 – February ‘21	46.50		46.50	101623
Merlin Waste Invoice No:	Bin emptying – Feb	42.25		42.25	101624
Mr J Saysell	Repairs to gates, railings and steps at the Spout	1175.00		1175.00	101625
Planning Aid Wales	Councillor pre- determination training x 2	60.00		60.00	101626

Council resolved to make all payments as listed.

**9. Minute 4082 – To consider advertising grant aid availability from the 2021/22 budget.**

It was agreed to advertise the availability of grants in the April, May and June issues of the Parish Magazine, on the website and Facebook page, with a closing date of 28.6.21 and to

consider the applications at the July meeting. One application had already been received for a geo survey of Llanmelin Hill Fort which will also be considered at that time.

**10. Minute 4083 - To consider a response to Mon CC's Sustainable Settlement Appraisal.**

Council agreed with the appraisal apart from the fact that there is now only one pub open in the community, rather than three. Response to be made by 5.3.21.

**11. Minute 4084 - Update on 20 is Plenty road safety campaign**

Information received from C O'Connor at Mon CC to advise that both Shirenewton and Mynyddbach villages will have mandatory 20mph speed limits in the 2021/22 financial year. 122 signatures were on the petition and it was agreed to continue with this to demonstrate to Mon CC the level of community support for the campaign when County Cllr Brown presents it formally to them. Cllr Nigogosian to contact the school and ask for the petition to be advertised in their newsletter to parents.

Judging of school road safety posters – Cllr Nigogosian to distribute year group entries to Cllrs for judging and overall winner. Winning entries to be displayed in the windows of the recreation hall so they can be seen by members of the public while socially distancing.

Cllr Dunn advised that some 20mph posters within the community had been taken down.

**12. Minute 4085 – To consider developing a Biodiversity Action Plan**

A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) is a requirement for all Councils under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. Clerk to research BAP's for next meeting.

**13. Minute 4086 - To consider producing an Annual Report**

From April 2022 Community and Town Councils will have a duty to prepare and produce an Annual Report on the Council's priorities, activities and achievements. The first report must relate to the financial year April 2021 – March 2022 and be published as soon as reasonably practicable. Council agreed to look at this further.

**14. Minute 4087 - Update on hard path project**

A meeting was held on 2.2.21 on the recreation field with Cllrs Butterworth, Chapman and the Clerk, also Mr P Bennett of the Recreation Association and Mr M Moran of Mon CC.

All walked the site and discussed the various options being considered. Mr Moran advised that a planning application would be required, also a SuD's drainage report, costing in the region of £2,000. He will arrange an independent contractor to visit the site to estimate costs of the project, for which external funding would be sought.

Councillors understood that when initial plans are costed and firmed up a meeting with the public would need to be arranged to confirm community support for the project. Also that the work may have to be undertaken in phases because of the costs.

**15. Minute 4088 – Update on the planting of trees in the community.**

Due to local opposition, it was agreed not to plant the two trees planned for Mynyddbach green, they will be included in future planting when the Covid restrictions are eased.

**16. Minute 4089 - reports from the County Councillor and the Clerk**

**County Councillor Brown advised:**

**Monmouthshire County Council**

### **Economy and Development Committee-25 February 2021**

A report to the above committee requests consideration of a proposal to collaborate with Cardiff Council, for mutual benefit, in the discharge and provision of procurement services. The Council spends £100m a year on procurement.

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/documents/s28261/210225%20Economy%20and%20Development%20Select%20Committee%20Strategic%20Procurement.pdf>

### **Audit Committee-25 February 2021**

The Audit committee has a report on the 240 compliments and 214 complaints to Monmouthshire County Council covering the period April 2019 to March 2020. 121 of the complaints related to waste and street services:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/documents/s28269/Whole%20Authority%20Complaints%20Report%202019-2020.pdf>

### **Cabinet- 3 March 2021**

The forthcoming reports to Cabinet include the Social Justice Strategy (on tackling poverty and inequality action plan, food development action plan and homelessness transition plan) as well as the final report on the budget, the whole agenda can be found at the following link:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=144&MId=4213>

The final report on the budget proposes an increase in council tax this year of a maximum of 4.95%.

