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NP15 1GA

County Hall
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Usk
NP15 1GA

Tuesday, 6 December 2016

Notice of meeting / Hysbysiad o gyfarfod:

Lower Wye Area Committee

**Wednesday, 14th December, 2016 at 10.00 am,
Chepstow Leisure Centre, Wye Valley Room**

AGENDA

Item No	Item	Pages
1.	Apologies for Abence	
2.	Declaration of Interest	
3.	Public Open Forum	
4.	To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 2016	1 - 6
5.	Update from Aneurin Bevan University Health Board on Chepstow Hospital and Health Care in South Wales	
6.	Overview of Rural Development Funding	
7.	Petition - Reduced Speed Limit A466 Tintern - Old Station	7 - 14
8.	To note the date and time of the next meeting as 13th March 2017 at 10.00am	

Paul Matthews

Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

County Councillors:

A. Webb
D. Dovey
D. Batrouni
G. Down
P. Farley
R.J.W. Greenland
P.A.D. Hobson
P. Murphy
A. Watts

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.

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Lower Wye Area Committee held
at Chepstow Town Council Offices on Thursday, 29th September, 2016 at 10.00 am**

PRESENT: County Councillor: D.L.S. Dovey (Chair)

County Councillors: D. Batrouni, G. Down, P. Farley,
R.J.W. Greenland, P.A.D. Hobson and P. Murphy

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor S. Dovey – Chepstow Town Council
Mrs. H. Phillips – Chair, Walkers are Welcome

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Katie Burton – Tourism Business Development Co-Ordinator
Will McLean – Head of Governance, Engagement and Improvement
Debbie McCarty – Whole Place Manager
Wendy Barnard – Democratic Services Officer

APOLOGIES:

County Councillor A. Webb and Councillor B. Moore

1. Declarations of Interest

County Councillor P. Farley declared a personal non-prejudicial interest as a Member of Chepstow Town Council.

2. Public Open Forum

The Chair welcomed Hilary Phillips, representing Walkers are Welcome, to the meeting and invited her to raise her discussion points at the appropriate agenda item.

3. To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

The following updates regarding Capital Funding Requests were provided:

- Bulwark Community Centre: It was confirmed that the information received had been satisfactory and the payment of £1000 has been processed.
- Caerwent Community Centre Committee Ltd: It was noted that the application has been passed to Property Services.
- There was no further update available regarding investigation into two applications submitted but not presented to the Area Committee. This action is carried forward.

4. Highways Update:

The Chair provided the response of the Group Engineer (Highway & Flood Management) on:

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- Progress made with the A466 link road. It was noted that the temporary warning signs provided by MCC were installed in June and the Welsh Government are currently reviewing an early draft of the A466 Route-Based Safety Study. There is still some work to be done on the study including updating following a meeting between the Town Council and WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff.

It was explained that, in addition to the study report, the Welsh Government are still considering a trial closure of the lay-bys on a trial basis.

- Traffic plans for the new development at the bottom of Chepstow. It was noted that it is expected that a planning application for the former Fairfield Mabey site will shortly be made and at which time highways will prepare a full report. The Welsh Government have already responding on the proposals and indicated that they are satisfied with the traffic modelling which shows that any improvements to the existing road layout and junction on the A48 at Tesco are not required until the majority of the properties have been occupied. The detail of the improvements at this junction are to be determined however it is anticipated that they will incorporate an upgrade pedestrian link on the A48 connecting the town with the new development.

Furthermore MCC will be seeking improvements on the local highway network as well as seeking contributions towards bus services and improvements of Chepstow Rail Station (to be addressed by the Monmouthshire Strategic Transport Group).

It was suggested that the plans should have been dealt with as part of the planning application to allow completion at an earlier stage.

- The Committee discussed the Air Quality meeting and report in the context of the A48 and the traffic issues. It was agreed that these issues impact on several areas and should be considered together. It was agreed that the options for improving the A48 (including the roundabout) must be prioritised. It was emphasised that the impact of improvements would be good for the local and national economy. The Committee was alerted to the potential significant impact of the proposed reduction in Severn Bridge tolls, and of the need to consider this point in any plans, as the incentive to use public transport will be lessened, creating more traffic.

The complexities of progressing improvements to the Rail Station were discussed. It was confirmed that up to 400 cars park at Severn Tunnel Junction Station daily.

5. Chepstow Tourist Information Centre Update

The Tourism Business Development Officer presented the report to provide an update on the issues affecting the operation of Chepstow Tourist Information Centre (TIC) and the options being considered for the future delivery of the service.

It was noted that no feedback forms from interested parties have been received to date. It was commented on that the preferable course of action is to retain the TIC where it is. It was added that there are issues with the lease to resolve and any consequent effect on rental charged. The need to consult more widely before any decisions are made was acknowledged and to find a way of bringing interested parties together. It was commented that some parties in the town were unaware of the survey and more proactivity was required.

