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Tuesday, 19 January 2016

Notice of meeting / Hysbysiad o gyfarfod:

Central Mon Area Committee

**Wednesday, 27th January, 2016 at 2.00 pm,
The Shire Hall, Monmouth. NP25 3DY**

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for absence	
2.	Declarations of interest	
3.	Public open forum	
4.	To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting	1 - 6
5.	Whole Place Update	7 - 10
6.	Head of Operations - Update on car park provision in Monmouth	
7.	Highways - Monnow Street update	
8.	To confirm the date and time of the next meeting as Wednesday 23rd March 2016 at 2.00pm	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

S. White
P. Clarke
D. Blakebrough
G. Burrows
R. Edwards
E. Hacket Pain
B. Hayward
P. Jones
V. Smith
B. Strong
A. Wintle

Public Information

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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

Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Outcomes we are working towards

Nobody Is Left Behind

- Older people are able to live their good life
- People have access to appropriate and affordable housing
- People have good access and mobility

People Are Confident, Capable and Involved

- People's lives are not affected by alcohol and drug misuse
- Families are supported
- People feel safe

Our County Thrives

- Business and enterprise
- People have access to practical and flexible learning
- People protect and enhance the environment

Our priorities

- Schools
- Protection of vulnerable people
- Supporting Business and Job Creation
- Maintaining locally accessible services

Our Values

- **Openness:** we aspire to be open and honest to develop trusting relationships.
- **Fairness:** we aspire to provide fair choice, opportunities and experiences and become an organisation built on mutual respect.
- **Flexibility:** we aspire to be flexible in our thinking and action to become an effective and efficient organisation.
- **Teamwork:** we aspire to work together to share our successes and failures by building on our strengths and supporting one another to achieve our goals.

Nodau a Gwerthoedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Cymunedau Cynaliadwy a Chryf

Canlyniadau y gweithiwn i'w cyflawni

Neb yn cael ei adael ar ôl

- Gall pobl hŷn fyw bywyd da
- Pobl â mynediad i dai addas a fforddiadwy
- Pobl â mynediad a symudedd da

Pobl yn hyderus, galluog ac yn cymryd rhan

- Camddefnyddio alcohol a chyffuriau ddim yn effeithio ar fywydau pobl
- Teuluoedd yn cael eu cefnogi
- Pobl yn teimlo'n ddiogel

Ein sir yn ffynnu

- Busnes a menter
- Pobl â mynediad i ddysgu ymarferol a hyblyg
- Pobl yn diogelu ac yn cyfoethogi'r amgylchedd

Ein blaenoriaethau

- Ysgolion
- Diogelu pobl agored i niwed
- Cefnogi busnes a chreu swyddi
- Cynnal gwasanaethau sy'n hygyrch yn lleol

Ein gwerthoedd

- **Bod yn agored:** anelwn fod yn agored ac onest i ddatblygu perthnasoedd ymddiriedus
- **Tegwch:** anelwn ddarparu dewis teg, cyfleoedd a phrofiadau a dod yn sefydliad a adeiladwyd ar barch un at y llall.
- **Hyblygrwydd:** anelwn fod yn hyblyg yn ein syniadau a'n gweithredoedd i ddod yn sefydliad effeithlon ac effeithiol.
- **Gwaith tîm:** anelwn gydweithio i rannu ein llwyddiannau a'n methiannau drwy adeiladu ar ein cryfderau a chefnogi ein gilydd i gyflawni ein nodau.

