

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council meeting held at Shirenewton Recreation Hall and online
on **Monday 1st June 2026** at 7.00pm.

Councillors: P. Butterworth (Chair) S Todd, G Mitchell, & S Todd, H Berry,

Also in attendance: J McLagan Clerk, Cllr Louise Brown,

1. **Minute 5308 – To Receive Apologies for Absence:** G Todd, I Martin, PCSO D Cordingly.
2. **Minute 5309 – To Co-opt Hilary Berry as Councillor for Shirenewton & Mynyddbach by unanimous vote.**
3. **Minute 5310 – To confirm the minutes from Shirenewton Community Council meeting held 11th May 2026 and the AGM held 11th May as true records. Both minutes were approved and signed.**
4. **Minute 5311 – Public Participation** None
5. **Minute 5312 – To disclose personal and pecuniary interests –** None declared
6. **Minute 5313 –** No planning applications were received.
7. **Minute 5314 – Finance:** To approve a list of expenditure as detailed

EXPENDITURE AND INVOICES – June 2026

Expenditure -

Clerk's salary/allowances.

Clerk's Pension (Council 15.8% & Clerk's contribution)

HMRC Employers NI Contribution

May 2026 £989.60

May 2026 £253.98 includes £20 clerks AVC to Standard Life

May 2026 £219.86

Payments

Payee	Reason for expenditure	Amount £	Vat £	Total £
Clerk	Monthly Microsoft 365	8.51	1.70	10.21
Clerk	Monthly Google storage	1.33	0.26	£1.59
Clerk	May Expenses	49.90		49.90
Merlin Environmental Services Ltd	June Collections – Invoice	132.60	26.52	159.12
Chepstow Accountancy Services Ltd	Inv May payroll	30.00		30.00
Cumbria Clock Company	INV 21657	8,755.00	1,751.00	10,506.00
Cllr Remuneration	Allowance x 4.75	780.00		780.00
Zurich insurance	Insurance	971.99		971.99
ICO	Data information	52.00		52.00
A Orell	Planters/Scouts	138.00		138.00
Bank Charges	Apr 26	4.25		4.25
To fulfil Expenditure				13,0140.36

Breakdown of Clerk's expenses May

Mileage = 95.6 @ 45p per mile (Meeting, noticeboards & park visit, Audit x2) £43.11

Purchases £6.78

Total = £49.90

Balances:-

Bank Account £13,734.58

Savings account £81,571.79

Holding bank account £708.55

Clock (holding) account £0.26

The above liabilities were read and approved for payment, excluding the Clock Invoice.

Items for Discussion:

7. 7. Minute 5316– Memorial Clock repair –in the report from Cumbria Clock Co it was noted that:

*Upon investigation it was found that the steel tube, mainly to the East had corroded away allowing the whole construction to fall apart and the bearing to come away.
Due to this unforeseen issue, we were therefore unable to install the dial motion works and hands to the East and have concerns over the integrity of the North window stonework for the same reason.
As this issue is part of the fabric of the tower rather than the clock and to avoid costly stonemasonry repairs to the windows for the church, we recommend that we design and manufacture two adjustable bearing frames that will be able to mount internally to the base of the two window apertures to hold the centre bearings in the correct position. This would then enable us to setup the North dial correctly and to install the East motionworks and hands to complete the job.*

The Church is assisting with obtaining a faculty from the Diocese so that the adjustable bearing frames can be manufactured and installed in the tower and the clock works can be completed. SCC appreciates the support from the Church. **Action** The Church to confirm with Clerk when the faculty has been granted.

8. **Minute 5317 – Earlswood field rental** – Not heard back from the potential grazers, **Action:** Clerk to chase and if no response contact Powells regarding advertisement and also look at cutting the field.
9. **Minute 5318 – Traffic events, (speeding etc)** 1 x incident reported near the Spar on the Chepstow to Shirenewton road, with one vehicle turned upside down, with B4235 road closed for a period of time. **Action:** Noted
10. **Minute 5319 – Cllr Vacancy** – The new vacancy for Shirenewton and Mynyddbach is currently advertised with democratic services. **No Action**
11. **Minute 5320 – RDLP dates** – It was agreed to cover the dates in June/July not currently covered and it was noted it can be a long day. **Action:** Clerk to forward to those attending.
12. Minute 5321 – “**No Parking**” sign quotes – Ongoing **Action** Clerk to confirm correct Welsh translation.
13. **Minute 5322 - Grant applications** - are now open till 24th June 2026, charities/groups are encouraged to email clerk for an application form.
14. **Minute 5323 – Survey** Cllr S Todd to arrange a subcommittee, to discuss detail of the survey. Survey to take place in Oct 2026. **Action** S Todd
15. **Minute 5324 – Annual Return 2025-26** was discussed read and signed **Action:** Clerk to submit with Full Audit.
16. **Minute 5325 – Asset Register** Revaluation of benches, telephone box, memorial clock, & noticeboards, **Action:** Clerk to see if Cumbria Clock Co could help with a valuation. Benches still require repair.
17. **Minute 5326 - Planters and plants** – The Scouts have made 4 planters (1 spare) for the Village, and are keen to plant flowers within, **Action** Clerk to email

