

CALDICOT TOWN COUNCIL

Sandy Lane
Caldicot

Minutes of Meeting of Caldicot Town Council held at 6.30 pm on Wednesday, 30th June 2010 at Caldicot Town Council

Present: Cllrs: D Evans, Mayor
M Stevens, Deputy Mayor
C Ashwin
D Ashwin
J Bond
A Easson [6.40pm]
K Harris
E Harvey
J Haskey
R J Higginson
A Lloyd
A Perrett [6.40pm – left 9pm]
R Stewart

In attendance: A Sandiford, Members of the Public

8423 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs V Lloyd, P Watts, S Webb and Mrs G McIntyre, Clerk

It was resolved to send the Clerk a get well card and flowers following her recent operation.

8424 Declarations of Interest – To be identified under the relevant item/Forms to be completed

A Member advised Town Council that reasons for declarations should be declared.

Cllrs D Evans and R Stewart declared an interest in planning matters

Cllrs C Ashwin, D Ashwin, E Harvey and M Stevens declared an interest in Plan DC/2010/00502

Cllr D Ashwin declared an interest in Co-operative Bank and The Zone

Further declarations of interest to be identified under the relevant item.

8425 Suspended Proceedings – **Cabinet Member Regeneration, Environment & Resources & Head of Operations, Mon CC Re: Public Conveniences**

See Appendix A

8426 Open Forum for Public Participation [max. 30 mins at Mayor's Discretion]

The following issues were discussed in the public open forum:

- Proposed Travellers' site in Rogiet
- Chicane at Longcroft Road and ridged tiles installed under Safe Routes in Communities scheme – **Cllr D Evans to pursue**

8427 To Approve the Minutes of Full Town Council Meeting 26th May 2010

[Circ]

a) Mayor to Sign the Minutes

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

8428 To Approve the Minutes of Planning and Resources Committee 8th June 2010

[Circ]

a) Mayor to Sign the Minutes

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

8429 Correspondence [Circulated unless marked*]

- (1) **One Voice Wales** **One Voice Wales 2010 Conference and AGM 9.10.10**
£75 per delegate NB: To Note Motions to be
received by 2nd July 2010

It was resolved that the Mayor and Deputy attend the above Annual Conference and AGM as an approved duty and that the following motions be put forward for consideration:

- 1. Caldicot Town Council requests that local councils oppose any VAT increase on the Severn Crossing tolls**
- 2. Caldicot Town Council requests that local councils oppose any future increase in Severn Bridge fees**

- (2) **SLCC** **Regional Conference for Wales – Cwmbran, 14.7.10**
£75 per delegate

It was resolved that Cllr J Bond attends the above Regional Conference for Wales as an approved duty.

- (3) **Caldicot Police** **Buses Green Lane**

Town Council supported Caldicot Police in pursuing the issue of cars parking at the lower end of Green Lane, causing difficulties for passing buses.

It was resolved to request Mon CC inspect the area and make recommendations to Town Council in this matter.

- (4) **Mon CC** **CCTV Statistics May 2010**

Town Council noted CCTV statistics for May 2010.

- (5) **Resident** **Copy Response MCC Safe Routes In Communities**

Town Council noted copy response from Mon CC to a resident in relation to the Safe Routes in Communities scheme.

- (6) **Mon CC** **To Note Section 50 Drainage works on B4245 from**
19.7.10 for 8 weeks

Town Council noted the approved traffic management plan for the above scheme.

- (7) **One Voice Wales** **National Programme for Community and Town**
Councils in Wales

Town Council considered One Voice Wales Training Calendar for the coming financial year.

It was resolved that any Member wishing to attend an event, as an approved duty, contact Town Council office.

- (8) **Resident** **Re: Caldicot Castle**

Town Council noted correspondence commending Caldicot Castle on a recent wedding function held at the Castle.

Cllr A Easson declared an interest in this matter

Town Council considered correspondence for funding opportunities to assist in developing a wide range of projects to improve the local environment and transform areas of neglect into positive places for people to spend time.