Agenda Item 4

**Minutes of the Central Monmouthshire Area Committee meeting
held at The Sessions House, Usk.
on Wednesday 16th September 2015 at 2.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: County Councillor S. White (Chairman)

County Councillors: D. Blakebrough, P. Jones, R.J.C. Hayward,
V.E. Smith and A.M. Wintle.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

D. Hill-Howells	-	Head of Community Led Delivery
I. Saunders	-	Head of Tourism, Leisure and Culture
B. Winstanley	-	Estates Manager
Mrs. N. Perry	-	Democratic Services Officer

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors P.R. Clarke, A. Webb, L. Hackett Pain, B. Strong and R. Edwards.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the Central Monmouthshire Area Committee meeting dated 10th June 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. PORTAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Estates Manager attended the meeting in order to inform Members of the current position with the Portal Road Development. In doing so we noted the following points:

- The disposal of the 1st phase of the site has been agreed with Whitbread for the construction of a Premier Inn.
- The applicant was granted planning permission for the construction of a 60 bed hotel with associated car parking and access road.
- A condition of the planning permission being granted was that Slow Worms identified on site were translocated to the agreed Link Road Site and the Dormice Mitigation Strategy was implemented.

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- MCC Grounds Maintenance and Countryside Teams were undertaking the necessary preparation of the translocation site in accordance with the Section 106 agreement.
- The aim of the construction team would be to complete the hotel and access road by Spring 2016, weather dependant.
- The remainder of the site, Phase two, would be put on the market, with the requirement for the provision of five coach parking spaces to be included as a condition of the sale.
- The Estates Manager questioned the need for the coach parking as it may hinder the marketing of the site and asked if it was still required. The Committee reaffirmed the need for coach parking. The coach parking would need to be self-managed via signage etc, there is no revenue budget included for inspection or enforcement of the site.
- There were positive signs that there were interested parties in the market place.

6. COMMUNITY HUBS

The Head of Community Led Delivery updated Members on the current situation with the Community Hubs. In doing so the following points were noted:

- A Manager had been appointed to the North County Community Hub.
- The Usk Hub, including the library and One Stop Shop services was now open and receiving positive feedback.
- Monmouth Hub would be relocating to Rolls Hall, with a front pedestal desk to provide OSS services. The library would be closed on Saturday 26th September to facilitate the relocation work.
- There was no progress to report regarding Abergavenny.
- It was confirmed that there would not be any cut backs on the welfare services for staff with the relocation of the Monmouth Hub.
- Usk Hub opening hours were currently under review.
- In terms of the launch of the Monmouth Hub there was no specific launch date.

Member raised the following issues:

Communication was disappointing in general. Publications could be on display around the market hall. We heard that Officers would provide further updates on the marketing and social media campaign, should they be required.

Concerns were raised regarding the length of time members of the public may need to wait to receive information, and if timings were monitored. We were advised that people were being encouraged to serve themselves where possible, but there was a system in place to monitor timings.

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Following a query regarding different opening hours for different services we heard that Hubs were providing an integrated service, delivered by the same people and therefore, would provide one set of opening times. Staff were undertaking training in order to provide an efficient service in all areas.

We were informed that the alterations for the Usk Hub had been within budget and delivered on time.

New names for the Hubs were yet to be decided, and suggestions were welcomed.

7. EFFECTS OF THE VELOTHON

The Head of Tourism, Leisure and Culture provided a brief update on the Velothon, explaining that there would be a seminar for Members on Tuesday 22nd September 2015 to provide further information.

Feedback had shown that the Velothon had been a great event, bringing many people into the region. Welsh Government had signed a 4 year contract to deliver 4 velothons. Chief Executive proposals would need to be adhered to before agreeing to the next event.

Following a debrief, the complaints heard in Monmouthshire had been echoed across South East Wales, and shortcomings had been identified as:

- Earlier finalisation of routes
- Integrated response from agencies
- Defined spectator areas
- Sabotage issues

We heard that 20,000 cyclists had already signed up for 2016, an 8,000 increase on 2015. The date may be moved to earlier in the year to facilitate professional cyclists.

It was agreed, going forward, the following should be in place:

- Declaration of route and road closures
- Compensatory agreements
- Guarantees of impact on communities
- Assurance that there would be no cost to MCC

8. PINCH POINTS ON MONNOW STREET

Members received an email update from the Highways Senior Engineer regarding the Monnow Street pinch point trial.

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We were informed that the trial was due to start in October 2015, and would be carried out for a month, in order to provide safer facilities for pedestrians.

