

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held at Shirenewton Recreation Hall
on **Monday 2nd June 2025** at 7.00pm

Councillors: P. Butterworth (Chair), C Martin, I Martin, Geoff Todd,

Also in attendance: J McLagan Clerk, Mrs. L Brown County Councillor & Mr T Wall Gwent Police.

1. **Minute 5041 – To Receive Apologies for Absence**, none received.
2. **Minute 5042 – To confirm the minutes** from Shirenewton Community Council meeting held on 12th May and the AGM minutes 12th May 2025 as a true record.
Both minutes were approved and signed by Council.
3. **Minute 5043 – Public Participation** PCO Toby Wall arrived to discuss his police report.
 - I. Discussed his report, regarding 10 crime incidents and he confirmed that 9 were low level driving incidents, including broken down vehicles in dangerous positions on the roads.
 - II. One gentleman was detained after a report of smoking cannabis.
 - III. Cycling incident regarding no visibility whilst travelling to work– police have provided a high vis jacket and informed cyclist to wear it.
 - IV. Speed monitoring was carried out on Sunday around 3.30 with the average speed recorded being 17.2 mph and the highest 24 mph. This may be due to drivers being alerted and Sunday being a quieter day. Cllrs confirmed faster speeds had been witnessed at other times.
 - V. Parking issues around the Carpenters Arms, discussed issues with landlord and no further issues reported.
 - VI. Reminded Residents to continue to report seeing anything suspicious, or drug related sightings and Police will continue to act.

Actions –
To continue to monitor speeds in the village at various locations, and high volume times of day
Training a new officer in the locality.

Cllrs thanked Toby Wall for attending and his proactive reporting.
4. **Minute 5044 – To Disclose personal and pecuniary interests.** None declared by Councillors
5. **Minute 5045 – Items for Planning – No new matters were** received however planning recommendation DM/2025/00486 – Rhewl Cottage received. Cllrs had no further comments agreed to MCC Recommendation **Clerk to notify Planning officer.**
6. **Minute 5046 – Finance:** To approve a list of expenditure as detailed

EXPENDITURE AND INVOICES – June 2025

Clerk's salary/allowances.	May 2024	£862.78
Clerk's Pension (Council 25% & Clerk's contribution)	May 2024	£343.48 incl £20 AVC
HMRC Employers NI Contribution	May 2024	£285.15

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount £	Vat £	Total £	Type
C Martin	Monthly Microsoft 365	8.51	1.70	£10.21	BACS
C Martin	Monthly Google storage	1.33	0.26	£1.59	BACS

SLCC	Annual membership 50%	120.00		120.00	BACS
Clerk	Expenses	62.71		62.71	BACS
RWG Mobile	Annual contract for Clerks phone	30.00		30.00	BACS
P Brabon	Audit 2025	150.00		150.00	BACS
D Brabon	War memorial trough planting Plants, plant food and manure and compost	51.96		51.96	BACS
Merlin Environmental Services Ltd	June Collections – Invoice	127.50	25.48	152.88	BACS
Chepstow Accountancy Services Ltd	Inv June payroll Clerk Inv	25.00		£25.00	BACS
ICO	GDPR Data protection	52.00		52.00	BACS
Bank Charges Lloyds		0		0	
Distinct IT	Emails	35.00	7.00	42.00	BACS
Shirenewton Playgroup	Playpark check Annual charge	100.00		100.00	BACS
Bank Charges HSBC		5.00		5.00	Deduction
To fulfil Expenditure	Transfer			2300.00	Trans

Breakdown of Clerk's expenses May 2025

Mileage = 99.60 @45p per mile (Meeting, Auditor x 2 (50%), park area, noticeboards) x 4 £44.73

Purchases = 50% Paper £3.99 & Inks £13.99

Total = £62.71

Balances

Bank Account £606.08

Savings account £69,302.65

Other Bank account £722.79

The above list of liabilities was approved by the council.

Items for Discussion:

7. **Minute 5047 - Earlswood field rental - Biodiversity report** – Cllrs agreed the location of the Bird box in the field and Clerk to contact AK for a statement regarding manure. **Action Email both parties.**
8. **Minute 5048 – Street Lighting** – Cllrs discussed the recent emails regarding the street lighting that had recently been reinstated in the village and were in support of the residents. **Action awaiting response from MCC Highways.**
9. **Minute 5049- Cllr Vacancies** – Vacancies for Shirenewton and Mynyddbach advertised on website and local notice boards. **Clerk to contact Shirenewton School.**
10. **Minute 5050 – Audit** The SCC 2024 / 2025 accounts were read approved, accepted and signed. **Action : Clerk to complete Audit.**
11. **Minute 5051 – Auditor** – Mr Brabon has completed internal audit.
12. **Minute 5052 – Grants** – The annual grants for local organisations are now open until 26th June 2026 – **Applicants to email the Clerk for an application form.**
13. **Minute 5053 – To review arrangements including legal agreements with local authorities, not for profit bodies and policies from AGM.** – Policies and agreements were considered and approved with relevant documents uploaded to website shortly. **Action Cllr Butterworth.**
14. **Minute 5054 - Meeting Dates** – Cllrs agreed the meeting dates for 2026. **Action Clerk to add to online calendar and confirm dates with venue.**

15. Minute 5055 – Planters – Mrs D Brabon confirmed she has kindly re-filled the War memorial planter, and the new Planter by Crick sign. **SCC are most grateful to Mrs Brabon for her continued efforts, especially in this challenging dry season.** Tredegar Arms have offered to sponsor a planter near their premises. **Tredegar Arms to email clerk with their proposal.**

Items for Information:

16. Minute 5056 - To receive reports from County Councillor & Clerk.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT JUNE 2025

County Councillor Brown advised:

Cabinet – 21st of May 2025

The Cabinet meeting considered various reports including the Place Making Grant Programme for the town centre regeneration projects, entering a sport development partnership in the Gwent region; the Marches Partnership programme; digital and data technology collaboration through shared resources; a report on a shared apprenticeship construction scheme as a limited company by guarantee; and the letting of the Old Library Abergavenny as a Mosque and community centre. The Cabinet reports can be found at the following link:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=144&MId=6102>

Place Scrutiny Committee – 22nd of May 2025

The meeting covered scrutinising the Active Travel presentation. Unfortunately, the legislation and funding for active travel schemes centres on urban towns rather than rural areas. The forward work programme shows that the RLDP is currently expected to be scrutinised on the 25th of September 2025 prior to going to the next meeting of full Council on the 23rd of October 2025. The Committee report can be found at the following link:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=303&MId=6166&Ver=4>
Performance and Overview Committee on the 3rd of June 2025

This Special committee meeting covers reports on Additional Learning Needs and can be found at the following link:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=305&MId=6368>

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Clerks report as circulated and taken as read.

The Insurance documents have been received and accepted.

Clerk raised condition of 3 play area benches and noticeboard, requiring refurbishment. **Clerk to seek quotes from local residents.**

17. Minute 5057 - Police report – As discussed above **Minute 5043.**

18. Minute 5058 - Meetings attended.

Multi Agency meeting arranged 16th June and C Cllr L Brown and Cllr Todd to attend online. Cllr Mitchel also may attend. Speeding issues brought up in police report, and Cllr Todds and residents' concerns will be raised at the meeting.

19. Minute 5059 - AOB and ward reports –

Cllr Todd raised the following :-

- i. Cllr Todd shared an email shared from Mr C Smith regarding a manure heap, **Clerk to contact Environmental Health**
- ii. Raised concerns of speeding traffic on B4325, especially two near misses involving a tractor and a motorcycle and Cyclist and car. **Action to discuss at Multiagency Meeting**
- iii. Looking at putting a mirror near this junction. **Action Cllr Todd**

Cllr Butterworth raised the following

- i. Email received from Gwent police (having received some additional funding) discussing the possibility of an ANPR camera that would assist in picking up vehicles trying to evade cameras on main roads.(these are not speed monitoring cameras).
Shirenewton has been identified as 1 of 3 potential areas. SCC is keen to discuss and be considered. A camera would only be installed where the outcome of that consultation is one of community support.
Action: Clerk to email confirmation.

20. Minute 5060 - Correspondence - As circulated and taken as read

21. Minute 5061 - To agree the date of the next meeting

Councillors agreed the date of the next meeting as **Monday 7th July 2025 at 7.00pm** by public meeting in Shirenewton Recreation Hall or remotely via Google meet.

There being no further business the meeting closed at approximately 20.50pm.