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County Hall
Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Wednesday, 27 November 2024

Notice of meeting :

Place Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 5th December, 2024 at 2.00 pm,
Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK and Remote Attendance

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
2.1.	<p>Public Open Forum</p> <p>Scrutiny Committee Public Open Forum ~ Guidance</p> <p>Our Scrutiny Committee meetings are live streamed and a link to the live stream will be available on the meeting page of the Monmouthshire County Council website</p> <p>If you would like to share your thoughts on any proposals being discussed by Scrutiny Committees, you can submit your representation in advance via this form</p> <p>Please share your views by uploading a video or audio file (maximum of 4 minutes) or; Please submit a written representation (via Microsoft Word, maximum of 500 words)</p> <p>You will need to register for a My Monmouthshire account in order to submit the representation or use your log in, if you have registered previously.</p>	

The deadline for submitting representations to the Council is 5pm three clear working days in advance of the meeting.

If representations received exceed 30 minutes, a selection of these based on theme will be shared at the Scrutiny Committee meeting. All representations received will be made available to councillors prior to the meeting.

If you would like to attend one of our meetings to speak under the Public Open Forum at the meeting, you will need to give three working days' notice by contacting Scrutiny@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

The amount of time afforded to each member of the public to speak is at the chair's discretion, but to enable us to accommodate multiple speakers, we ask that contributions be no longer than 3 minutes.

If you would like to suggest future topics for scrutiny by one of our Scrutiny Committees, please do so by emailing Scrutiny@monmouthshire.gov.uk

3. Water Quality and Sewage Infrastructure

To invite Welsh Water to discuss water quality concerns and sewage concerns, particularly related to the Monmouth and Shirenewton area.

4. Place Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme and Action List	1 - 8
5. Council and Cabinet Work Planner	9 - 22
6. To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting	23 - 28
7. Next Meeting: 6th February 2025	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillor Louise Brown	Shirenewton;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Emma Bryn	Wyesham;	Independent Group
County Councillor Tomos Dafydd Davies	Llanfoist & Govilon;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Lisa Dymock	Portskewett;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jane Lucas	Osbaston;	Welsh Conservative Party
County Councillor Jackie Strong	Caldicot Cross;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Laura Wright	Grofield;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor Tudor Thomas	Park;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru
County Councillor John Crook	Magor East with Undy;	Welsh Labour/Llafur Cymru

Public Information

Access to paper copies of agendas and reports

A copy of this agenda and relevant reports can be made available to members of the public attending a meeting by requesting a copy from Democratic Services on 01633 644219. Please note that we must receive 24 hours notice prior to the meeting in order to provide you with a hard copy of this agenda.

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

To become a zero-carbon county, supporting well-being, health and dignity for everyone at every stage of life.

Objectives we are working towards

- Fair place to live where the effects of inequality and poverty have been reduced.
- Green place to live and work with reduced carbon emissions and making a positive contribution to addressing the climate and nature emergency.
- Thriving and ambitious place, where there are vibrant town centres and where businesses can grow and develop.
- Safe place to live where people have a home where they feel secure in.
- Connected place where people feel part of a community and are valued.
- Learning place where everybody has the opportunity to reach their potential.

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.

Kindness: We will show kindness to all those we work with putting the importance of relationships and the connections we have with one another at the heart of all interactions.

Monmouthshire Scrutiny Question Guide

Role of the Pre-meeting	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is the Committee scrutinising this? (background, key issues) 2. What is the Committee’s role and what outcome do Members want to achieve? 3. Is there sufficient information to achieve this? If not, who could provide this? <p>- Agree the order of questioning and which Members will lead - Agree questions for officers and questions for the Cabinet Member</p>	
Questions for the Meeting	
<p><u>Scrutinising Performance</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does performance compare with previous years? Is it better/worse? Why? 2. How does performance compare with other councils/other service providers? Is it better/worse? Why? 3. How does performance compare with set targets? Is it better/worse? Why? 4. How were performance targets set? Are they challenging enough/realistic? 5. How do service users/the public/partners view the performance of the service? 6. Have there been any recent audit and inspections? What were the findings? 7. How does the service contribute to the achievement of corporate objectives? 8. Is improvement/decline in performance linked to an increase/reduction in resource? What capacity is there to improve? 	<p><u>Scrutinising Policy</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who does the policy affect ~ directly and indirectly? Who will benefit most/least? 2. What is the view of service users/stakeholders? What consultation has been undertaken? Did the consultation process comply with the Gunning Principles? Do stakeholders believe it will achieve the desired outcome? 3. What is the view of the community as a whole - the ‘taxpayer’ perspective? 4. What methods were used to consult with stakeholders? Did the process enable all those with a stake to have their say? 5. What practice and options have been considered in developing/reviewing this policy? What evidence is there to inform what works? Does the policy relate to an area where there is a lack of published research or other evidence? 6. Does the policy relate to an area where there are known inequalities? 7. Does this policy align to our corporate

	<p>objectives, as defined in our corporate plan? Does it adhere to our Welsh Language Standards?</p> <p>8. Have all relevant sustainable development, equalities and safeguarding implications</p> <p>9. been taken into consideration? For example, what are the procedures that need to be in place to protect children?</p> <p>10.</p> <p>11. How much will this cost to implement and what funding source has been identified?</p> <p>12.</p> <p>13. How will performance of the policy be measured and the impact evaluated</p>
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General Questions:

