Shirenewton Community Council Survey 2026

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Shirenewton Community Council area includes the villages of Shirenewton, Mynyddbach, Earlswood and Newchurch West and various nearby rural areas.

Like all local authorities Monmouthshire County Council is required to have a local development plan covering not only what can be built and where but also how residents and business needs and aspirations can be addressed. Shirenewton Community Council also needs to have a development plan in turn to inform Monmouthshire County Council what our residents, farmers and businesses consider would be best for our area and this survey is the way to gather your views.

A small part of the Council Tax you pay comes back to our Council to be spent within the community. Regular maintenance takes up most of the money, after covering the cost of the Clerk, and we aim to strike a balance between keeping any extra expenditure to a minimum and providing facilities for the use of local inhabitants. We would like your views on what facilities you feel would be useful and on the landscape in which we live.

If your household is within the Shirenewton Community Council area, your time completing this survey would be appreciated. We would like to hear as many viewpoints as possible. Inevitably there is some overlap, and you do not have to answer every question; if there is one you would rather not complete, please move on to the next, but still return the form. Additional copies can be obtained from the Clerk or via the Community Council website at www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk.

The objectives of the survey are as follows.

1. Understand residents' priorities, including what matters most and what improvements could be made.
2. Inform future investment and planning.
3. Strengthen community engagement.
4. Evaluate existing facilities and amenities.
5. Gather ideas for improvement.

PRIVACY NOTICE

Shirenewton Community Council is collecting this information to understand local priorities and to inform future community planning and investment decisions.

Responses will be analysed and reported in summary form, and individual respondents will not be identified in published results. Please do not include your name, full address or other information that could identify you in any free-text response. Paper and online responses will be held securely, with access limited to those involved in administering and analysing the survey and will be retained only for as long as necessary for the purposes of the survey. You have rights regarding your personal data under the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data

Protection Act 2018. For further information, or to exercise your data protection rights, please contact the Clerk to Shirenewton Community Council at clerk@shirenewtoncc.org.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. We aim to have delivered these forms to households in November, and we would be grateful if you can return them by the 20th December so that we can compile the results in time to feed in to Monmouthshire County Council. The results will be discussed in the next available Council meeting which you are welcome to attend, and the completed Plan will be put on our website. The information you give will he used in the Plan and your consent for this is given by returning the survey. Forms can be completed online or put through the letter box at the Earlswood Community Hall or in the collection box at Shirenewton Community Hall by the recreation ground or returned by email.

YOUR HOUSEHOLD

1 In which part of the Community Council area do you live? (please cross one)

Shirenewton		**Earlswood**	
Mynyddbach		**Newchurch West**	

2. Please cross how long each adult (A) in the household has lived in the Shirenewton Community Area and from which county they moved here (if applicable)

	A1	**A2**	**A3**	**A4**	**A5**	**A6**
Up to 4 years						
5 – 15 years						
16 – 25 years						
Over 25 years						
County moved from						

3 Is your home (please cross one)

Owner occupied	
Council / Association rented	
Private rented accommodation	
Second/holiday home	
Agricultural tied property	
Other	

4 How many bedrooms are there in your present accommodation? (please cross one)

1		**2**		**3**		**4**		**5**		**6 or more**	

5 Please put a cross to which age category each person (P) in the household belongs

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
Pre-school						
Primary school						
Secondary school						
Further education						
Post-education to 39						
40 - 64						
65 and over						

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT

6 A Design Statement is often used by communities to maintain or preserve their local identity. Which of the following features, if any, do you feel should be incorporated in a design statement for *our* community? Please put yes any features you would like to see included and no to any you would not.

Stone boundary walls	
Slate roofs	
White rendering	
Local stone facing	
Mature trees	
Hedges	
Street lighting	
Off street parking	
Minimum plot sizes	
Other (specify)	

7 Listed below are several visual and environmental features found in our community. Please indicate in order of importance the features you consider should be preserved. (1 = most important etc)

Open fields		**Picnic areas**	
Arable fields		**Best kept village**	
Hedgerows		**Stone barns**	
Deciduous woodland		**Farms**	
Coniferous woodland		**Open landscape**	
Wild flower meadows		**Communal flowers**	
Streams		**Historical/Industrial heritage**	
Conservation area (Shirenewton village centre)		**Chapels/Churches**	
Freedom from litter			