Hilary Phillips, Chair of Walkers are Welcome, spoke in favour of the TIC referring to her concern that the Council could not afford the £65,000 running costs. She referred to the

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amount of monetary return from each tourist enquiry which exceeds running costs. It was queried what will happen to the lease if a new party takes it over.

Mrs. Phillips explained the purpose of the Walkers are Welcome organisation is to encourage visitors to the area to spend money through a love of walking. It was suggested that the existing building was excellently situated and could potentially have a shop selling locally produced food, drink, craft and art. It was accepted that a café was not a viable option as running costs were too high and income too low for sustainability. It was accepted that the TIC brings money into the town but noted that it returns to local traders not the Council.

It was commented that the model used to provide a dedicated TIC in Abergavenny is an excellent example of partnership working, but also acknowledged that there are differing circumstances in that area such as support from the National Park. A way forward with partners is being sought e.g. an approach to CADW is being made and discussions are taking place with interested business owners in Chepstow.

6. Community Governance Report

Corporate Governance Report:

The Head of Governance, Engagement and Improvement provided a report to update Members on the way the Council is changing its relationship with Town and Community Councils.

The following points were highlighted:

- Members took the decision to establish a cross party, Member led working group to consider recommendations and decide upon a structure for community governance and engagement.
- Of the seven options proposed, Option 2 to establish five area committees instead of the current four was the preferred model - Abergavenny, Monmouth, Usk, Caldicot and Chepstow.
- Chris Jones had been commissioned to undertake a piece of work with Whole Place and all Members to look at the name of group, terms of reference, how often groups should meet, level of power and participation.
- A priority is to improve communication between the County Council and Town and Community Councils.
- Member of SLT had been allocated as a liaison officer to each of the five areas. The Chepstow meeting has been held.

Members made the following points:

- It was queried how the local government reforms might affect the proposals.
- The Chepstow area meeting was valuable and was received positively.
- Concern was expressed that one Councillor's ward had two community councils that would be in different areas under the proposals and queried if this would cause any difficulties.
- Concern was expressed that there was no mention of budgetary provision for the new committees and that the public would continue to not attend meetings. It was queried how productive and proactive the meetings would be and that it was potentially another layer of bureaucracy or a talking shop.
- The re-establishment of urban and rural councils approach was suggested as a favourable alternative.

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- It was noted that the proposals do not define the role of County Councillors, Town and Community Councillors.
- The opportunity to talk about local issues for an area was raised as a priority whilst accepting that the public will not necessarily attend when they are largely satisfied with the services they receive.
- It was suggested that it should be borne in mind that any attempt to abolish community councils would be difficult with membership consisting of dedicated, community spirited volunteers.
- It was stated that the limited capital available to area committees under the current arrangements was a constraint and should be considered as part of the detail of the new proposals that could include how to spend S. 106 funding and also improvements to the grants process.
- How best to encourage participation is difficult unless the public are directly impacted by proposals.

Community Hub:

Members were assured of progress and were impressed after their visits. Better signage and expansion of the desk area is in hand. Confirmation was provided that the library continues to be supported by professional librarians, who also work in the Hub. Feedback on the range of queries on services and interventions was requested. Additionally, it was requested that Councillors are provided with feedback when requests are made concerning their Ward.

Whole Place:

The Whole Place Manager provided an update on Whole Place. The following points were made:

- Plans were evaluated and were not working well, so it was decided to change to working with groups and identify leaders to make more sustainable progress.
- Members agreed that they need to know what the residents and proposed residents of large housing developments need.
- It was explained that a bid for £55,000 has been submitted to work with GAVO to develop a toolkit for the Whole Place group to have plans of their own. Additionally, a bid has been submitted to provide training for community members in e.g. road closures, leadership, event management and managing finance.
- It was commented that the meeting was helpful to discuss clusters, positioning senior officers in the cluster areas and the work with communities, however, the loss of the local knowledge held by former Area Service Managers is regrettable.
- Section 106 monies may be available for training for Community Councils. Planning training may also be arranged. It will also be possible to invite an adviser on Rural Development Plan to attend a meeting as necessary.
- It was confirmed that Town and Community Councils can access grants for innovative projects that target gaps in services. Attention was drawn to the availability of £2.7million grants that, to date, £250,000 have been allocated.
- Engineering work - Severn Tunnel: The significant work to reschedule trains, provide alternative travel arrangements and meet the public's needs was acknowledged.

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**Minutes of the meeting of Lower Wye Area Committee held
at Chepstow Town Council Offices on Thursday, 29th September, 2016 at 10.00 am**

7. To the date and time of the next meeting as Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 10.00am

The date and time of the next meeting were confirmed as Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 10.00am at the Café, Chepstow Leisure Centre.