<p><u>Empowering Communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are we involving local communities and empowering them to design and deliver services to suit local need? • Do we have regular discussions with communities about service priorities and what level of service the council can afford to provide in the future? • Is the service working with citizens to explain the role of different partners in delivering the service, and managing expectations? • Is there a framework and proportionate process in place for collective performance assessment, including from a citizen’s perspective, and do you have accountability arrangements to support this? • Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out? If so, can the Leader and Cabinet/Senior Officers provide members with copies and a detailed explanation of the EQIA conducted in respect of these proposals? • Can the Leader and Cabinet/Senior Officers assure members that these proposals comply with Equality and Human Rights legislation? Do the proposals comply with the Local Authority’s Strategic Equality Plan? <p><u>Service Demands</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will policy and legislative change affect how the council operates? • Have we considered the demographics of our council and how this will impact on service delivery and funding in the future? • Have you identified and considered the long-term trends that might affect your service area, what impact these trends could have on your service/your service could have on these trends, and what is being done in response? <p><u>Financial Planning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have robust medium and long-term financial plans in place? • Are we linking budgets to plans and outcomes and reporting effectively on these?

Making savings and generating income

- Do we have the right structures in place to ensure that our efficiency, improvement and transformational approaches are working together to maximise savings?
- How are we maximising income?
- Have we compared other council's policies to maximise income and fully considered the implications on service users?
- Do we have a workforce plan that takes into account capacity, costs, and skills of the actual versus desired workforce?

Questions to ask within a year of the decision:

- Were the intended outcomes of the proposal achieved or were there other results?
- Were the impacts confined to the group you initially thought would be affected i.e. older people, or were others affected e.g. people with disabilities, parents with young children?
- Is the decision still the right decision or do adjustments need to be made?

Questions for the Committee to conclude...

Do we have the necessary information to form conclusions/make recommendations to the executive, council, other partners? If not, do we need to:

- (i) Investigate the issue in more detail?
- (ii) Obtain further information from other witnesses – Executive Member, independent expert, members of the local community, service users, regulatory bodies...

Agree further actions to be undertaken within a timescale/future monitoring report...

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024-25

Place Scrutiny Committee – Meetings at 2pm unless otherwise stated				
5th December 2024	Water Quality and Sewage Infrastructure	To invite Welsh Water to discuss water quality concerns and sewage concerns, particularly related to the Monmouth and Shirenewton area.	Heulyn Davies Sharon Evans Ed Bennett	Policy Development.
9th December 2024 (10am) INVITATION TO PUBLIC SERVICES SCRUTINY	Drug Related Deaths in Monmouthshire	To discuss drug related deaths with the Heroin & Crack Cocaine Action Area Co-ordinator for Gwent Police.	Gwent Police	External Scrutiny
	<u>Member Workshop:</u> County Lines and Organised Crime	To discuss county lines, organised crime and modern-day slavery in the county with Gwent Police.	Gwent Police	Workshop
6th February 2025	<i>Nedern Maintenance - TBC</i>	<i>To discuss the maintenance of the Nedern in particular throughout the Castle grounds, Caldicot.</i>	<i>NRW</i>	<i>External Scrutiny</i>
27th March 2025				
22nd May 2025 (provisional)				
10th July 2025 (provisional)	<i>Strategic Equality Plan 24/25 Monitoring Report</i>	<i>To scrutinise the Council's progress.</i>	<i>Pennie Walker Cllr Sandles</i>	<i>Policy Development</i>
To be confirmed	<i>Car Parking Review</i>		<i>Carl Touhig Cllr Griffiths</i>	

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024-25

Place Scrutiny Committee – Meetings at 2pm unless otherwise stated				
To be confirmed – March?	Local Flood Strategy (Joint with Public Services Committee)	<i>Pre-decision scrutiny of adoption of the Local Flood Strategy.</i>	<i>Craig O'Connor Cllr Maby</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>
To be confirmed	Tackling Poverty and Inequality Action Plan	<i>To scrutinise performance against the action plan.</i>	<i>Lucinda Boyland Cllr Sandles</i>	<i>Performance Monitoring</i>
To be confirmed	Active Travel Plans	<i>Across Highways and MonLife (members to suggest specific areas)</i>	<i>(Paul Sullivan)</i>	<i>Performance Monitoring?</i>
To be confirmed (end 24/early 25 – Feb?)	Monmouth Placemaking Plan	<i>To conduct pre-decision scrutiny.</i>	<i>Daniel Fordham Cllr Griffiths</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>
To be confirmed (end 24/early 25 – Feb?)	Abergavenny Placemaking Plan	<i>To conduct pre-decision scrutiny prior to adoption of Plan by Cabinet.</i>	<i>Daniel Fordham Cllr Griffiths</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>
To be confirmed (end 24/early 25 – Feb?)	Magor Placemaking Plan	<i>To conduct pre-decision scrutiny.</i>	<i>Daniel Fordham Cllr Griffiths</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>
To be confirmed (end 24/early 25 – Feb?)	Chepstow Placemaking Plan	<i>To conduct pre-decision scrutiny.</i>	<i>Daniel Fordham Cllr Griffiths</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>
To be confirmed (2025 – Feb?)	Road Safety Strategy	<i>To scrutinise the Road Safety Strategy.</i>	<i>Geraint Roberts Paul Keeble Cllr Maby</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>
To be confirmed (early 2025)	Destination management Plan	<i>To conduct pre-decision scrutiny.</i>	<i>Matthew Lewis Nicola Edwards</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024-25