Items for Information

18. **Minute 5327** - To receive reports from County Councillor & Clerk.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT June 2026

County Councillor Brown advised:

Note that all the Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) meetings below can be found and watched on

you tube by pressing Your Council at the top of the Monmouthshire County Council website and then press meeting Calendar and adjusting the date and pressing the relevant meeting.

County Council 14th of May 2026

The above committee dealt with the appointment of the Labour Leader of the Council, The Chair and Vice Chair of the Council, the political representation on the different council committees and appointment to outside bodies. It also approved a local resolution protocol which deals with low level complaints between members.

People Scrutiny Committee on the 28th of May 2026

The meeting considered a report on an investment package to improve Caldicot Leisure Centre. This involves a refurbishment and reconfiguration of the fitness studio and the first-floor areas of the Leisure Centre. The cost is £601,429 with £300K capital funding and the rest borrowing based on the assumption that the 10-year loan repaid at £40K per year with the expectation that will be matched by a similar amount of approximately £41,400 by 100 extra members.

Governance and Audit Committee 4th of June 2026

The meeting reports on the internal audit report which had an overall opinion of reasonable assurance but with 6 limited and 1 no assurance audit opinions issued for 2025/6. The committee also covered a whistleblowing report. In the last 5 years Monmouthshire County Council has dealt with 5 whistleblowing cases in the area of 4 employee conduct concerns and 1 safeguarding concern. A Freedom of information report shows an increasing number of FOI requests from 992 in 2022/3 and 1058 in 2025/6 with an increase in internal reviews from 19 to 41 from 2022/3 to 2025/6. Internal reviews are where the timescales in legislation to reply has not been met or where the requester believes that inaccurate or incomplete information has been sent.

Public Services Committee 8th of June 2026

The meeting is scheduled to have an update presentation at the meeting itself by the National Highways on the Severn Bridge HGV restrictions, a six-monthly update presentation. The meeting can be watched on you tube.

Let's Talk Public Consultation on Active Travel- Walking, Wheeling and Cycling in Monmouthshire- closes on the 30th August 2026

There is currently a consultation on the above subject with the Active Travel Network Map (ATNM) shows existing routes and highlights future routes planned for upgrades or development over the next 15 years. It's part of a Wales-wide effort to make local journeys healthier and more sustainable, supported by the Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013.

Monmouthshire's current map was approved in 2022, and it is now time to update it to reflect recent progress and plan for the future with your input. All Welsh councils are required to regularly review and improve their active travel networks. Improvements may include creating new routes or upgrading existing ones. For example, resurfacing paths, widening footways, or adding features like dropped kerbs and tactile paving to improve accessibility.

Monmouthshire Council website states as follows:

"Please help us ensure these routes work for everyone who want to use them and have your say before the consultation closes on Sunday 30 August."

To find out more and add your feedback directly to the interactive map, visit www.letstalkmonmouthshire.co.uk/atnm-2026

If you have any questions, you can email activetravel@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Clerks report as circulated and taken as read.

19. Minute 5328 - Police report – No report received as 1st of month.

20. Minute 5329 - Meetings attended – Cllrs Butterworth and G Todd attended a positive walk through the village with MCC and are awaiting a plan to address traffic safety. Cllr G Todd attended the MDT meeting online; he was not present to update.

21. Minute 5330 - AOB and ward reports –

Cllr I Martin –	Not present
Cllr G Todd –	Not present
Cllr Butterworth -	No issues to report
Cllr S Todd –	No new issues to report
Cllr G Mitchel -	No new issues to report
Cllr H Berry -	No issues at this time.

22. Minute 5331 - Correspondence - As circulated and taken as read

23. Minute 5332 - To agree the date of the next monthly meeting

Councillors agreed the date of the next meeting on **Monday 6th July 2026** at **7.00pm** by public meeting in Shirenewton Recreation Hall or remotely via Google meet.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm.