

Minutes of Caldicot Town Council held at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 25th July 2012 at Caldicot Town Council.

Present: Cllrs: R J Higginson, Mayor
A Davies, Deputy Mayor
D Ashwin [left 7.50pm]
C Botchett [left 8.10pm]
W Conniff
A Easson
F J Harvey

J Haskey
P Maycock-Jones
M Stevens
P Stevens
R Stewart
P Watts
S Webb

[In attendance: Mrs A Sandiford, Members of Public]

Due to the timescale for responding to planning applications Town Council resolved to accept additional plan DC/2012/00465 on to the agenda – See Min 8867(A) below

8861 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs D Evans, A Lloyd, G Owen; G McIntyre, Clerk

8862 Declarations of Interest – To be identified under the relevant item/Forms to be completed
P Watts declared an interest in Planning.

Further declarations of interest to be identified under the relevant item

8863 Open Forum for Public Participation [max 30 mins at Mayor's Discretion]

The following items were raised during the public open forum:

- Monmouthshire Housing Association [MHA] strategy for ex service personnel – **Write to MHA**
- Educational impact for children re: Plan DC/2012/00465
- Mon CC strimming near to fences - rear of Longfellow Road, Birbeck Road park - **County Councillors to take up and report back**
- Request for entrance to Castle Park School via Taff Road
- Naming of new Dewstow Primary School

8864 To Approve the Minutes of Full Town Council Meeting 27th June 2012 [Circ]
a) Mayor to Sign the Minutes

The Minutes were approved as a true record and duly signed by the Mayor.

8865 Correspondence [Circulated unless marked*]

***(1) Lions Club of Chepstow & Caldicot Retiring President's Appreciation for Support**

Town Council noted the above letter of appreciation for support, read out by the Mayor.

***(2) Mon CC To Note Highways Dept to be contacted re: practicalities of an entrance from Taff Road to Castle Park Primary School**

Town Council noted the above response from Mon CC, read out by the Mayor.

8865 *(3) Scope

Notification of house-to-house collection dates
8th - 28th Apr 2013 and 31st Mar – 20th Apr 14

Town Council noted dates for Scope house-to house collections 2013/2014.

(4) (i) Heddlu Gwent Police

To consider responses re: dog fouling in town

Town Council noted response from Heddlu Gwent Police advising the new Inspector for Caldicot and Chepstow will be requested to progress Town Council's 'Dog Fouling and Litter Control Action Plan' with no anticipated problems.

(ii) Caldicot Police

Town Council considered a response from Caldicot Police advising PCSO's are trained to issue fixed penalties for dog fouling and requesting areas and times to cover.

A Members advised that the Environmental Health Officer had issued them with "pick up or pay up" notices which they had displayed in the ward with positive effect. Clarification was sought in relation to fly posting and another Member advised they had also requested some signs and had been advised by the Environmental Health Officer that there would be no issue with placing them on Mon CC lampposts.

It was resolved:

- i) that County Councillors clarify the issue of signs with Mon CC and report back to Town Council**
- ii) that Members liaise direct with PCSO's in this matter**
- iii) to invite Caldicot Police to Town Council meeting 26.9.12**

(5) Pupils Durand Primary School [4]

Requests for Caldicot to become a Fairtrade Town

Town Council considered correspondence from four pupils of Durand School requesting Caldicot becomes a Fairtrade town.

A discussion ensued and it was stated that it was encouraging to receive letters from children in this regard; although it was up to the traders to buy and stock Fairtrade products and for people to buy them.

It was resolved:

- i) to acknowledge the letters**
- ii) to write to Mon CC to request details of its policy re: Fairtrade prior to arranging a meeting with Caldicot & District Chamber of Trade and potentially a Public Meeting in this matter.**

Cllrs M Stevens and R J Higginson declared an interest in this item

***(6) Caldicot Castle AFC**

Appreciation for £2,000 donation

Town Council noted the appreciation for donation from Caldicot Castle AFC.

8865 (7) Mon CC

To consider response re: litter bins request

Town Council considered a response for litter bins in West End ward from Mon CC.

It was resolved to accept the offer of installation of a litter bin next to the bus shelter on Longfellow Road, just up from Longfellow Court and at the top of Station Road next to the railings by the pedestrianised crossing.

(8) First Group

To note response re: disabled access/pricing

Town Council considered a response from First advising the company is working towards DDA compliance date of January 2016 [single decker buses] and January 2017 [double decker buses] and in the meantime are unable to guarantee availability of low floor vehicles. Also First [under Competition Commission regulations] is unable to approach another operator to discuss pricing, however this can be facilitated by the Local Authority.

A lengthy discussion ensued in this matter in relation to the regularity of the buses and disparity in charges between First Group and Stagecoach. It was stated that tickets bought from one bus company could not be used on the other.

It was resolved:

- i) to write to Mon CC to request it pursues the issue of disparity of fares and provide information on the regularity of buses and whether the bus companies are adhering to the timetables.**
- ii) to write to the Welsh Government to request that whilst Town Council acknowledges DDA compliance dates of 2016/2017 the process is accelerated, if possible, for the benefit of the people of Caldicot**

(9) Mon CC

Re: Town Centre Site Meeting 4.7.12

Town Council considered the response from Mon CC in relation to the recent site visit of the town centre. The following items were discussed:

- mismatched paving slabs outside The Cross Inn
- benches installed as part of pedestrianisation and therefore considered responsibility of Mon CC
- state of public toilets – Town Council did not wish to give further consideration to the managing of the toilets
- urgent requirement for baby changing facilities in the town centre

It was resolved:

- i) to request an update in relation to mismatched paving slabs outside The Cross Inn**
- ii) to remind Mon CC of its commitment re: benches and request it carries out repairs/refurbishment of the benches in the town centre**
- iii) to request urgent requirement for baby changing facilities in the town centre**
- iv) to await further responses from Mon CC**

(10) Mon CC

Re: Local Bus Service Consultation response by 31.8.12

Town Council considered the Review of Bus Services due to expire in March 2013.

A discussion ensued and Members referred to the proposed public consultation in this matter. It was requested that Mon CC gives adequate notice of the proposed public consultation and advertises the details of the consultation by way of notices in all bus shelters in the town.

It was resolved:

- i) to forward any Member's comments on the above consultation to the Clerk by 31.8.12**
- ii) to request Mon CC gives adequate notice of the proposed public consultation and advertises the details in all bus shelters in the town**

8865 *(11) Mon Housing Association [MHA]

To note Appreciation for £1,200 donation - full report on Play in the Park by end September 2012

Town Council noted the appreciation for donation from MHA.

(12) Mon CC

To note CCTV Update

Town Council noted the CCTV update from Mon CC Project Officer ASB.

Cllr A Easson updated Members on the recent CCTV meeting.

(13) Mon CC

To note response re: Caldicot Countryside Park [b/f TC 27.6.12]

Town Council noted the response from Mon CC in relation to the state of the Castle grounds.

A discussion ensued in relation to residents being refused entry to walk their dogs during events held in the castle grounds and the consequent noise, particularly at night. It was stated that at the recent 'VW' event, some residents were permitted access and others were refused. It was also stated that local residents were not consulted prior to events being held at the castle.

It was resolved to invite Mon CC Countryside Manager to address Town Council in relation to events held at Caldicot Castle.

8866 Publications, Minutes, Etc [Displayed] – To Note available Town Council Office

[NB: One Voice Wales responds on WAG consultations on behalf of Town Councils via a network of volunteer responders - interested councillors require e-mail address – contact Clerk]

[A]NALC

Direct Info Service Issues 787/788

[B]STRI

Bulletin – July 2012

[C]Public Services Ombudsman for Wales

Annual Report 2011/12

[D]Sevenside Area Cttee

Agenda/Mins 4.7.12

[E] One Voice Wales

Mon/Npt Area Cttee AGM Agenda/Mins 12.7.12

[F] One Voice Wales

Larger Local Councils Cttee Agenda/Mins 11.7.12

[G]Scouts Wales

A study into the impact of Scouting

[H]Mon CC

Draft Response to M4 CEM consultation

[I] Aneurin Bevan CHC

News Bulletin June/July 2012

[J] Clerks & Councils Direct

July 2012 issue 82

[K]MON CC

CCTV Stats – May/June 2012

[L] Welsh Government

Call for Honours nominations (Birthday 2013)

Response by 27.7.12

[M]Local Government

Payments by parish and community councils and charter trustees consultation Response by 11.9.12

Town Council noted Publications [A] to [M] above, available in Town Council office.

8867 Planning [Displayed]

A) Planning Applications Received

DC/2012/00307: Outline Planning Permission – Residential development (Use class C3) to provide up to 340 dwellings including: a reconfigured access and creation of new emergency access route; new internal roads, footpaths/cyclepaths, car parking and highway improvements; a network of public open spaces, including landscaping, recreation space, public realm and biodiversity enhancement; and other ancillary works and activities requiring; site preparation, demolition and clearance, treatment, re-profiling and the installation of new services and infrastructure – Sudbrook Paper Mill, Sudbrook Road, Caldicot **TC Refused***

- Infrastructure not suitable
- Access issues
- Negative impact on services in the area eg schools, doctors' surgery, foodstores

DC/2012/0320: Single storey side extension – 2 Churchfield Avenue, Caldicot **TC Approved**

DC/2012/00524: Pitched roof garage and covered driveway – 29 Budden Crescent, Caldicot **TC Approved**

DC/2012/00565: Replacement of existing shop front and entrance door to new full width shop front and new side opening with entrance door and side screens. Internal refurbishment of premises – 27 Newport Road, Caldicot **TC Approved**

DC/2012/00566: Two fascia signs and two projecting hanging signs – 27 Newport Road, Caldicot **TC Approved**