Place Scrutiny Committee – Meetings at 2pm unless otherwise stated				
To be confirmed (March 25?)	<i>Pavement Café Policy</i>	<i>To scrutinise the pavement café policy as the basis for making decisions on applications for licences.</i>	<i>Paul Keeble Cllr Griffiths</i>	<i>Policy Development</i>
To be confirmed	<i>Shire Hall Museum Monmouth</i>	<i>To scrutinise progress of the National Lottery Heritage Fund development phase and consider options for the stage 2 delivery bid.</i>	<i>Tracey Thomas Cllr Sandles</i>	<i>Policy Development</i>
To be confirmed	<i>Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy</i>	<i>To scrutinise progress of the strategy prior to Cabinet decision.</i>	<i>Deb Hill-Howells Ian Hoccom Cllr Maby</i>	<i>Pre-decision Scrutiny</i>
To be confirmed	<i>Monlife Heritage Strategy</i>		<i>Tracey Thomas</i>	
Corporate and Community Plan Items for the Committee's consideration for inclusion into the Place Scrutiny Forward Plan:				
Inclusive Cultural Strategy				
Increase the use of local produce in schools and care homes and new food strategies and policies approved by Cabinet				

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024-25

Place Scrutiny Committee – Meetings at 2pm unless otherwise stated				
Nature Isn't Neat expansion				
Development of Active Travel routes				
Development of a new station at Magor and improvements at Severn Tunnel Junction				
Creating plans for a metro that links Monmouthshire to Bristol, Newport and Cardiff				
RLDP submission for examination				
Develop a county-wide digital solution that matches those who need to travel with those who have car spaces				
RLDP for adoption				

Monmouthshire's Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2024-25

Place Scrutiny Committee – Meetings at 2pm unless otherwise stated				
Find new ways to progress refurbishment of Caldicot Leisure Centre				
Deforestation and school meals procurement - Food Strategy - Jointly with P&O				

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Place Scrutiny Committee

Action List

7th November 2024

Minute Item:	Subject	Officer / Member	Outcome
3	To send the public's concerns to Cabinet and senior Officers to consider	Scrutiny officers	Sent 8 th November.
4	To write a letter to the MOD urging that Vauxhall/Ingles bridge be fixed as soon as possible	Chair and officers	Sent 8 th November.
5	To draft a letter to Welsh Government urging them to reconsider the 182-day occupancy rate for self-catering accommodation, and to send with the Cabinet Member's approval	Ian Saunders, Nicola Edwards / Angela Sandles, Paul Griffiths	Request sent to officers 8 th November.
6	To request an update on the Night Shelter Petition	Scrutiny officers, Ian Bakewell	Request sent to officers 8 th November.
6	To email the committee for suggestions about Active Travel schemes for future scrutiny	Scrutiny officers	Email sent to members 8 th November.

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Committee / Decision Maker	Meeting date / Decision due	Report Title	de	Purpose	Author	Date item added to the planner
Council	01-Jul-25	RLDP for Adoption	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the RLDP following receipt of the Inspector's report, making it the County's Development Plan as defined by S38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	Mark Hand / Rachel Lewis	23-Aug-22
Cabinet	05-May-25	Pavement Café Policy	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the pavement café policy as the basis for making decisions on applications for licences	Mark Hand / Paul Keeble	4-Oct-22
ICMD	09-Apr-25	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 4	Ben Callard - Resources			
Council	06-Mar-25	2025/26 Final Budget sign off including CT resolution	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	13-Jun-24
Council	06-Mar-25	2025/26 Capital Strategy & Treasury Strategy	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	13-Jun-24
Cabinet	05-Mar-25	2025/26 Final Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	4-Jun-24
Cabinet	05-Mar-25	2024/25 Revenue and Capital Monitoring Month 9	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	4-Jun-24
Cabinet	05-Mar-25	2025/26 WCF/Mon Farm Strategy	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	4-Jun-24
ICMD	29-Jan-25	2025/26 Community Council and Police Precepts final	Ben Callard - Resources			
Council	23-Jan-25	Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2025/26	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	13-Jun-24

Cabinet	22-Jan-25	2025/26 Draft Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	4-Jun-24
Cabinet	22-Jan-25	UK Shared Prosperity Fund post March 2025 – financial implications and impact	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Hannah Jones	10-Jul-24
ICMD	15-Jan-25	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 3	Ben Callard - Resources		Dave Jarrett	13-Jun-24
ICMD	18-Dec-24	2025/26 Community Council and Police Precepts draft	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	13-Jun-24
ICMD	18-Dec-24	Council Tax Base 2025/26	Ben Callard - Resources		Ruth Donovan	
Council	12-Dec-24	CYP Inclusion Strategy			Morwenna Wagstaff	19-Nov-24
Council	12-Dec-24	Remuneration Report			Julie Anthony	30-Sep-24
Council	12-Dec-24	Deforestation Free Champion Council			Hazel Clatworthy	4-Oct-24
Cabinet	04-Dec-24	Future of the Former Mounton House School, Chepstow'	Martyn Groucutt - Education		Nick Keyse	13-Nov-24
Cabinet	04-Dec-24	Strategic Risk Assessment	Ben Callard - Resources	To provide Cabinet with an overview of the current strategic risks facing the authority.	Richard Jones	7-Oct-24

Cabinet	04-Dec-24	Community and Corporate Plan Performance Update	Mary Ann Brocklesby - Whole Authority Strategy	To provide Cabinet with an update on the progress that has been made to deliver the commitments set out in the Community and Corporate Plan 2022-28.	Richard Jones	7-Oct-24
Cabinet	04-Dec-24	2024/25 Revenue and Capital Monitoring Month 6	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	4-Jun-24
Cabinet	04-Dec-24	PSOW Annual letter 2023-24			Annette Evans	1-Oct-24
Cabinet	04-Dec-24	Monmouthshire NEET Prevention Strategy			Louise Wilce	10-Jun-24
ICMD	27-Nov-24	Planning Service Annual Performance Report	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Phil Thomas	
ICMD	13-Nov-24	TROs Amendment Order No. 15 2024 (Catrin Maby)			Graham Kinsella/Gareth Freeman	15-Oct-24
Cabinet	06-Nov-24	Future of the Former Abergavenny Library'			Nick Keyse	21-Oct-24
Cabinet	06-Nov-24	Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 – Special Procedure Licensing			Linda O Gorman	
Cabinet	06-Nov-24	Monmouth Churches Petition			Ian Bakewell	1-Oct-24
Council	24-Oct-24	RLDP			Craig O'Connor	

