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County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Tuesday, 3 September 2019

Notice of meeting

Central Monmouthshire Area Committee

Wednesday, 11th September, 2019 at 11.00 am,
Room P4 - County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Election of Chair.	
2.	Appointment of Vice-Chair.	
3.	Apologies for absence.	
4.	Declarations of Interest.	
5.	Public Open Forum.	
6.	To receive data from the Buckholt Speed Limit Reduction Group.	
7.	To discuss whether there is a need for a safety crossing on the Wonastow Road / bottom of Link Road - request by Monmouth Town Council.	
8.	Matters for discussion:	
8.1.	Hopper Bus Service in Overmonnow.	1 - 2
8.2.	Disabled Parking Bay, Monmouth.	
8.3.	The picnic bench and table outside the Gatehouse Public House (for the patrons to use).	
8.4.	Coping stones missing from the old Monnow Bridge.	
9.	Ward Matters.	

10.	To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting.	3 - 4
11.	Next Meeting. Wednesday 15 th January 2020 at 10.00am.	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

D. Blakebrough
P. Clarke
R. Edwards
M. Feakins
R. John
L. Jones
P. Jones
R. Roden
V. Smith
B. Strong
J. Treharne

Public Information

Access to paper copies of agendas and reports

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Welsh Language

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public through the medium of Welsh or English. We respectfully ask that you provide us with adequate notice to accommodate your needs.

Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

Our purpose

Building Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Objectives we are working towards

- Giving people the best possible start in life
- A thriving and connected county
- Maximise the Potential of the natural and built environment
- Lifelong well-being
- A future focused council

Our Values

Openness. We are open and honest. People have the chance to get involved in decisions that affect them, tell us what matters and do things for themselves/their communities. If we cannot do something to help, we'll say so; if it will take a while to get the answer we'll explain why; if we can't answer immediately we'll try to connect you to the people who can help – building trust and engagement is a key foundation.

Fairness. We provide fair chances, to help people and communities thrive. If something does not seem fair, we will listen and help explain why. We will always try to treat everyone fairly and consistently. We cannot always make everyone happy, but will commit to listening and explaining why we did what we did.

Flexibility. We will continue to change and be flexible to enable delivery of the most effective and efficient services. This means a genuine commitment to working with everyone to embrace new ways of working.

Teamwork. We will work with you and our partners to support and inspire everyone to get involved so we can achieve great things together. We don't see ourselves as the 'fixers' or problem-solvers, but we will make the best of the ideas, assets and resources available to make sure we do the things that most positively impact our people and places.

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The Argument For A Hopper Bus In Overmonnow

Overmonnow is the only Ward in Monmouth that does not have it's own bus service to and from town. If you wish to take a bus into town you have to walk a third of the way up the Link Road to the bus stop opposite the junction to Carbonne Close (which involves crossing the Link Road at the daunting dropped curb (uncontrolled crossing at the bottom of the Link Road just before the junction with Wonastow Road as there is **NO** footpath the other side of the road), or alternatively, walk down Wonastow Road and catch the bus at the stop opposite the junction to Somerset Road. The latter option, means you are more than halfway into town and therefore many people would not bother to wait for a bus. The bus people would need to catch is the bus coming in from Abergavenny or the bus coming in from Newport. Both buses run aprox. Every 2 hours with about 45 minutes between buses. This simply is not good enough.

There are currently 3 (2 fit for use, the other waiting to be worked on) walking options into town. 2 options fit for use, can be argued that they are not. There is a footpath that runs from the new development at Kings Wood Gate that follows the pond and comes out on Wonastow Road opposite Tri-Wall (near Model Farm). The path then runs adjacent to Wonastow Road where there is a dropped curb (uncontrolled crossing) to cross Wonastow Road, or the industrial Estate (West) entrance to again cross Wonastow Road. The footpath on the opposite side is somewhat narrow and somewhat overgrown. Then we come to the dropped curb (uncontrolled crossing) on the Link Road. Just yards from the junction onto Wonastow Road and yards from a speed limit sign of 30MPH. It is also on a curve in the road with a tree line and verge that is somewhat overgrown. Once having crossed the Link Road, most if not all residents then choose to walk down Old Wonastow Road (Unadopted and uneven) and then they either carry on up past the Family Learning Centre (Old Infants School) through to a dropped curb (uncontrolled crossing) at Elstob Way which then leads to the round-a-bout on St. Thomas' Square. Or, some residents choose to cross at the junction into Victoria Estate/Old Wonastow Road/Lockwood Row (by the pinch point) and cross into Kings Fee at the entrance to Wonastow Road Industrial Estate (East). Mandarin Stone in particular have many deliveries a day, and whilst many of the heavy goods vehicles that deliver to The Industrial Estate (East) do come from the Link Road, some do enter from Drybridge Street direction. This is a busy road with speed bumps. But once past the pinch point, the speed management stops. I believe that the road from the new development down to the pinch point should be treated as a residential road (despite it feeding Tri-Wall and the Industrial Estate (West)) and some sort of speed management should be implemented. There is a safe route into town once across the Link Road. But it needs to be signposted so that people know it's there. Even residents from Carbonne Close etc choose not to use this footpath which runs the length of the Link Road behind Wonastow Road. It does lead to town with exists along the way to get to Kings Fee and Overmonnow Primary School. But it has been said that people won't use this footpath as it adds time to the journey and isn't direct enough.