Agenda to include:

- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board,
- Simon Griffiths about Fuel Policy

The meeting ended at 12.45 pm

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SUBJECT:	PETITION – REDUCED SPEED LIMIT A466 TINTERN – OLD STATION
MEETING:	LOWER WYE AREA COMMITTEE
DATE:	27th OCTOBER 2016
DIVISIONS/WARD AFFECTED:	ST ARVANS WARD

1. PURPOSE

To advise members of the petition presented to Monmouthshire County Council requesting that the existing speed limit be reduced from the National Speed Limit (60mph) to 40mph or 30mph.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1.1 That members note the petition shown in appendix 1 and the actions taken to date, including the formation of a Speedwatch group by local residents.
- 2.1.2 That further speed monitoring is undertaken along the section of A466 from Old Station Tea Rooms to the Wye Valley Hotel and along with other data be used to assess the existing speed limit in accordance with the national guidance.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1.1 A petition was presented to Monmouthshire County Council in September 2016 requesting a reduced speed limit on the A466. The reasons for requesting a reduction in the speed limit are that there have been a number of traffic incidents on the stretch of road from Old Station Tea Rooms to the Wye Valley Hotel Tintern and that residents, visitors and operators of local businesses are endangered when entering the road from premises adjoining the A466.
- 3.1.2 The official casualty record shows there has been 1 incident in the last 5 years along this stretch of road which resulted in a fatality. The causation factor indicated that the driver of the vehicle was driving too fast for the conditions.
- 3.1.3 There are 2 accesses which adjoin the A466 namely the Old Station Tea Rooms (which does generate a fair amount of trade) and a farm/ micro-brewery access which does have a shop open to the public and is shared with the Wye Valley Sculpture Garden open Friday, Saturday and Sundays only.
- 3.1.4 It should be noted that there is provision of advanced warning signs indicating a staggered junction along with bend warning signs, double white centre line and slow araf carriageway markings.
- 3.1.5 Guidance issued by Welsh Government (Setting Local Speed Limits) does indicate that speed limits should not be implemented to “solve the problem of isolated hazards such as a single road junction or reduced forward visibility at a bend”.
- 3.1.6 It should also be noted that Gwent Police are reluctant to support inappropriately set speed limits which have significant enforcement demands.

4. REASONS

- 4.1.1 The petition highlights concerns of residents within the Tintern area which are noted. However, up-to-date speed monitoring will provide the Traffic Section with the evidence required to make an informed decision as to whether a reduction in the current speed limit is warranted.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The resource to consider the reduction in the current speed limit would be met from within the existing highway revenue budget.

6. CONSULTEES

Local Members, Community Council

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Petition with 55 signatures

8. AUTHOR

Paul Keeble - Group Engineer (Highway & Flood Management)

9. CONTACT DETAILS

Email: paulkeeble@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01633 644733

Appendix 1- Petition from Residents

Stephen H Evans
5 Parva Springs
Tintern
Monmouthshire
NP16 6TY
Tel: 01291 680097
Mob: 07879 815561

5th September 2016

Monmouthshire County Council
Highways Dept
County Hall
The Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Petition for speed limit change in Tintern, Monmouthshire

Dear Sirs

Please find enclosed a petition which has been supported by 55 residents and others who use the A466, between Tintern and Llandogo, on a regular basis.

We are asking for a change of speed limit on this stretch of road in order that further incidents, including fatalities, may be avoided.

Each of the signatories has provided a name, address and telephone number if there is need for verification and these details will be given on request following a grant of permission from those concerned.

We would be grateful if you will consider our request favourably or support our attempt and look forward to receiving your reply with interest.

yours faithfully


Enclosure: petition consisting of three sheets

Petition for Speed Limit Change

To:

Tintern Community Council
Mrs.Elizabeth Greatorex-Davies
The Poplars
Whitelye
Catbrook
NP16 6NP

Monmouthshire County Council
Highways Dept
County Hall
The Rhadyr
Usk
NP15 1GA

Gwent Police
Gwent Police Headquarters
Croesyceiliog
Cwmbrân
NP44 2XJ

For information: David Davies MP
16 Maryport Street
Usk
Monmouthshire
NP15 1AB

We, whose names and addresses are listed below, request that the speed limit on the A466 in Tintern, between the lychgate of St Michael's Church and the bend at the Old Station, be reduced from the present national limit to a maximum of 40 mph or an extension of the present 30 mph limit of the village to the stretch of road specified.

We request this because:

- there has been a number of traffic incidents on this stretch of road
- there has been a number of fatalities
- residents, visitors and operators of local businesses are endangered when entering the road from adjoining premises

The problems listed are, in the opinion of all of us, a direct result of the speed limit being too high for this type of residential road.