Council	24-Oct-24	Safeguarding report – Social Care & Health			Jane Rodgers	4-Jun-24
Council	24-Oct-24	Connecting Care – Social Care Case Management System - deferred		Deferred	Jane Rodgers	7-Oct-24
Council	24-Oct-24	Statement of Gambling Policy and proposals for casinos			Linda O Gorman	9-Jul-24
Council	24-Oct-24	Standards Committee Annual Report			James Williams	4-Oct-24
Council	24-Oct-24	Chief Officer report – Social Care & Health			Jane Rodgers	4-Jun-24
ICMD	23-Oct-24	UWN Land Charge			Amy Longford	25-Sep-24
ICMD	23-Oct-24	Welsh Church FundWorking Group - meeting 2	Ben Callard - Resources		Dave Jarrett	13-Jun-24
Cabinet	16-Oct-24	2025/26 Revenue and Capital MTFP update and process	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	4-Jun-24
Cabinet	16-Oct-24	2024/25 Revenue Monitoring Month 4	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Daviea	4-Jun-24
ICMD	09-Oct-24	Building at Risk Strategy	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Craig O'Connor	28-Aug-24

Cabinet	25-Sep-24	People with Care Experience			John Pearson	
Council	19-Sep-24	Appointment to Outside Body			Charlotte Drury	
Council	19-Sep-24	Self-assessment report – People, Performance and Partnerships		To appoint a Monmouthshire Councillor to be a representative on the Rachel Herbert's School Endowment Charity.	John Pearson	
Council	19-Sep-24	Gov & Audit Annual Report			Matt Gatehouse	4-Jun-24
Council	19-Sep-24	Home to School Transport – response to consultation			Andrew Blackmore	21-Jun-24
Cabinet	11-Sep-24	Measurement Framework	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Deb Hill Howells	4-Jun-24
Cabinet	11-Sep-24	Consultation on the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Mary Ann Brocklesby - Whole Authority Strategy	To approve an update to the measurement framework that enables Cabinet to track progress against the priorities in the community and corporate plan	Matt Gatehouse	7-Jun-24
Cabinet	11-Sep-24	USE OF SECTION 106 FROM N584 LAND AT FORENSIC SCIENCE CHEPSTOW	Martyn Groucutt - Education	To receive feedback on the statutory consultation concerning the proposed relocation and increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni.	Matt Jones	
Cabinet	11-Sep-24	Authorisation of Proper Officers - Public Protection, Environmental Health (Communicable Disease)			Christian Schmidt	7-Aug-24
ICMD	11-Sep-24	Monmouthshire Local Toilets Strategy - revised version 2024	Angela Sandles - Engagement		Louise Driscoll	

ICMD	11-Sep-24	GRT sites	Angela Sandles - Engagement		David H Jones	
Cabinet	21-Aug-24	Future of the former Tudor Street Day Centre, Abergavenny	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding			4-Jun-24
Cabinet	21-Aug-24	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 1			Nick Keyse	
ICMD	21-Aug-24	Increasing Building Regulations Charges	Ben Callard - Resources		Dave Jarrett	6-Jun-24
ICMD	21-Aug-24	Gypsy & Traveller Site Identification	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		nigel george	
Cabinet	21-Aug-24	Performance and Overview Scrutiny Committee ~ Feedback to Cabinet of Meeting held on 16th July 2024			Frances O'Brien	
Cabinet	21-Aug-24	Older People's Champion			Alistair Neill	
Council	18-Jul-24	Chief Officer report – Children and Young People	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding	To formally appoint to the role of Age Friendly champion in line with the commitment made by Council in January of this year and to provide a brief update on work done towards making Monmouthshire an age friendly county	Matthew Gatehouse / Jane Rodgers	27-Jun-24
Council	18-Jul-24	Medium Term Financial Strategy			Will McLean	4-Jun-24
Council	18-Jul-24	Budden Crescent business case	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	4-Jun-24

Cabinet	17-Jul-24	Feedback from P&O Scrutiny	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		Jane Rodgers	4-Jun-24
Cabinet	17-Jul-24	Connected Care report – Social Care and Health (possible Sept)				26-Jun-24
Cabinet	17-Jul-24	Digital and Data Strategy	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		Jane Rodgers	4-Jul-24
Cabinet	17-Jul-24	Revenue and Capital monitoring outturn report (including early update on 2024/25)	Ben Callard - Resources			10-Jun-24
Cabinet	17-Jul-24	SPEED LIMIT PROPOSALS – AMENDMENT ORDER NO. 14	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	10-May-24
ICMD	10-Jul-24	Whole Authority Strategic Risk Assessment	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment	This report seeks Cabinet Member approval to proceed with several Traffic Orders throughout the County.	Graham Kinsella	
Cabinet	05-Jun-24	People Strategy		To provide cabinet with an overview of the current strategic risks facing the authority and to agree the revised strategic risk management policy	Richard Jones	26-Apr-24
Cabinet	05-Jun-24	Consultation on the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Ben Callard - Resources	To seek Cabinet approval of a revised people strategy, which is one of a suite of enabling strategies that sit underneath the community and corporate plan to ensure the authorities resources are aligned with the delivery of its purpose.	Matt Gatehouse	1-May-24
Cabinet	05-Jun-24	Feedback from P&O Scrutiny	Martyn Groucutt - Education	To receive feedback on the statutory consultation concerning the proposed relocation and increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni.	Matthew Jones	26-Feb-24
Cabinet	22-May-24	Strategy for Commissioned Domiciliary Care in Monmouthshire		Performance and Overview Scrutiny Committee – Feedback to Cabinet of Meeting held on 14th May 2024	Hazel Ilett	14-May-24

