

Shirenewton Community Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Shirenewton Community Council held on February 5th 2007 at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

Present:

Councillors:

Ms B Moore
C Crundwell
K Morton
C Eickhoff
Ms S Bushell
J Eede
J Harvey

Apologies:

Councillors:

Mrs S Saysell
Mrs J Morgan
Mr R Mitchell

County Councillor Graham Down

In attendance:

Ms Glynis MacDonald
Mrs C Jones Clerk
One members of the public

Minute 1936 To Disclose personal and pecuniary interests in any item of listed business.

None declared

Police Report

PC Mason gave his report covering the period 9th January to 5th February 2007

Crimes

On Sunday 28th January, following up on last month's reported complaint of off-road bikes driving erratically around lanes, a person was found in possession of a stolen off road motorcycle. It was stolen from Wells in Somerset.

PC Mason stated that if anyone became aware of any drop-off points for the bikes then they should log the location, times and dates and advise the Police.

Road Traffic

No incidents reported

Other Incidents

On Saturday 13th January a Range Rover was found abandoned, up to its axles in mud, in the middle of the field at Blethyn Close.

There were two complaints of noise from The Tredegar Arms received on Saturday 13th January and Thursday 1st February. Both complaints were received during normal opening hours.

On Friday 26th January a white Rover convertible was seen parked on a private

driveway

On Monday 5th February it was reported that a quantity of builder's rubble had been deposited at St. Pierre Great Wood.

The joint Police/Community Council surgeries will begin on Saturday February 17th. They will be held on the 3rd Saturday in each month from 10am until 12 noon.

Minute 1937 To approve and sign minutes of the Council Meeting held on February 5th 2007

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record with the following amendments and additions.

Page 1. Minute 1927. Disclosure of Interests. Addition. Cllr Morgan's declared interest was in Seaview nursery and Cllr Bushell's declared interest was in the Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Field's Association.

Page 4 Minute 1931. Recreation Association Lease. Amendment. It was agreed that Francis & Co Solicitors should be approached for the drawing up of the Lease.

Page 5 Minute 1933. Addition. CEDS grant. Addition. The power to submit an application was delegated to the Clerk

Minute 1938 Planning

The following applications were received for recommendations:-

Shirenewton Golf Club

Construction of hard standing/turning area adjacent to entrance gates.

Recommend refusal

This another retrospective application for this development. It is not totally clear from the maps provided if this turning area is within the designated curtilage. The area is at the head of a scenic area of beauty - the Golden valley is a conservation area.

The area that has been laid with tarmac is very large - more like a car park than a turning area. Members could see no good reason to have this turning/car parking area in this position. If such an area was indeed required then a more sympathetic material could have been used such as grass Crete which would not stand out so blatantly.

Outline planning permission to build a private dwelling on section of land opposite Brook House, Earlswood.

Recommend refusal

This area is designated as a special landscape area. There is no justification for a dwelling and it is in contravention of H6 in the UDP.

The Clerk reported that she had received the following notices from MCC Planning:-

The house built on the plot adjacent to 'Giggleswick', Mynyddbach will be known as 'New House'

The retrospective application for lampposts at the Golf Club has been refused

The application for re-positioning of stables and manege land relating to Barn 4 Pen-yr-heol has been refused

Minute 1939 Clerk's report

To consider items C/FWD from previous meetings.

Stiles at Shirenewton Golf Club.

It was reported last month that the work on the stiles had been completed. Originally the information supplied by MCC was that the Developer would be responsible for the cost of gates and installation. However while the Developer covered the cost of installation of the gates, MCC paid for them.

Cllr Morton felt that although seven of the stiles had been replaced by gates that there were some others which still required replacing and one of the installed gates could cause injury to someone on closure.

It was resolved that the Clerk will obtain a map so that he can pinpoint these.

C/FWD

Rubbish in field near school

The Enforcement notice from Legal department has been sent to the owner of the land.

C/FWD

Inaccessible footpaths in Earlswood

The work to open Footpath 121 was programmed in for Friday 2nd February but the Warden who was to do the work was sick and a new date has not yet been set. The Enforcement Officer will advise the Clerk this week when a new date has been set.

C/FWD

Additional post box in Shirenewton.

and

Maintenance of school routes.

Cllr Down was unable to attend this meeting so both items carried forward

C/FWD

Report to Welsh Office regarding Golf Club Planning Application

Cllr Harvey is in the process of completing a report containing a chronological history of all deferred applications relating to this development and the breaches reported to date. He expects to be able to provide the Members with a copy of his report by the next Council meeting in March.

C/FWD

Village Plan.