It was resolved to forward the information to

- Rev J Hall
- Caldicot School
- Guides/Scouts
- Mon Youth Group
- Alan Browne, Mon CC Area Services Manager for distribution to the community

(10) Mon CC Presentation re: Ryder Cup 6pm Tues 29.6.10 at Magor Baptist Church

Town Council noted the date and venue for presentation re: Ryder Cup.

* (11) Caldicot Castle Friends Group Appreciation for £600 donation

Town Council noted appreciation for donation from Caldicot Castle Friends Group

(12) Welsh Assembly Government Local Authority Byelaws in Wales – Consultation doc Responses by 17 September 2010

Town Council considered consultation document for Local Authority Byelaws in Wales.

It was resolved that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor investigate Town Council current byelaws in relation to King George V Playing Fields and report back to Town Council at Planning & Resources Committee 10.8.10

8430 Publications, Minutes, Etc [Displayed] – To Note available Town Council Office

[A]NALC	Direct Info Service Issues 735/736
[B] Plus Publishing Service	Local Council's Update Issue 128
[C]NALC	Local Council Review Summer 2010
[D]Mon CC	Re: Rural Development Plan for Wales:- Monmouthshire's Business Plan 2008-2010 – Axis 3 Projects – BOOST Spring 2010
[E] One Voice Wales	Agenda – AGM 15.7.10
[F] Welsh Blood Service	Results for Caldicot 13-15.6.10
[G]Public Services Ombudsman for Wales	Annual Report 2009/10

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

8431 Planning [Displayed]

A) Planning Applications

DC/2010/00206: Two storey dwelling with integral garage and off-road parking Plot adjacent to Ash Cottage, Mill Lane, Caldicot

TC Approved

DC/2010/00423: To Retain a 2m high wooden fence West Winds Woodstock Way Caldicot

TC Approved

Cllr R J Higginson declared an interest in Plan DC/2010/00423

DC/2010/00502: Alterations and extension to provide disabled persons accommodation, 102
Chepstow Road, Caldicot

TC Refused*

- **Drainage issues in area**
- **Sewerage issues**
- **Visual amenity**
- **Residential amenity**

It was resolved to request Mon CC Planning Committee undertake a site visit in this matter

Cllrs E Harvey and M Stevens declared an interest in Plan DC/2010/00502

Cllrs C Ashwin and D Ashwin declared an interest in Plan DC/2010/00502 and left the room.

DC/2010/00473: Demolition of existing garage and outbuildings and construction of 2 storey detached garage – The Coach House, 43 Church Road, Caldicot

TC Approved

8431 B) Mon CC Planning Information

i) Refusal of Planning Permission

DC/2010/00066: Residential dwelling & garage – adj Upper House, Church Road **TC Ref 26.5.10**

*Residential Amenity

*Scale

*Congestion

*Loss of cultural heritage

*Conservation issues

*Increased traffic issues

ii) Planning Committee – Agenda 15.6.10, 29.6.10 [For Information]

Town Council noted the above Planning information from Mon CC.

C) Correspondence M.John Crowther & Assocs Re: DC/2010/00084 Garthalan Drive, Caldicot Mon CC Correspondence Re: DC/2010/00084 [Circ]

Town Council considered correspondence from M J Crowther & Associates and Mon CC in relation to Plan DC/2010/00084

It was proposed to re-affirm Town Council's previous decision to oppose plan DC/2010/00084 pending further information from Mon CC re: unresolved issues

A recorded vote was requested:

For: Cllrs CA/DA/JP/KH/EH/JH/RJH/AL/AP/MS

Against: Cllr AE

Abstentions: Cllrs DE/RS

It was resolved to re-affirm Town Council's previous decision to oppose plan DC/2010/00084 pending further information re: unresolved issues from Mon CC.