We ask for your urgent attention to this matter and request that you reply, in the first instance, to

Stephen Evans
Tintern Community Speed Watch Coordinator
5 Parva Springs
Tintern
Monmouthshire
NP16 6TY

Abbe Opher	Robin Hill 5 hillside close Mitchel Troy Common Np25 4jr
andrew lubelski	44 willow park
Angela Vrettos	Parva Farmhouse Riverside Guesthouse Tintern, Chepstow.
Anne Barker	Gwyn Cottage Tintern Chepstow Np166th
Annette Thomas	Parva Barns Tintern Chepstow NP16 6SQ
Ayse Rugg	1 Beech Cottages Tintern NP16 6TJ
C.Sturcke	3, The Cloisters, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, NP16 5UA.
Catherine Tryon	80 St Lawrence Park Chepstow. NP16 6Dq
Christine Ager	22 Parva Springs, Tintern, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, NP16 6TY
Claire Taylor	Old Furnace Cottage Tintern Chepstow Monmouthshire
Dave Tuffery	Manor House Main Road Tintern
David Prime	5 Badger's Dene, The Narth, Monmouth NP25 4QU
Elsa Wood	The Nurtons, Tintern, Wales, UK
Elspeth Reid	Wye Barn, The Quay, Tintern, NP16 6TB
Fiona Frank	7, Parva Springs Tintern NP16 6TY
Gemma Wood	The Nurtons Tintern NP16 7NX
Heather Davies	Hillside, Forge Road, Tintern
Heidi Fforde	Holmleigh Tintern Chepstow Monmouthshire NP16 6SG
Ian Mark	1 Silvermere Drive Ryton Tyne & Wear NE40 3HA
James Simpson	Forest View Whitelye Chepstow NP16 6NP
Jennie christie	Ty Ffynnon, Forge Road, Tintern, NP16 6TJ
Joan Sheldon	Yew Tree Cottage Tintern NP16 6SQ
John Livermore	Abbey View Chapel Lane Tintern Monmouthshire NP16 6SF
Lena Walliman	Lincot, the fence Nr st briavels Lydney Glos gl156qq
Les Collins	Medhope Lodge Tintern NP16 7NX
Lesley Sterry	Meadowland Kingsmark Lane Chepstow NP16 5 Lz
Liz Grace	Tanglewood Llandogo
Lucie Horup	Sunnybank Forge Road Tintern
Lucy Edgar	Rose Bank, Llandogo, Monmouthshire. NP25 4TA.
Margaret Sturcke	Raglan House, 3, The Cloisters, Chepstow, Monmouthshire. NP16 5UA.
Mary Simpson	Forest View Whitelye Chepstow NP16 6NP
Maureen Davey	Parva Barns Cottage Monmouth Road Tintern NP16 6SQ
Natalie jackson	2 Beech Cottage Glynwood lane Tintern Np16 6tj
Nick Day	7, Parva Springs, Tintern NP16 6TY
Osian England	Dovecotte Cottage Tintern NP16 7NX
Peter Vrettos	Parva Farmhouse Cottage Tintern, Chepstow.
Rachel Davies	Record Bailey lane hewelsfield lydney glos gl15 6xe
Rebecca Pearce	Poppy Cottage, Barbadoes Hill, Tintern. NP16 6SX
Rev K R Prime	5 Badger's Dene, The Narth, Monmouth NP25 4QU
Revd RoseMary Dagger	Fox Cottage Llandogo NP25 4TA
Reverand Nora Hill	3 Warwick Close Chepstow Mon np16 5bu
Sarah Adams	The Old Bakery Tintern Monmouthshire NP16 6TH
Stephen adams	The old bakery Glynwood lane Tintern Np16 6th
Stephen Evans	5 Parva Springs Tintern Monmouthshire NP16 6TY
Steve Taylor	Old Furnace Cottage Tintern Chepstow Monmouthshire
Steven England	Dovecote Cottage The Nurtons Tintern NP16 7NX
Sue Packer	The Nurtons Tintern Monmouthshire NP16 7NX
Susan Evans	5 Parva Springs Tintern Chepstow Monmouthshire NP16 6TY
Suzanne Moore	36 Victoria Road chepstow Np16 5qw
Tammy griffiths	2 Kinsey rise Trellech Monmouthshire Np254rd
Terrine Jones	Tengboche, Tintern, np16 6th
Thomas Vrettos	Parva Farmhouse Cottage Tintern, Chepstow.

Tracy Holloway	Gurlus Grove Barbadoes Tintern NP16 6ST
Vanessa Dodd	Ty Awen Tintern Parva Chepstow NP16 6SQ
Virginia Rayner	Hazel Grove Trellech Road Tintern Chepstow Monmouthshire NP16 6SN
Vivien Richards	Upper Leytons Tintern NP16 6SD

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