Cabinet	22-May-24	Council Tax Assistance for MCC Foster Carers	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		Ceri York	24-Apr-24
ICMD	22-May-24	Florence Jones Report & FGE	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding	The purpose of this paper is to present the case for providing Monmouthshire County Council foster carers with a subsidy on their council tax.	Jane Rodgers	8-May-24
ICMD	22-May-24	Political Balance Report	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	to consider the options in relation to the collection of monies secured under a land charge on land at and- including Upper House Farm, Wonastow, Monmouth	Amy Longford	30-Apr-24
Council	16-May-24	Appointments to Committees	Angela Sandles - Engagement		James Williams	
Council	16-May-24	Outside Bodies	Angela Sandles - Engagement		James Williams	
Council	16-May-24	Uploading S106 Capital Sums into 2024/25 Capital Budget	Angela Sandles - Engagement		James Williams	
Cabinet	15-May-24	Development of a Supported Accommodation Project for care experienced young people	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		Mike Moran	9-Apr-24
Cabinet	15-May-24	Repurposing of Severn View Residential Home, Chepstow	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		Jane Rodgers	24-Apr-24
Cabinet	15-May-24	Local Housing Market Assessment	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To seek approval for the repurposing of Severn View Residential Home to support policy objectives around temporary accommodation, in accordance with the Rapiit Rehousing Strategy.	Nick Keyse/Cath Fallon	
Cabinet	15-May-24	Local Flood Strategy	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	The LHMA provides a review of the need for affordable and market housing across Monmouthshire and an overview of the current housing market.	Sally Meyrick	8-Jan-24

Cabinet	15-May-24	Local Transport Plan	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Carl Touhig	9-Oct-23
Cabinet	15-May-24	Climate and Nature Emergency	Catrin Maby	To adopt the Local Transport Plan	Debra Hill-Howells / Christian Schmidt	4-Oct-22
Cabinet	15-May-24	Greenfingers Report		To receive an update on progress made towards the Climate and Nature Emergency Strategy and to agree the new overarching Climate and Nature Emergency Strategy and action plan format	Hazel Clatworthy	19-Oct-23
Cabinet	15-May-24	Local Housing Market Assessment Refresh 2022-2037	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		Jane Rodgers	26-Mar-24
Cabinet	15-May-24	Local Food Strategy		To provide an overview of the Local Housing Market Assessment Refresh 2022-2037 which provides an estimation of the additional affordable housing need across Monmouthshire.	Sally Meyrick	15-Apr-24
Cabinet	15-May-24	Placement Development Strategy			Marianne Elliot	18-Apr-24
Council	18-Apr-24	ICMD Report - 20 moh Speed Limit Revocation Order	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding	development of in-county residential and supported accommodation placements for children who are looked after. To make recommendations about i) changing the use of 3 existing properties in order to support the strategy	Jane Rodgers / Diane Corrister	8-Jan-24
ICMD	17-Apr-24	ICM report - Florence Jones DEFERRED	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Graham Kinsella	22-Mar-24
ICMD	17-Apr-24	Public Spaces Protection Order Dog Controls	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Amy Longford	11-Mar-24
Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Primary School catchment areas consultation feedback	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Huw Owen	19-Feb-24

Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Sustainable Communities for Learning Strategic Outline Programme update	Martyn Groucutt - Education	For Members to receive feedback on the consultation relating to a review of Primary School catchments areas and determine whether to implement proposals	Matthew Jones	20-Nov-23
Cabinet	10-Apr-24	Welsh Church Fund Working Group	Martyn Groucutt - Education	To provide members with details of the revisions to the Strategic Outline Programme for the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme which will inform the development of projects within the rolling programme of	Debbie Graves	12-Sep-23
ICMD	27-Mar-24	Experimental TRO Prohibition of driving except for access Goldwire Lane Monmouth	Ben Callard - Resources		Dave Jarrett	
ICMD	27-Mar-24	Increase in building control charges	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Graham Kinsella	
ICMD	13-Mar-24	To consider a Business Case for the acquisition of a property for use as a registered children's home	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Craig O'Connor	
Cabinet	06-Mar-24	Adoption of Abergavenny Placemaking Plan	Ian Chandler - Social Care & Safeguarding		jane Rodgers	13-Feb-24
Cabinet	05-Mar-24	Changes to the funding formula for Leadership funding for secondary schools	Ben Callard - Resources		Nikki Wellington	30-Oct-24
Cabinet	05-Mar-24	Adoption of Magor Placemaking Plan	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the Abergavenny Placemaking Plan, co-produced with Abergavenny Town Council, to inform future regeneration priorities and grant bids	Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	05-Mar-24	Adoption of Monmouth Placemaking Plan	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy		Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22
Cabinet	05-Mar-24	Road Safety Strategy	Paul Griffiths - Sustainable Economy	To adopt the Monmouth Placemaking Plan, co-produced with Monmouth Town Council, to inform future regeneration priorities and grant bids	Mark Hand / Dan Fordham	3-Oct-22