The footways on Monnow Street between Agincourt Square and St. John Street would be widened, thus creating a narrower carriageway wide enough to accommodate one vehicle.

The trial would commence following resurfacing works in the town and would be monitored by council officers before recommending whether the arrangement would be made permanent.

Members expressed appreciation for the update but were disappointed not to be able to speak to the relevant officers in person.

Concerns were raised regarding the ongoing cutbacks within the council and the effect on the capacity of the Highways department.

Members referred to the lack of response to queries from the Highways Department and requested that officers respond in accordance with Council guidelines.

9. MONMOUTH SCHOOL UPDATE

The Chair informed the Committee of an email update received from the 21st Century Schools Manager. The following points were highlighted:

- The enabling works are due to commence in October 2015. The enabling works will include forming contractor's compounds, and installation of temporary buildings.
- The main contractor will leaflet all the surrounding houses to introduce themselves and give a brief outline of what they will be doing. A contact for queries will be identified within the contractor's organisation. The school will not be the point of contact.
- In February 2016 the school will decant into the temporary buildings, and the site will be fenced off ready for demolition of the old buildings.
- The buildings will be dismantled on site and building material will be crushed as hardcore for the new building. Other materials will be taken off site and recycled.
- The pool is due to close at the end of 2015 and will require decommissioning.
- Phase 2 demolition will include buildings of a larger nature but will not take place for another 2 years.
- Holding areas are to be established to ensure there will not be a large queue of vehicles.
- There will be cleaning bays on site to make sure mud is not transferred onto main roads and pathways.

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10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following suggestions were made for future agenda items:

- Safety issues of Usk Bridge – invite the Transport and Planning Policy Officer
- Air quality in Usk
- Traffic issues at Wye Bridge, Monmouthshire County Council
- Monmouth School update – request 21st Century Schools Manager attend
- Policer officer be invited to respond to questions
- Feedback on Hubs
- Update from the Whole Place Officer

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

We noted the next meeting of the Central Monmouthshire Area Committee will be held on Wednesday 27th January 2016 at 2.00pm.

The meeting terminated at 3.15 pm.

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Central Monmouthshire Area Committee

SUBJECT:	Whole Place Update
DIRECTORATE:	Enterprise
MEETING:	Central Monmouthshire Area Committee
DATE:	27th January 2016
WARDS	All wards in Monmouthshire

1.0 Purpose of Report

To update members on current issues from the Whole Place Team

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That members note and comment on progress and issues

3.0 Whole Place Update

3.1 Central Monmouthshire

Although Whole Place will not be commencing engagement plans until September 2016 work continues to support existing groups and networks

3.1.1 The work of the Partnership and Rural forum continues and we work with said forums to ensure local engagement and information sharing continues in the area.

3.1.2 St. Thomas's church hall were fortunate to secure a grant of £340K for refurbishment of their hall in December. Whole Place officers offered assistance with grant advice and access to demographics for the area as well as meeting with Welsh Government with the committee.

3.1.3 MOD Community Covenant grant projects – Poppy Trail/walk – This project will be completed in 2016.

3.1.4 Raglan Village Hall Association

The group has been very active in working up grant applications, talking to large funders and consulting with the public that live in the Raglan area. Whole Place officers have been working with this group offering advice and helping with access to information required for the larger grant applications

3.1.5 Whole Place officers worked with event organisers in December to make sure the Usk Christmas market could overcome some operational issues. A working group has now been set up in Usk to look at future events.

3.2 Bryn Y Cwm

Similar work to that of Severnside is currently being addressed for the Better Bryn Y plan. A sub group has been set up to discuss the membership of the board to ensure the correct people are involved in progressing the plan that was developed.

3.2.1 The town team continues to work with the council on plans for regenerating the high street.

3.2.2 The Eisteddfod will be held in Abergavenny in July/August this year and the Town Team are looking into what can be done to promote Abergavenny during the event.