DC/2012/00465: Installation of new floodlit 3g artificial turf pitch and associated floodlights (x8) and secure fencing (3.2m high) – Caldicot Comprehensive School, Mill Lane, Caldicot **TC Approved**

B) Mon CC Planning Committee Agenda 3.7.12– for information - Noted

8668 To Consider sale of surplus Queen's Diamond Jubilee Mugs

Correspondence (i) Mon CC (ii) One Voice Wales [Circ]

Town Council considered correspondence from Mon CC and One Voice Wales in relation to the sale of surplus Queen's Diamond Jubilee Mugs

It was resolved:

- to display a mug in Town Council cabinet**
- to donate a mug each to the Clerk and Admin Assistant**
- to offer for sale surplus mugs to Caldicot residents for £5 per mug [maximum 2 per person]**
- to advertise the sale of mugs in Town Council noticeboards and office window**
- that all profits from the sale of the mugs be divided equally between the past and present Mayor's charities, ie Velindre Hospital and Ty Hafan**
- to write a letter of appreciation to Rumney Pottery**

8669 To Nominate Town Council Representatives on following:

- Permanent Governing Body of Dewstow Primary School

It was resolved to nominate Cllr S Webb to the Permanent Governing Body of Dewstow Primary School

ii) One Voice Wales Training Champion [email address required]

It was resolved to nominate Cllr M Stevens as One Voice Wales Training Champion on behalf of Town Council

8670 Best Kept Garden Competition/Citizen Awards

a) To Consider Date/Prizes/Refreshments

Town Council considered arrangements for presentation evening for Best Kept Garden Competition/Citizen Awards.

The Mayor advised Members of previous prizes as follows:

- Best Kept Business Premises – Shield & Certificate
- Best Kept Allotment – Shield, £10 & Certificate
- Best Kept Front Garden:
 - 5th - £10 & Certificate
 - 4th - £10 & Certificate
 - 3rd - £15 & Certificate
 - 2nd - £20 & Certificate
 - 1st - £25 Certificate
- Mayor's Special Recognition Award - £25 & Certificate

Reference was made to the current weather conditions in relation to judging the competition and to Press coverage of the competition.

It was resolved to hold the presentation evening, with refreshments, following P&R Cttee on 9.10.12 with prizes to remain as previous.

b) To Note no Nominations for Citizen Awards

Town Council noted no nominations for Citizen Awards had been received to date.

It was resolved to extend the deadline for nomination of Citizen Awards.

8671 To Arrange a Meeting of Town Council Twinning Committee

It was resolved to arrange a meeting of Town Council Twinning Committee

8672 To Consider gates to Town Council Compound following installation of new fence

It was resolved to defer this item to Planning & Resources Cttee 11.9.12

8673 To note no response re: Code of Conduct training

Town Council noted no response re: Code of Conduct training

8674 'Name and Shame' [b/f TC 27.6.12]

This item was not considered due to legal implications.

8675 Reports

a) **To Approve Notes of site meeting with Mon CC Area Services Officer 4.7.12 [Circ]**

Town Council approved the notes of site meeting with Mon CC 4.7.12 – see Min 8865 (9) above

8675 b) To Approve Notes of meeting with Fields in Trust/Caldicot AFC 19.7.12 [To Follow]

The above notes were circulated to Members at the meeting and Members were requested to retain the notes for future consideration.

It was resolved to defer this item to Town Council meeting 26.9.12

c) Town Council Representatives on Outside Bodies

There were no reports.

d) Governors

Cllr S Webb updated Members in relation to the new Dewstow Primary School.

e) Other

There were no other reports.

8676 RESOLVED - Exclusion of Press and Public – By virtue of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public are excluded from discussions on the following item on the basis that disclosure thereof would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted:

i) To Consider Tenders for Hire of Christmas Lights

Four separate tenders received for hire of Christmas lights were circulated at the meeting.

It was resolved to set up a Christmas Lighting Sub-Committee and to nominate Cllrs R J Higginson, A Davies, F J Harvey, P Watts and S Webb to the sub-committee to consider Christmas lighting tenders prior to making a recommendation to Town Council at Planning & Resources Cttee 14.8.12.

A Sub-Committee meeting was arranged for 9.15am on Tuesday 31.7.12 at Town Council.

ii) To Note Tenders for Installation of Christmas Lights outstanding

It was resolved to defer this item to the Christmas Lighting Sub-Committee.

iii) To Consider costs for dog waste bins [b/f TC 27.6.12]

Town Council were advised of costs for additional dog waste bins. It was noted that no monies had been set aside in Estimates Committee for additional dog waste bins and it was requested if the dog waste collection contractor could carry out an assessment of the existing bins to ascertain if all the bins are regularly used.

It was resolved to request the dog waste collection contractor carries out an assessment of the 32 existing bins to ascertain if all the bins are regularly used and to defer the purchase of additional bins pending the outcome of the assessment.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

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Mayor/Deputy Mayor