Cabinet	05-Mar-24	Agree the name of the new Welsh-medium Primary School in Monmouth	Catrin Maby	To adopt the Road Safety Strategy	Mark Hand / Paul Keeble	4-Oct-22
Council	29-Feb-24	Standards Committee Appointment	Martyn Groucutt - Education	Agree the name of the new Welsh-medium Primary School in Monmouth	Debbie Graves	15-Nov-23
Council	29-Feb-24	Strategic Equality Plan 2024			James Williams	6-Feb-24
Council	29-Feb-24	Appointment of Monmouthshire Local Access Forum		To seek approval of a new Strategic Equality Plan for the period 2024-28, incorporating MCCs contribution to national action plans on race equality, LGBTQ and other protected characteristics	Matthew Gatehouse	15-Nov-23
Council	29-Feb-24	Final Budget Proposals		To secure the appointment of members to the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum for its next 3 year period.	Matthew Lewis	18-Jan-23
Council	29-Feb-24	Capital and Treasury Strategy	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Council	29-Feb-24	Council Diary	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Council	29-Feb-24	WCF/Trust Treasury Fund Investment	Angela Sandles - Engagement		John Pearson	
ICMD	28-Feb-24	2023/24 Revenue and Capital Monitoring - Month 9	Ben Callard - Resources			
Cabinet	28-Feb-24	2023/24 Final Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	27-Apr-23

Cabinet	28-Feb-24	Economic Development Strategy	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Cabinet	07-Feb-24	Amendment to Street Naming and Numbering Policy regarding Replacement or additional Street nameplate signs for Existing Streets		REFRESHING THE MONMOUTHSHIRE BUSINESS GROWTH & ENTERPRISE STRATEGY and action plan in setting the economic ambition for the county and providing a strategic framework that guides future economic	Hannah Jones	9-Jan-23
ICMD	24-Jan-24	Community Council & Police Precepts - Determination	Catrin Maby - Climate Change and Environment		Mark Hand	2-Jan-24
ICMD	24-Jan-24	Introduction of Council Tax Premiums for Second homes from 1 st April 2024	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	
Cabinet	22-Jan-24	Education Middle Tier	Martyn Groucutt - Education		Will McLean	20-Nov-24
Cabinet	22-Jan-24	Purchase of property for housing			Ian Bakewell	25-Nov-24
Council	18-Jan-24	Council Tax Reduction Scheme	Ben Callard - Resources	Council to re affirm their decision on the Second Home Premium	Ruth Donovan	5-Dec-23
Council	18-Jan-24	Asset Management Strategy	Ben Callard - Resources		Ruth Donovan	
Council	18-Jan-24	Community & Corporate Plan performance update			Nick Keyse	28-Sep-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	REPURPOSING OF ACCOMMODATION IN THE COUNTY FARMS PORTFOLIO TO SUPPORT HOMELESSNESS AND OTHER POLICY OBJECTIVES	Mary Ann Brocklesby - Whole Authority Strategy	To provide cabinet with the latest performance report of commitments in the Community and Corporate Plan	Richard Jones	5-Sep-23

Cabinet	17-Jan-24	consultation on the relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni		To seek approval for the repurposing of vacant cottages held within the County Farms Portfolio to support policy objectives such as alleviating pressures with homelessness and to address the reliance on unsuitable temporary accommodation.	Nick Keyse	4-Dec-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	Approval of the revised MCC Counter Fraud, Corruption & Bribery Policy	Martyn Groucutt - Education		Matthew Jones	23-Aug-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	Draft Budget Proposals	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Jan Furtek	2-Nov-23
Cabinet	17-Jan-24	Welsh Church Fund Working Group - meeting 3 held on 7th December 2023 Meeting didn't happen	Ben Callard - Resources		Jon Davies	29-Sep-23
ICMD	03-Jan-24	Community Council & Police Precepts - Proposed payment schedule	Rachel Garrick - Resources		Dave Jarrett	30-Mar-23

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Monmouthshire Select Committee Minutes

Meeting of Place Scrutiny Committee held at Council Chamber, County Hall, The Rhadyr USK on Thursday, 7th November, 2024 at 2.00 pm

Councillors Present

County Councillor Jane Lucas (Chairman)
County Councillor Lisa Dymock, (Vice Chairman)

County Councillors: Louise Brown, Emma Bryn, Tomos Davies, Lisa Dymock, Jackie Strong, Laura Wright, John Crook, Tony Easson, Angela Sandles and Martin Newell

Officers in Attendance

Hazel Ilett, Scrutiny Manager
Robert McGowan, Policy and Scrutiny Officer
Ian Saunders, Chief Officer Customer, Culture and Wellbeing.
Colette Bosley, Green Infrastructure Manager
Philip Young, Head of Estate, Ministry of Defence

APOLOGIES: County Councillor Tudor Thomas

1. Declarations of Interest

None.

2. Public Open Forum

The first speaker discussed the need for an environmental impact assessment for the CS0270 development, highlighting concerns about air quality and traffic emissions in Monmouth. He emphasised the importance of monitoring and mitigating air quality impacts. He also mentioned the inconsistency in air quality policies and the need for better monitoring methodologies to understand the true nature of traffic emissions.

The second speaker raised concerns about the quality of drinking water in Monmouth, citing reports from the Drinking Water Inspectorate about significant risks of water contamination, specifically mentioning cryptosporidium. They urged reconsideration of the Dixton Road development due to potential water contamination risks. Concerns were raised about the feasibility of achieving 50% social or affordable housing in the Dixton Road development due to current economic and legislative challenges. It was noted that housing associations may not have the funds to purchase the required affordable housing stock.