8432 Finance [Circ]

A) To Approve Updated Cheque List Schedule June 2010

Town Council resolved to approve the updated Cheque List Schedule as circulated

B) To Approve Financial Comparison April – June 2010

Town Council resolved to approve Financial Comparison April – June 2010 as circulated

8432 C) To Consider Re-investment Town Council Bond – Matures 21.7.10

Town Council resolved to re-invest Town Council Bond on maturity.

Cllr D Ashwin declared an interest in this matter

D) To Consider S137 LGA Applications for Grant

- **S137 LG Government Act 1972 Policy – For Information - Noted**
- **S137 Donations to date – For Information – Noted**

i) Probert Whist Club [see Committee for Account]

Town Council considered a request for £900 donation from Rene Probert Whist Club towards hall hire charges, playing cards and score cards.

Town Council did not consider a grant towards payment for hire of its own building to be in its best interest or the interest of other users of the building.

It was resolved to donate £50 to Rene Probert Whist Club for purchase of playing cards and score cards

The Mayor declared an interest and left the room during discussion of the following item.

In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor took the chair

ii) Caldicot Community Carnival

Town Council considered a request for £2,000 donation from Caldicot Community Carnival towards Christmas Lighting Event 2010.

It was resolved to donate £2,000 to Caldicot Community Carnival

The Mayor resumed the chair

iii) Caldicot Community Website [see Committee for Account]

Town Council considered a request for £150 donation from Caldicot Community Website for running and improvements costs of the website.

It was resolved to donate £150 to Caldicot Community Website

iv) Caldicot & District Chamber of Commerce [see Committee for Accounts]

Town Council considered a request for £2,000 donation each for the August Spectacular and Fireworks Event 2010 from Caldicot & District Chamber of Commerce.

Members were fully supportive of the proposed events being held in the town.

Clarification was requested in relation to the name of the out-sourced Treasurer and to the correct name of the organisation, as both ‘Chamber of Commerce’ and ‘Chamber of Trade’ formed part of the grant application. It was stated that the organisation was not affiliated to the “Chamber of Commerce”. It was further stated that Members were aware of who was applying for the grant.

It was resolved:

- i) to contribute £2,000 to the August Spectacular, subject to clarification of the following items:**
 - the name of the out-sourced Treasurer**
 - the correct name of the organisation**
- ii) to contribute £2,000 to the Fireworks Event, subject to a full breakdown of accounts for the August Spectacular being accepted by Town Council.**

8432 E) To Consider S142 LGA request for £8.000 Contribution from Caldicot & District CAB [Circ]

Town Council resolved to contribute £8,000 to Caldicot & District CAB, following receipt of Report and Accounts for 2009, as set aside in Estimates Committee for 2010/11.

F) St Mary's Church Hall Community Luncheon Club – Signed Audited Account/Update [see Committee for Accounts]

Town Council noted an update from St Mary's Church Hall Community Luncheon Club, together with audited accounts for 2009.

It was resolved to send a letter of appreciation to St Mary's Church Hall Community Luncheon Club.

8433 To Consider Public Services Ombudsman for Wales – Complaints Wales Consultation: Proposal for a common complaints system for public service providers in Wales - Response by 23rd July 2010 [Circ]

Town Council accepted proposals for a common complaints system for public service providers in Wales and offered no responses in relation to the consultation document.

8434 Members Items of Business [Circ]

a) Cllr C Ashwin i) Annual Garden Competition

Cllr Ashwin requested if people who engage professional contractors should be allowed to compete in the annual garden competition and also requested a special prize be offered for exceptional effort.

It was resolved:

- i) that guest houses and public houses only be permitted to engage professional contractors and amalgamate under the category of 'businesses'**
- ii) that an additional discretionary award for exceptional effort be awarded by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor with a prize of £25**

ii) Request for emergency meeting re: Travellers sites

Cllr Ashwin requested an emergency meeting of Town Council to discuss 'travellers sites' in light of the current proposals for a travellers site in Rogiet.

A discussion ensued and reference was made to recent press articles on this issue. It was stated that facts were required in order to fully discuss this matter.

