

MINUTES FOR 11th November 2024

1. Councillors Present -:

- a. Mathern: Cllr M Sidwell, Cllr J Harris
- b. Mounton: - Cllr D Carne
- c. Pwllmeyric: -. Cllr S Stevens, G Page
- d. County Councillor Louise Brown

2. Councillors Apologies -:

- a. Mathern: - None
- b. Mounton: - None
- c. Pwllmeyric: – None

3. Members of the Public -:

- a) Two Members of the public

4. Member of Police :-

- a) None

51/24 PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1) Public Comment: -

None

2) To receive police Report

There were four incidents around Mathern from 01/10/24 – 31/10/24, this involves different types of incidents. These were dealt with by NPT and Response officers from the Monmouthshire south area. There is one incident, we cannot show with the community council as they are too personal to discuss.

- The first incident happened in “ST PIERRE HOTEL AND COUNTRY CLUB” where someone called 999, by mistake the hotel staff resolved this.
- The second log was speeding check done by Gwent police.
- Third incident was another call at “ST PIERRE HOTEL AND COUNTRY CLUB” this was another mistake dial, and police were not needed.

This month, officers from the NPT were able to organise a speed monitoring OP for the village of Mathern. As there were numerous complaints from residents about seeding & parking. This was conducted by Gosafe team.

What we plan to do in November:

- Active patrols the area.

- Still conduct speed monitoring in the village.
 - Attend the next council meeting (If possible).
- Clerk to contact Police for statistics on recent speed watch initiative

3) Apologies

None

4) Declaration of pecuniary and personal interest

None

5. Minutes of the previous meeting: -

- a) **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting 21st October 2024 with one spelling amendment as true and accurate records. These were to be signed by Cllr M Sidwell To be placed on the Website.

52/24 Finance

- a. To consider approval of payments as per below. **All approved.**
- b. Monthly Bank Reconciliation authorisation – October **approved by Cllr D Carne.**
- c. Clerks pay increase as NALC – backdated to 01 04 2024
- Clerk on Spinal 23 increase agreed by NALC £16.67 increased to £17.29,
 - Excel spread sheet to be amended from 1 11 2024 to new rate.
 - Back pay of £242.42 agreed to be paid with November salary.
- d. Three-year Forecast to assist with Budget setting December 2024
- a) This was discussed and Cllrs to finalise this at the Finance meeting on 9th December. Clerk to get a quote for Noticeboard in Moun-ton to be replaced, a tree surgeon to survey the Coronation Trees and let us have a quote for any works needed. 3 quotes for sign clearance within the 3 Villages on a yearly contract. On a yearly contract. Consideration for a community event for the celebration on 8th May 2025 for Wales VE Day 80. To sing I vow to me thee my Country and ring out bells at 6.30

Payments October/November

04 11 2024	Stock it Ltd	8.40 (shortfall increase from Sept)
04 11 2024	Stock It Ltd – Host -registration-fee	90.00
04 11 2024	J Kelley Stationery (Box)	9.50
	Payments after agenda Issued	
06 11 2024	Stock It Ltd	59.40
11 11 2024	Internet/Telephone	73.99

12 11 2024	Smart Pensions	143.52
11 11 2024	Merlin Waste (Dog Bins)	96.60
12 11 2024	Smart Pensions	143.52
12 11 2024	Viking	83.62
15 11 2024	War Memorial Garden	47.91
18 11 2024	Village Hall Rent	40.00

53/24 Responses to queries raised at previous meetings:-

a) Update Welsh Water Meeting Re Mounton Brook

- Meeting to be held 25 10 2024 via zoom.
- Relining work of the pipes to start
- Welsh water to investigate future development in Shirenewton and affect this will have.
- **Cllrs are very concerned that Waste is continuing to be discharged into the stream**
- Next meeting in January 2025

54/24 HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS

- Clerk to chase MCC re saplings A48
- Signage Facing the wrong Way damaged, Junction Mounton Brook Lodge, Mathern Road.
- Mud on Road Baileys Hay, Under Motorway Bridge to St Tewdrics Well, Entrance St Pierre Woods, Runstan Lane.
- Pavements Hayes Gate to Mounton Brook Lodge – path to Texaco garage.
- Mounton Brook blocked entrance to Mathern
- Crownhill lorries still deposit material at Palace Farm Ground.
- Hedges cut village – foliage left growing around light posts
- Signage needed Mounton Brook Lodge – caution flood diversion sign.