The third option, Route M8 in the 'Integrated Network Maps' is a footpath that runs through Williamsfield Lane. It starts by the Zebra crossing on Wonastow Road and continues past Drybridge Vets then the entrance to Overmonnow Primary School and leads to Ash Lane in the Drybridge Ward. Just before the entrance to Ash Lane there is a footpath on the left that runs between Kings Fee and Ash Lane all the way to the Industrial Estate (West). Again, people have suggested that they won't use this route even after it has been upgraded to a designated footpath/cycleway for safety reasons. This footpath will connect with a footpath into the new development. However, you will have to cross the road near Natural Animal Feeds (at the top end of the estate) to get to the footpath. With lorries parking overnight on the Industrial Estate (West) some people feel unsafe walking the Industrial Estate at night.

This only increases the need for a shuttle bus service in Overmonnow. There are due to be more properties built around that area. We are meant to be encouraging active travel and less cars on the road. There needs to be a bus that runs every half hour around the Overmonnow Ward.

Routes. Over the new Bridge and into Goldwire Lane through Clawdd Du then Somerset Road. Onto Wonastow Road (Kings Fee) down to the new development and then up the link Road then into town.

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 10

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Central Mon Area Committee held
at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK - County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk on
Wednesday, 1st May, 2019 at 10.00 am**

PRESENT: County Councillor M.Feakins (Chairman)
County Councillor (Vice Chairman)

County Councillors: R.John, R.Roden and V. Smith

Also in attendance: Monmouth Town Councillors A. Dewhurst, T. Christopher

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicola Perry Senior Democracy Officer

APOLOGIES:

Councillors R. Edwards, L. Jones, P. Jones, B. Strong and J. Treharne

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Public Open Forum

There were no matters for the public open forum.

3. Matters for discussion:

3.1. Monnow Street - Councillor Roden

Concerns have been raised by a number of groups that 20 Monnow Street is an eye-sore within Monmouth Shopping Centre.

Monmouth Town Council have suggested improvements by way of covering boards and have contacted Planning Officers for Council views. A structural survey states that the building is safe. Advice is sought on what MCC can do to pressure owners into resolving the issue.

Councillor Smith referred to 2 buildings in Usk, 1 being listed, that also need attention, but recognised the restraints on the Council.

The Chair noted the issues and agreed that discussions with the owner are needed. He referred to a Section 215 notice which would allow the Council to force the hand of the owner to bring the property up to standard. He added that he would speak to Planning Officers to identify options and report back any actions to be taken.

This was agreed as an urgent matter.

3.2. Electronic notice board for Usk town - Councillor Brian Strong

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Central Mon Area Committee held at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK - County Hall, The Rhadyr, Usk on Wednesday, 1st May, 2019 at 10.00 am

In the absence of Councillor Strong, the Chair spoke to the Committee about an electronic notice board to be placed in Usk. We heard that Usk Town Council are in favour of this, similar to that in Abergavenny, and funds have been earmarked towards this. The Chair agreed to forward the recommendation to the relevant Cabinet Member.

Congratulations were awarded to MCC, and all involved in the process, on the opening of Usk Post Office, believed to be the first local authority to take over a post office in the UK.

3.3. Removal of parking charges at Regatta days for Monmouth Rowing Club and Raft Race - Councillor Roden

Councillor Roden introduced Maggie Hickland who was in attendance to represent Monmouth Rowing Club regarding parking difficulties at regatta events.

Following a detailed presentation Members were keen to support the request to remove parking charges at these events, recognising the benefits such events bring to the County.

It was noted that there would be no financial consequence as charges are yet to be introduced.

The Chair supported the request and agreed to identify the key information for an ongoing arrangement.

4. Ward Matters

Councillor Roden referred to a dangerous section of road at Buckholt where residents would like to see a 20mph limit implemented.

It was agreed to ask Highways Officers to the next meeting to address.

5. Minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2019 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

6. Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 18th September 2019 at 10am

Noted.

The meeting ended at 11.05 am