The third speaker objected to Redrow Homes' proposal to forgo an ecological impact assessment for the Dixton Road development, citing various environmental and ecological concerns, including the impact on drinking water, air pollution, and the habitat of endangered species.

ACTION: To send these concerns and information to the Cabinet Member and officers to consider

Councillor Martin Newell read a letter from a resident opposing the experimental traffic order on Goldwire Lane. Concerns included ambiguous signage, potential congestion, emergency access issues, and the impact on local residents. **The Chair thanked the resident for her contribution. The committee noted it as an ongoing issue and invited the resident to return with further information in due course.**

The fourth speaker emphasised the importance of Vauxhall Bridge as the only level access pedestrian route onto Vauxhall Fields, which connects the north and south of the town. She highlighted its use by residents for accessing work, school, and leisure activities, particularly for less able individuals.

The fifth speaker supported the previous points concerning the bridge, and reiterated its importance as a safe route from Osbaston into the town centre.

3. Question and Answer Discussion on Ingles/Vauxhall Bridge, Monmouth

Philip Young (Head of Estate, Ministry Of Defence) addressed the committee and answered the members' questions.

Key points from members:

- A member enquired about the timeline for a resolution and whether there is a Plan B if funding is not approved. Mr Young responded that he could not provide a definitive timeline or details about a Plan B but once funding is available, the MOD will work quickly and closely with MCC to ensure any inconvenience is brought to an end as soon as possible.
- A member asked if the Education department is aware of the bridge's closure and if there is a potential funding route through the Welsh Government for safe routes to school.
Chair:...
- Cabinet Member Angela Sandles provided an update on the ongoing efforts to resolve the bridge closure, including regular contact with local MOD officers and discussions with the town council. She emphasised the importance of reinstating the right of way for residents.
- The Cabinet Member read a statement from Councillor Catrin Maby, expressing concern about the impact of the bridge closure on the local community and the need for a speedy resolution.
- The Chair asked about the impact of the closure of Vauxhall Bridge on the community, particularly regarding safe pedestrian access, the well-being of the town, and the safety of children walking to school. Mr Young explained that the bridge was closed on public safety grounds due to structural concerns. He mentioned that a scheme to refurbish the bridge has been approved, but funding is currently lacking. The matter is receiving high-level attention within the MOD, and once funding is available, the works will be programmed and undertaken swiftly.

Chair's Summary:

The Chair thanked Mr Young for attending today. She welcomed anyone who has not yet signed the petition regarding the bridge to do so as it will support Mr Young to get the matter resolved. The committee agreed to write a letter supporting the push for funding to repair the bridge, emphasising the importance of resolving the matter for the community's well-being. – **ACTION**

4. Scrutiny of STEAM

Cabinet Member Angela Sandles introduced the report. Nicola Edwards delivered a presentation and answered the members' questions with Councillor Sandles.

Key points from members:

- A member enquired about the data sets in the STEAM report, specifically how visitors arrive, how they travel once they arrive, and if there is any investment in promoting public transport for tourists. The officer explained that the majority of visitors arrive by car and travel around by car as well. She mentioned that efforts are being made to promote public transport and work with transport operators to encourage its use, although it is challenging in a rural destination like Monmouthshire.
- It was further asked if any public money is invested directly into tourist promotion and if there is a correlation between such investments and positive impacts on the data. The officer responded that while the team does record and report on marketing metrics, detailed visitor research is expensive, and they do not currently have the budget for large-scale visitor surveys. She mentioned that the new Destination Management Plan would address these issues and provide more detailed insights.

- A member asked about the correlation between the labour market statistics and the STEAM report. The officer clarified that the labour market statistics were not part of the report. She explained that the STEAM report focuses on the number of jobs supported by tourism, which is distributed across various employment sectors, including both employed and self-employed individuals. She mentioned that the 15% figure represents the total employment in Monmouthshire supported by tourism.
- A member asked about the occupancy rates of hotel accommodation compared to self-catering accommodation, and enquired about the support for the private self-catering market, considering factors like tourism tax, business rates, and the necessity for holiday lets to have a certain number of days of occupation. The officer explained that non-serviced and self-catering accommodations drive economic impact growth in Monmouthshire. She noted that the accommodation profile is skewed in favour of non-serviced accommodations, which have recovered better post-pandemic. She highlighted the challenges faced by self-catering providers, such as the 182-day occupancy threshold for business rates, which is higher than in England, and mentioned that the visitor levy could be an opportunity if the revenue generated is reinvested to improve the visitor experience.
- The member also questioned the need for further hotel accommodation versus improving self-catering options. The officer emphasised the importance of having a good range of different types of accommodations to attract various visitors, including those who choose destinations based on specific hotels.
- A member asked how Monmouthshire is addressing the challenges posed by extreme weather on tourism and how to keep people coming back. The officer responded that destinations with wet weather attractions have been more resilient, highlighting the importance of having compelling experiences that are not affected by extreme weather. She mentioned that Monmouthshire already has some attractions like castles and halls that cater to this need.
- The member also enquired about incorporating visitor feedback into the new destination management plan and any areas identified for improvement through stakeholder engagement sessions. The officer noted that common issues raised include car parking, public toilets, and public transport, which affect both residents' quality of life and visitor experience. She confirmed that these insights would be incorporated into the new Destination Management Plan.
- A member asked about qualitative insights gathered from visitors e.g. what they value about the Monmouthshire experience, their expectations, and areas for improvement. The officer responded that the team has lots of insightful data on what visitors think about Monmouthshire, including their motivations, activities, and perceptions of the area's strengths. This information will be presented as part of the new Destination Management Plan.
- Concerning budgetary constraints, the member asked if there are potential funding opportunities beyond Welsh Government, including cross-border tourism initiatives, that Monmouthshire could leverage. The officer explained that funding for destination marketing has been reducing, and they rely on partnerships with Visit Wales, Welsh Government, and private sector partners for promotional activities. She noted that opportunities for funding from UK Government are limited due to the perception of displacement activity.
- A member enquired about the data on bed spaces, specifically if it includes campsites and airs (dedicated motorhome parking spaces) within the non-serviced accommodation data. The officer confirmed that the non-serviced bed spaces data includes caravan and camping, as well as glamping. She also clarified that Monmouthshire does not currently have any airs.
- A member asked about the breakdown of the impact of Airbnb and self-catering units on tourism and employment. It was explained that serviced accommodation, such as hotels, is the most valuable type of accommodation as it supports more jobs and delivers the highest value of all tourism. However, Monmouthshire has more non-serviced accommodation, including self-catering and Airbnb, which has been driving economic growth post-pandemic.