8 How often do you use (please cross one)

	Weekly	**Fortnightly**	**Monthly**	**Never**
A local recycling point (eg Tesco's in Chepstow)				
MCC waste facility (eg Five Lanes)				

TRANSPORT

9 How far does each adult (A) worker in the household travel to their principal place of work? (Please cross all that apply)

	A1	**A2**	**A3**	**A4**	**A5**	**A6**
Work at home						
Up to 10 miles						
11 – 25 miles (eg Bristol, Newport)						
26 – 35 miles (eg Cardiff)						
Over 35 miles						

10 What principal mode of transport do you use to travel to work or full-time education? (please cross one)

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
Walk						
Cycle						
Motorcycle						
Private car						
Company owned vehicle						
Bus/train						
Car sharing scheme						
Taxi						
N/A – eg retired						

11 How many road going vehicles are currently in use in your household and where they are parked?

	Garage	Off road	On road
Cars			
Vans			
Motorcycles/scooters			
Bicycles			

12 With our narrow roads and in some cases limited driveways, vehicle parking can be an issue. Is it a problem for you or your neighbours? (please cross one)

Yes		No	

14. How often do you currently use public transport? (please cross one)

Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Occasionally	Never

15. How satisfied are you with the public transport available in your area? (please cross one)

Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neither	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied

16. What improvements to public transport would make it more useful to you? For example would you use a bus service from Shirenewton to Severn Tunnel Junction station, later evening buses and buses on a Sunday or bank holiday? (Please cross all that apply)

More frequent services	
Earlier or later services	
More destinations or better connections	
More available stops	
Other – please specify	

TRAFFIC

17 Do you consider that there are important road safety issues in our area? A number of features are given below. Please rank those (if any) which contribute in order of importance (1 = most important etc.)

Lack of pavements	
Narrow roads	
Junctions not marked for priority	
Speeding through Shirenewton village	
Speeding on B4235	
No street lighting	
Other (specify)	

18 Would any of the following features be helpful in improving road safety in the villages? Please rank those (if any) which contribute in order of importance (1 = most important etc.)

Pedestrian crossings		**Flashing speed warnings**	
Speed bumps		**Street lighting**	
Chicanes		**Cycle lane**	
Speed reduction signs		**Pavements**	
Lower speed limits		**Other (specify) ----------**	

19 Footpaths and bridleways - would you like to see any specific improvements to the network of footpaths

Yes		**No**	
Please specify			

LOCAL AMENITIES

20 If they could be made available, what facilities would your household make regular use of e.g. youth club, hard path around Recreation Ground?

21 How satisfied are you with the existing amenities in the villages? Please score each amenity on a scale of 1 – 10 (1 = highest score) and also rank the amenities you consider the most important (1 = most important and so on).

	Satisfaction	Importance
Recreation Hall		
Recreation Ground		
Earlswood Hall		
School		
Centres of worship		
Sporting facilities		
Playgroup		
Children's play area		
Public transport		
Taxis		
Community website www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk		
Pubs		
Parking		

22 How often do you use the following? (Please cross where appropriate)

	Regularly	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Village fete				
School fete				
Monthly market				
Carol service				
Church/chapel service				
Local clubs/societies				
Sporting events				
Local pubs				
Earlswood hall functions				

CENTRE OF SHIRENEWTON VILLAGE

The centre of the village is a conservation area which means that its style and character are to be preserved for future generations so far as possible. Its narrow roads and lack of pavements are part of the character.

What do you think works well and what could be improved?

LOCAL COMMUNITY

23 Do you know where your nearest Community notice board is? (please cross one)

Yes		**No**	

24 Are you aware of the Church website? (please cross one)

Yes		**No**	

25 How do you hear about Shirenewton Community Council and its activities? (Please cross where appropriate)

Parish magazine	
Community Council website	
Community notice board	
Word of mouth	
Other (please specify)	

25. The Community Council is limited to 7 members giving up their time to address local concerns and maintain connection between residents and MCC. How well do you think that the Shirenewton Community Council represents the interests and concerns of the local community and how could that representation be improved? (please cross one)

Very well	
Reasonably well	
Poorly	
No opinion	
Improvement	

26 What do you think the Community Council does well and what it could do differently?

END OF SURVEY

Thank you for your time and effort. Completed forms can be put through the letter box at the Earlswood Community Hall or in the collection box at Shirenewton Community Hall by the recreation ground.

If you prefer, you can download the form from https://www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk/ and the email the form to clerk@shirenewtoncc.org.uk