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MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

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

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

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

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Nicola Perry Senior Democracy Officer

APOLOGIES:

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

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Public Open Forum

There were no matters for the public open forum.

3. Matters for discussion:

3.1. Monnow Street - Councillor Roden

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

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

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

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

This was agreed as an urgent matter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. Ward Matters

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

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

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

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

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

Noted.

The meeting ended at 11.05 am