- The member asked how Monmouthshire County Council's website could be used for greater promotion of events in the county. The officer mentioned that MCC's website has a calendar of events that is free for event organizers to add their information to, promoting events across the county.
- A member asked about the effect of traffic congestion on the visitor experience, e.g. around Chepstow, whether there is potential for park and ride facilities in Monmouthshire, and if there is any liaison with bus companies and tour operators to organise trips to the county. The officer explained that some larger event venues, like Chepstow Racecourse, organise park and ride schemes for large events. However, organising such schemes for smaller numbers would be difficult and costly. She also mentioned that travel trade activity, including encouraging coach companies and tour operators to come to Monmouthshire, is done collaboratively as part of a Southeast Wales regional marketing campaign. This includes attending trade shows and working with operators to include Monmouthshire experiences in their itineraries.
- The Chair asked if Visitor yield and price is per head per day, or includes an overnight stay. The officer explained that the report covers two different metrics: economic impact per visitor (visit yield) and economic impact per visitor day. The average economic impact per visitor is £144, which varies significantly between day visitors and staying visitors. Day visitors contribute between £42 and £279, while staying visitors contribute £439, which includes their overnight accommodation costs. The average economic impact per visitor day is £93.43.
- The Chair asked what can be done, or is recommended, to deal with the squeeze on self-catering profits from the 182-day occupancy rate. The officer agreed that there is a risk, the size of which is not known, but from the regular feedback received from self-catering operators what they are most struggling with is the 182-day occupancy threshold.
- The Chair asked about the relationship between this report and the RLDP. The Cabinet Member explained that discussions with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Development and officers have highlighted the openness to various approaches from tourist operators. The team is willing to collaborate and encourage these operators to come to the county. They have numerous links on their websites, such as MonLife and Visit Monmouthshire, which provide ample opportunities for tourism. She emphasised that there is room in the RLDP for positive developments in tourism and collaboration with operators moving forward.
- Councillor Brown proposed that the committee gives a recommendation to Welsh Government that the 182-day occupancy threshold be reviewed – **ACTION**

Chair's Summary:

Thank you to the Cabinet Member and officers. A number of points were raised by the committee including questions about increasing private self-catering accommodation and the impact of taxes, traffic congestion, and park-and-ride schemes; promoting Monmouthshire and expressing interest in hearing reports on the impact of different types of accommodation; enquiries about how visitors arrive and travel within the area, and the value of self-catering accommodations; discussing what drives visitors and their expectations, and asking about potential cross-border funding; emphasising the importance of tourism to Monmouthshire and the need to keep tourists returning, mentioning the Corporate Plan and the upcoming Destination Management Plan; and there was a discussion on the Visitor Yield from council tax and profits, as well as the implications of the 182-day occupancy rule for self-catering accommodation, and the RLDP.

The committee agreed to draft a letter to the Welsh Government, with the help of officers, to address the challenges posed by the 182-day occupancy threshold for self-catering accommodations and its impact on the tourism economy of Monmouthshire. The legislation needs to be in place for self-catering accommodation to be properly regulated.

5. Place Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme and Action List

Members were updated that the Water Quality item for the next meeting has been expanded to include concerns about sewerage in the Shirenewton area, at Councillor Brown's request. Members were asked about their particular areas of interest, concerning Active Travel following Governance & Audit Committee's action for scrutiny to review the success of schemes and to seek assurance that adequate progress is being made. Officers will email members for suggestions for future scrutiny –

ACTION

Councillor Strong expressed concern that the Flooding Strategy might not be ready until Summer; officers have been reminded that it has been on the committee's work programme for some time and is in the Corporate Plan – scrutiny officers expect it to come in March. Councillor Brown requested that the committee be updated about the Night Shelter Petition – **ACTION**.

Scrutiny officers noted Councillor Brown's suggestion to add Chepstow to the list of Placemaking Plans to be scrutinised – scrutiny officers have requested an update on these. Councillor Strong suggested that the age of the county is factored into the Placemaking Plans and Councillor Dymock suggested that Town and Community Councils are invited to participate as well. The Chair encouraged residents to come to speak to the committee about any of their concerns.

6. Cabinet and Council Work Planner

7. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2024

The minutes were confirmed, proposed by Councillor Strong and seconded by Councillor Brown, who noted the following correction: 'Mountain Road' to be replaced by 'Moun-ton Road'.

8. Next Meeting: 5th December 2024 at 10 a.m.

The meeting is at 2pm.

The meeting ended at **4.25 pm**

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