The Chairman stated that there will be another meeting of the sub committee on Tuesday with the view to take forward a draft to the next Council meeting. There is a deadline of the end of March for the spending of the grant money that has been obtained for this project. The Chairman asked members if they could supply detailed photographs of the Council area.

C/FWD

Disconnection of Water

The water in the Shirenewton area was shut off for at least eight hours on January 18th. The Water Board told the Clerk that the pumps in Shirenewton were re-set in the early afternoon. However there was still an electricity failure at Prysgu-Bach where the water comes from. It was not until early evening that a generator was installed at Prysgu-bach and the pumps there were re-set. Apparently the Water Board were supposed to inform customers who telephoned of the locations of bowsers locally but not all customers who telephoned were given this information.

The school closed early because of the failure in electricity. It has a small water reserve tank which feeds some of the taps and toilets but not the drinking fountain. The school telephoned the Water Board when the water supply was cut off and the Water Board provided bottled water for drinking.

The Clerk had written to the Water Board setting out the unacceptable situation and had received a reply.

It was resolved that the Clerk would respond in writing to the Water Board covering the issues that had been raised in its letter. **C/FWD**

Planning Application procedural concerns

The Clerk has written twice and also sent an e mail to David Swanson concerning the problems being experienced with the information received from Planning Department. She has not received a reply or an acknowledgement.

It was resolved that the Clerk write to the Chief Executive and the Chair of Planning and send a copy to Cllr Down. **C/FWD**

Recreation Hall car park flooding

This has now been resolved

COMPLETED

Broken Fence at Playground

Cllr Morgan was unable to attend this meeting and was not able to report on progress **C/FWD**

Minute 1940 Action List

Shirenewton Recreation Association Lease

A meeting has been set up between Cllr Eickhoff and Cllr Harvey, three members of the Shirenewton Cricket Club and their Legal Adviser. The meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th February. . **C/FWD**

Minute 1941 To consider Financial Matters

Bills presented for payment:-	£
Clerk's salary	390.96
Stationery and Expenses	62.57
Chepstow Town Council (photocopying questionnaires & envelopes)	27.29
To consider request for:-	

Petty Cash 50.00

It was resolved to make all payments.

Minute 1942 Items of local concern

Highways

Complaints had been received about the condition of the roads:-

At entrances to the village.

Pant-y-Cosin Lane, off the Usk Road. Both sides of the road have eroded

Upper Tump Farm. The road has been swept but this has brought up a huge hole and the sides are now banked up with salt, grit and rubbish.

Stone's Road. There is a big hole here.

Lay -by at Gaerllwyd. This is beginning to fill up again

B4235 The bend at Well Head Cottage.

The lay-by beyond Pear Tree Cottage and before school.

Golden Hill. The large lorries have now ceased using this but there are large potholes.

It was resolved that the Clerk would report the above to Highways Dept. **C/FWD**

Overgrown Hedgerows

Of the two areas of concern brought to the Council's attention (in Earlswood and Shirenewton) it was felt that only the overhanging bush in Shirenewton could cause problems.

It was resolved that the Clerk would write to the occupant of the property.

C/FWD

Christmas Lights

Cllr Bushell brought the safety of the Christmas lights to the attention of the Council.

It was resolved that the Clerk would write to the organisers of the event making them aware that it had been brought to the notice of the Community Council that there may be a breach of Health and Safety regulations.

C/FWD

Review Council Resources to Assess what resources are required to support Council business

Cllr Bushell was concerned about a risk assessment of the Clerk's premises. It was confirmed to her that this had been carried out by Cllr Eede when the Clerk took up her duties.

It was resolved that this will now be written up.

C/FWD

Staff Appraisal of Clerk

This has been arranged to take place on Monday 12th February with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

C/FWD

Wind Turbines

Cllr Morton asked for clarification on the planning requirements for wind turbines.
It was resolved that the Clerk will make enquiries. **C/FWD**

Obstruction on pavement outside Tan house.

There is an overgrown bush blocking the pavement.
It was resolved that the Clerk will arrange for this to be cut back. **C/FWD**

Minute 1943

Items of local concern for information only

CEDS Grant

The Clerk, on behalf of the Council, has applied for a grant to replace the grassed area at the play park in Shirenewton with artificial grass. This will stop the moles breaking through, avoid the need for fortnightly grass cutting and keep the area level and therefore safer for play. The grant would also cover replacement of the barked area underneath the climbing frame which currently retains the rain water. The result of the application will be known in March. **C/FWD**

Minute 1944 to confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Council was confirmed as being March 5th 2007

Chairman.....

Date.....