55/24 COUNCILLORS REPORTS/CLERK REPORTS

a. One Voice Wales – Remote joint Meeting 25th October 2024 Cllr M Sidwell to attend

Cllr M Sidwell unable to sign into meeting.

b. Defibrillator checks

All checked and working.

c. County Councillor Brown advised

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT NOVEMBER 2024

County Councillor Brown advised:

Public Services Scrutiny Committee on the 14th of October 2024

The report discussed dentistry services in Monmouthshire with a concern about NHS dentistry with an invitation from the health board to discuss dentistry questions and to take members questions. If of interest the meeting can be watched at the following link:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=260&MId=5839>

Remuneration Committee on the 22 October 2024

This committee has been set up by the Labour administration to review the salaries of Chief Officers and is attended by 2 Labour Cabinet Members and 1 independent who supports the Labour administration.

The recommendation is for an increase of circa £10K on the present salary level of the Chief Executive phased in over 2 years.

The link to the reports can be found here:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=349&MId=6304>

This has been reported in the press as follows:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=5742>

County Council meeting on the 24th of October 2024

The **Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP)** Deposit Plan stage was discussed at a Full Council meeting last Thursday (24th October 2024). I attended as your local councillor and spoke on behalf of residents and the arguments are still the same in Chepstow even though the focus is now firmly on the proposed development off Mounon Road (pages 125-128 of the plan or P155 of the meeting report) rather than Bayfield. **The Plan will now move again to Public Consultation and residents will need to submit/re-submit their views in due course if they want them to be heard.**

There is a site being proposed for 26 houses in Shirenewton for Land West of Red Landes which is on the Earlswood Road past the village boundary on the opposite side of the road to the recreation hall. I mentioned the main Sewerage pipe concerns at the Place Scrutiny meeting.

You can find the link to the meeting agenda and relevant documents as well as the you tube which can be watched.

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=5742>

This RLDP debate started at 00:30:50 and concludes at 04:01:44. You can find specific Chepstow contributions at:

Cllr Christopher Edwards – 00:45:43 (St Kingsmark ward)

Cllr Paul Pavia – 01:55:30 (Mount Pleasant ward)

Cllr Louise Brown – 02:02:41 (Shirenewton ward)

The Place Committee scrutiny draft minutes can be found at the bottom of the supporting documents but should have been in the supplementary agenda a point I later corrected to my contribution in the meeting.

A recorded vote was taken at the end of the debate and the recommendations/deposit plan put forward by the Labour/Green administration was passed by 21 votes to 20 votes, with one abstention.

The Chepstow and I voted against the proposed preferred strategy (the Deposit stage) for reasons given in our contributions.

This finalised RLDP Deposit Plan will now go to public consultation before being submitted to Welsh Government for approval.

This is the final round of public consultation on this plan, which the Cabinet Member indicated will start in November. It is anticipated that there will be both online and physical drop-in opportunities to provide your views and feedback.

It is recommended that you **register yourself on the County Council's RLDP database**, so that you will be alerted when that next phase of public consultation starts. You can do that by emailing planningpolicy@monmouthshire.gov.uk

The 6-week consultation will take place between the 4th of November to the 16th of December.

Monmouthshire County Council have indicated that a number of community and stakeholder engagement events ('drop-in sessions') are being held throughout the County during the consultation period, listed below, where local communities can speak to a planning officer about the consultation documents. Two virtual engagement events (Microsoft Teams live events) will also take place during the consultation period, whereby officers will present the Deposit RLDP and respond to questions. Further details of these events can be viewed on the Council's website via the following link as well as the consultation:

<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/rldp-consultation-2024/>

Venue	Date	Time
Raglan Old Church School Community Centre, Chepstow Road, Raglan	Tuesday 12 th November 2024	2pm – 7pm
Virtual Engagement Event	Wednesday 13 th November 2024	2pm – 3.30pm
Abergavenny Market Hall, Cross Street, Abergavenny	Thursday 14 th November 2024	2pm – 7pm
Usk Community Hub, Maryport Street, Usk	Monday 18 th November 2024	2pm – 7pm
Palmer Centre, High Street, Chepstow	Thursday 21 st November 2024	2pm – 7pm
Shire Hall, Agincourt Square, Monmouth	Monday 25 th November 2024	2pm – 7pm
Magor Baptist Chapel, The Square, Magor	Wednesday 27 th November 2024	2pm – 7pm
Portskewett Recreational Hall, Manor Way, Portskewett	Friday 29 th November 2024	2pm – 7pm
Goytre Village Hall, Newton Road, Penperlleni	Monday 2 nd December 2024	2pm – 7pm
Caldicot Town Council Building, Sandy Lane, Caldicot	Wednesday 4 th December 2024	2pm – 7pm
Virtual Engagement Event	Monday 9 th December 2024	6pm – 7.30pm