The questions and answers as part of the consultation engagement exercise on the budget with council select committees and from other forums can be found at the following link:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/documents/s28340/20210303%20Cabinet%20-%20Final%20budget%20proposals%20-%20Appendix%20A1%20to%20A12%20-%20Budget%20consultation%20and%20engagement.pdf>

### **National Planning Policies –Future Wales the National Plan 2040**

The National Planning Framework now called Future Wales- the National Plan 2040 has recently been published. The National growth areas in the South East of Wales are Cardiff, Newport and the Valley. The document covers the different policies as well as more details on the South East Wales area (from page 160 of the National Plan). The map on the areas for consideration of green belts can be found on page 163 and Policy 34 on green belts on page 172, policy 34 states as follows:

**“Policy 34 – Green Belts in the South East** The Welsh Government requires the Strategic Development Plan to identify a green belt to the north of Cardiff, Newport and the eastern part of the region to manage urban form and growth. The Strategic Development Plan must consider the relationship of the green belts with the green belt in the West of England. Local Development Plans and development management decisions should not permit major development in the areas shown for consideration for green belts, except in very exceptional circumstances, until the need for green belts and their boundaries has been established by an adopted Strategic Development Plan.”

The areas for consideration of the green belt areas in the map found on page 163 covers parts of the South Monmouthshire area

General Link for Future Wales- National Plan- 2040:

<https://gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040>

Document link for the Plan itself:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/future-wales-the-national-plan-2040.pdf>

This is relevant to the RLDP for Monmouthshire as it is supposed to follow the national plan.

### **Planning Policy Wales Edition 11**

As well as the new National Plan, at the same time, Planning Policy Wales has been updated to a new edition and can be found in the following link:

[https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11\\_0.pdf](https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11_0.pdf)

### **Clerk's Report:**

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

18.1.21 - Planning Officer to inform Estate Agent and thus potential new buyer of unresolved matters that have not received planning permission.

**Damaged planter at Blethyn Close** Mon CC to replace 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. £2188 of work to be completed by end of February 2021.

**Welsh Government Elections 6 May 2021** – Rec Association has confirmed that Mon CC has provisionally booked the hall. If the election should go ahead the Rec Association will have a Risk Assessment, required signage and sanitation units, etc in place. The main hall will be used to accommodate one way movement. It has also been agreed that Playgroup would not run on the Thursday or Friday (Friday closure to allow for cleaning).

**Temporary Road Closure – C61/1 Shirenewton** – at Shirenewton centre on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 from 9am – 5pm for poing works to take place.

### **Reports to My Monmouthshire**

**8175434** – Pothole at 'Montrose', Earlswood – completed.

**8175533** – Pothole at 'Springhill', Earlswood – completed.

**8175560** – Pothole at Marcellus Kennels, Earlswood – completed.

**8404131** - Chapel Road, Earlswood – potholes and erosion of road edges

**8403404** – Argoed Road, Earlswood, potholes and erosion of road surface

**8403192** – Blacksmiths Lane, Shirenewton, blocked road drain (with supervisor)

**8404479** – West End, Earlswood, damaged road sign, fixed temporarily, request scheduled 19.2.21

**8175434** – blocked road drain at 'Montrose', Earlswood

**8722992** – flooding manhole at Mounton Court

**8723101** – flooding manhole at The Row, Shirenewton.

**8845210** – Damaged Keep Left bollard in Shirenewton centre.

**17. Minute 4090 - Items of local concern –**

- Potholes on Weyloed Lane, Mynyddbach;
- Shirenewton war memorial needs cleaning;
- the telephone kiosk at Gaerllwyd is still in use and needs cleaning;
- no feedback on progress of the Bogons project to bring broadband to Earlswood;
- Footpath 380/25/2 (Tan House Court to school) has sign –‘closed for 42 days from 1.3.21’. Clerk to investigate.
- Use of Business Banking to be revisited.

**18. Minute 4091 - To receive correspondence as per attached schedule.**

Council noted receipt of the following correspondence:

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

**Great British Spring Clean – 28 May to 13 June 2021.**

**Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report – February 2021**

(Circulated 25.2.21)

**One Voice Wales**

- **Notification of two free places for Councillors on each of the following core training modules, available until end March 2021 -**
  - The Council as an Employer
  - Understanding the Law
  - Local Government Finance
  - Local Government Finance – Advanced (book via the clerk)

**Welsh Government**

Electoral Reform Newsletter (circulated 17.2.21)

**19. Minute 4092 – date of next meeting**

The next full Council meeting will be held on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 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 8.50 pm.