3.2.3 Themed groups have been set up to address the actions points within the plan.

3.2.4 A questionnaire has been conducted with the community of Llanelly Hill to create a sustainable Business Plan for their village hall and the results of that are currently being share with GAVO colleagues to identify future funding and events.

3.2.5 We were successful in securing Vibrant & Viable Places Loan funding from the Welsh Government. The first application has been processed through the Abergavenny Loan Board and will be presented to Cabinet in January

3.2.6 A number of other projects have been ongoing with regards to antisocial behaviour through working with the Community Safety Action Team, Highways, Youth Service, School and Local Policing.

3.3 Lower Wye

3.3.1 Work started on early consultations with various community groups in the Chepstow area in September 2015. Views are being sought on “What Matters” to people where they live, work and play. To-date we have seen just over 500 people with more groups booked throughout January.

3.3.2 Following completions of consultations we will be compiling a questionnaire around what people have told us to glean further information. The questionnaire will be circulated as widely as possible in Lower Wye area. This work is estimated to be carried out during February and March of this year.

Once the results have been collated the Whole Place Team will draw up a draft Whole Place Community plan and then hold public meetings to discuss the plan in order to ascertain if there is an appetite for people to get involved in driving the plan forward.

An action plan will then be developed and groups set up to deliver the proposals.

3.4 Severnside

3.4.1 It is now over 2 years since the Seven for Severnside plan was first established, hence during September and October 2015 a review of the plan took place. A sub group was formed to review both the plan, the work and the make-up of the programme board. A short questionnaire was sent out to as many networks and communities as was possible to make sure the plan remained current and still reflected the issues that were important to people when creating the plan. Approximately 350 responses were received.

The pan has now been reviewed and additional themes added.

The programme board has run themed meetings to make sure issues such as Health and Transport are discussed and is currently creating working groups for these themes. The membership of the board will be the next action reviewed.

3.4.2 Severnside Projects & Events

3.4.3 Visioning Project

The Visioning project that forms part of the work to look at regenerating Caldicot town centre

is now well underway. Consultants are looking at what opportunities there are for Caldicot Town Centre. Public consultations were held on 9th & 12th January in Caldicot Town Centre to share ideas with the public and gained their views.

3.4.4 Christmas Lights

Caldicot Events Committee and the Town Team held a very successful event for switching on the Christmas lights despite the poor weather

3.4.5 Markets

The Town Team throughout the year has been working with Monmouthshire Markets and held 4 markets throughout 2015 which has attracted additional stalls and therefore more footfall to the town centre

3.4.6 Health Event

The programme board supported a health event being held in the Community Hub in November. At the programme board meeting on health several different partners and agencies pulled together to help support the event. 16 Organisations took part and the door counter registered 286 entries.

3.4.7 Linkage Scheme

Plans for the linkage scheme that is looking at enhancing the route from ASDA store to the town centre is still under discussion.

There has been some delays with this project due to unforeseen circumstances but it is hoped work will commence as soon as possible.

3.5 Whole Place Team

We have a new member of the team starting at the end of January as a replacement for the member of staff we lost in November.

3.5.1 Work continues across Monmouthshire following through with the concept of Whole Place in helping to create sustainable, resilient communities. The social capital in our county is amazing and communities are embracing the concept of working together and focusing on what the priorities are in a given area. Work with our partners such as Health, housing and Transport continues.

3.5.2 Some projects/issues are dealt with quite quickly whilst others take longer than anticipated, sometimes this is because of working through council policy and others it is about working with the pace that the community wants to work at.

As with any new concept it takes time to bed in and for people to fully understand the concept before committing themselves to getting involved.

3.5.3 The team are visiting internal departmental team meetings to discuss Whole place and how we can all work together

Continued support from Members and Communities are welcomed to ensure that “what matters” is delivered at a local level within the available resources.

4.0 Background papers

Electronic files containing the detail of all of the above issues can be obtained through the Whole Place Manager.

5.0 Author

Debbie McCarty, Whole Place Manager

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