MCC is also holding a virtual engagement event for Town and Community Councils on Tuesday 5th November 6pm-7.30pm and would encourage town and community council representatives to attend this session.

However, for your response to be fully recorded, attending a session should be as well as submitting a response to the consultation not instead of doing so.

Cllr M Sidwell to complete the feedback document for the RLDP and circulate to Cllrs and Villagers via social media before submitting this before 16 12 2024.

d. Annual Risk Assessments Mathern

- Completed to be finalised and returned to the Clerk
- Noted Plaque St Tewdrics Church needs attention.
- Warning Plaque needed St Tewdrics Well – Cllr G page felt that a metal grid should be placed for safety due to deep water.

56/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Plus any applications received after Agenda is issued.

- a. New applications –
- b. Decisions and Appeals –
 - DM/2024/00526 Millers Arms Mathern – Appeal against refusal retention of timber building - For advise only no response needed,
- c. Enforcement -

57/24 CORRESPONDENCE AND FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

56/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Plus any applications received after Agenda is issued.

- a. New applications –
- b. Decisions and Appeals –

DM/2024/00526 Millers Arms Mathern – Appeal against refusal retention of timber building - For advise only no response needed,
- c. Enforcement -

57/24 CORRESPONDENCE AND FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

07 10 2024	OVW Annual Conference 10/10
08 10 2024	OVW Training certificate D Carne
11 10 2024	OVW Terms of reference
11 10 2024	Viking Order
15 10 2024	Notice Mathern ward from MCC – Closing date 07 10 2024
21 10 2024	Approved Salary Clerk 0 Cllr M Sidwell
22 10 2024	New Model Financial Regulations 2024 – previous 2019 * Discuss
22 10 2024	OVW annual financial timetable
22 10 2024	MCC Report fallen tree St Pierre Wood
23 10 2024	Request to Police for police report
23 10 2024	P A Purchase awaiting invoice
23 10 2024	J Anderson resignation from Speed watch as no volunteers
25 10 2024	Welsh Water Meeting update
25 10 2024	Pay agreement update OVW – Backdate to 31 04 2024
29 10 2024	Stock It invoice owed 4.20 x 2 September and October increase.
29 10 2024	Freedom of information request – re purchase of Christmas lights 2023/24
31 10 2024	Invoice Merlin Waste 93.60 Paid D D
31 10 2024	Letter Merlin Waste increase in collection 01 04 2025 15p a bin £7.35 each bin
31 10 2024	MCC request for dates of all Cllrs training on Code of Conduct
31 10 2024	Invoice Stock it 90.00 Hosting
31 10 2024	Monthly 355 fee Stock it Ltd £59.40
01 11 2024	Wales VE Day 80- 8th May 2025 * for discussion

New Model Code to be agended to be adopted at the finance meeting on 9 12 2024

Pay agreement agreed as per 52/24 ©

Increase in bin collections noted for finance meeting.

Wales V E Day to be agended for January – event to be considered

58/24 OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Community Resilience Plan – Climate Emergency

This is ongoing

Pwllmeyric Co-Opt Vacancy

One interested candidate awaiting written application. If received to be co-opted at the finance meeting.

Website Updates: -

These were completed by James Andrsion
Clerk to update Councillors details on website.

Councillor vacancy Mathern Ward

- This to now be advertised as MCC have received no call for election.

Memorial for Cllr David Harris

- A Rose has been ordered named Peace and Remembrance.
Cllr J Harris to let Clerk have the invoice

59/24 PROJECTS AWAITING COMPLETION

Work re Risk assessment 2023/2024 Benches/telephone box/ War Memorial fence
To be completed before end of 31 03 2025

60/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: Finance meeting 9th December 2024

Apologies received from Cllr G Page, Cllr D Carne for finance meeting.

Meeting ended at 8.15

January Meeting 13th January 2025

Signed

Dated