

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of North Monmouthshire Area Committee held
at The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Abergavenny, Cross Street, Abergavenny, NP7 5HD
on Wednesday, 30th January, 2019 at 1.00 pm**

PRESENT: County Councillor M. Powell (Chair)

County Councillors: M. Groucutt, R. Harris, S. Howarth, S.B. Jones, S. Jones, P. Jordan, M. Lane, M. Powell, J. Pratt, T. Thomas, K. Williams and S. Woodhouse

County Councillor P. Murphy attended the meeting by invitation of the Chair.

Abergavenny Town Council: Councillor P. Simcock
Llanelly Community Council: Councillor G. Nelmes
Llanover Community Council: Councillor G. Thomas

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Peter Davies	Chief Officer, Resources
Roger Hoggins	Head of Operations
Deb Hill-Howells	Head of Commercial and Integrated Landlord Services
Richard Williams	Democratic Services Officer
Paul Keeble	Group Engineer (Highways and Flood Management)
Graham Kinsella	Traffic And Road Safety Manager
Ian Brain	Project Engineer
Rob Davies	Assistant Engineer
Rachel Lewis	Planning Policy Manager
Mark Hand	Head of Planning, Housing and Place-Shaping

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. A. Michie	-	Team Abergavenny
Mr. H. Candler	-	Team Abergavenny and Clerk to Llanover Community Council
Mr. N. Tatam	-	Team Abergavenny and Abergavenny Town Council
Councillor D. Simcock	-	Abergavenny Town Council
Councillor J. Peacock	-	Llanelly Community Councillor
Ms. J. Lee	-	Clerk to Abergavenny Town Council
Mr. A. Edwards	-	Clerk to Llanelly Community Council
Mr. R. Cole	-	Abergavenny Civic Society
Ms. L. Hywel	-	Y Fenni Business Community
Ms. S. Hurst	-	Public
O.R. Griffiths	-	Public
A.B. Griffiths	-	Public

APOLOGIES:

County Councillors: G. Howard and D. Jones
Councillor O. Dodd

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1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

3. Budget Consultation Engagement

The Cabinet Member for Resources provided a presentation on the 2019/20 budget proposals.

Presentation: [Budget Consultation presentation](#)

Having received the presentation, the following points were noted:

- In response to a question raised by a member of the public regarding the proposed changes to the Council's Waste Management Service, it was noted that a successful trial has been undertaken regarding recycling glass bottle waste. When the service is rolled out across the County, arrangements will be put in place to help vulnerable residents through the changes. Staff contact details will also be available should any member of the public require this.
- Concern was expressed regarding the changes to the proposed Waste Management Service and that a capital investment will be required to purchase new vehicles. It was considered that any savings generated would be reliant on the public adopting the new system. In response, it was acknowledged that the Authority is replacing older, more costly vehicles and investing in new and efficient vehicles with a view to collecting waste / recycling in a different way. There is a need to collect waste separately as this ensures that the value of the product is increased leading to an increase in income generated. A pilot of the new system has been trialled in Abergavenny with no drop off in take up identified. The changes will help the Authority to achieve the increasing recycling targets being set by Welsh Government.
- The proposed changes to the Waste Management Service have been considered by the Strong Communities Select Committee whereby the proposed boxes and reusable polypropylene bags were shown to the Committee. The bags are very robust and will last for a number of years.
- Concern was expressed that recycling figures might drop under the proposed changes to the Waste Management Service.
- Monmouthshire is the lowest funded Authority in Wales. Deprivation is a key factor in determining Welsh Government funding for local authorities across Wales. Though there are areas of deprivation within Monmouthshire, the Authority's areas of deprivation are not captured by Welsh Government in the way the Authority would like.
- A representative of Abergavenny Business Community expressed concern that the proposed increase in car parking charges within the town would create a

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detrimental effect on shoppers coming into the town. In response, it was noted that the number of vacant properties within Abergavenny was reducing. The impact of car parking charges within the town depends on the retail offer being provided there. The local Authority was working with local businesses.

- Concern was expressed that the car parking charges across the County were inconsistent. For example, the first two hours parking provision in Morrison's Supermarket is free and there is no car parking charges in Usk. In response, it was noted that the inequities in car park charging reflects the offer from each of the four towns.

We noted the report and presentation.