It was resolved to await the outcome of the Mon CC Full Council meeting, to be arranged, when this item would be discussed

Cllrs A Easson, D Evans and R J Higginson declared an interest in this matter

8434 b) Cllr A Easson

i) Request for Bus Shelters Dewstow Road

Cllr Easson requested Town Council consider a survey of the number 62 bus route in Caldicot to identify a need for bus shelters, particularly in the Dewstow ward and near to Weisental Close and Margretts Way.

It was resolved to request Mon CC undertake a survey of the number 62 bus route in Caldicot.

ii) Chernobyl visit

Cllr A Easson advised Members of a group of children visiting Caldicot from Chernobyl and requested if Members wished to make a personal donation towards the visit.

The Mayor stated he had donated £50 towards the visit from his personal allowance.

It was resolved that if Members wished to make a personal donation, they could do so via Town Council office.

Cllr J Haskey declared an interest in this matter

Standing Orders were called for 15 minutes

c) Cllr J Bond

i) Annual Garden Competition

A lengthy discussion ensued on the rules and judging of the annual garden competition. It was requested if Members wished to revert to previous arrangements where each Member nominated gardens in their wards for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to ultimately judge. A further suggestion was made that Town Council judge and a neighbouring Town/Community judge swap areas in order to be totally independent.

It was proposed and seconded that an independent person from outside Caldicot judges the garden competition.

An Amendment was proposed and seconded that DC judge the garden competition

A vote ensued: For the Amendment: 6/For the Proposal: 4 – the Amendment was carried.

It was resolved:

- i) to request DC undertake the judging of Town Council Best Kept Garden Competition**
- ii) to consider fee at Planning & Resources Committee 13.7.10**

ii) To consider Deputies for TC Members on outside bodies

It was resolved to consider this item with agenda item 13

In relation to the Personnel Committee meeting, a Member stated they had not been notified of the meeting. The Mayor apologised, stating Cllr D Ashwin had been notified of the meeting as per his previous request.

It was resolved to notify all Members of future Committee meetings

APPENDIX A

8425 Suspended Proceedings – Cabinet Member Regeneration, Environment & Resources & Head of Operations, Mon CC Re: Public Conveniences

The Mayor welcomed and introduced Cllr Bryan Jones and Mr Roger Hoggins.

Cllr Jones outlined budget cuts for 2011/2012

Mr Hoggins outlined the review of Public Conveniences undertaken and referred to extended consultation with Town and Community Councils for opinions and ideas in order to report back to Cabinet in July 2010 with feedback from meetings.

No recommendations to close public conveniences in Caldicot at this stage

- No legal obligation to provide public conveniences
- 20+ public conveniences in the county
- Efforts to be concentrated in towns where visitors arrive and invest in those to improve quality of facilities – Mon CC will no longer fund or manager other public conveniences around the county
- Public conveniences in Caldicot - Jubilee Way car park and Caldicot Castle countryside park
- Town & Community Councils could transfer responsibility of public conveniences or risk closure
- Alternatives
 - WAG looking to promote alternative arrangements via a grant of £500/year to private businesses who allow the public to use their toilet facilities
 - “superloos”
- Advertised in local press – take up slow
- Mon CC open to suggestions from Town and Community Councils
- £14,000/year for upkeep of Jubilee Way public conveniences

Members’ comments:

- Await outcome of Cabinet in July
- Update Jubilee Way public conveniences
- What business is going to allow use of their toilets for £500/year?
- Upgrade Castle toilets with showers and additional facilities – charges to campers/caravaners
- Will the toilets be made up to standard before take-over?
- Could car parking charges in towns be used towards upkeep of public conveniences?
- Town Council trying to promote use of Caldicot Castle – Mon CC gives nothing to Caldicot
- Investment needed in Caldicot not closure of facilities
- Mon CC should be more inward looking as per private sector when making cutbacks

It was agreed to await the outcome from July Cabinet meeting.

The Mayor thanked Cllr Jones and Mr Hoggins for addressing the meeting.

Cllrs A Easson and R J Higginson declared an interest in this matter