

CALDICOT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of Planning & Resources Committee held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday, 9th February 2009 at Caldicot Town Council.

Present: Cllrs: D Evans, Mayor
P Watts, Deputy Mayor
C Ashwin
D Ashwin
J Bond [left 8.15pm]
A Easson [left 7.35pm]
K Harris
J Haskey
R J Higginson [6.10pm]
A Perrett [8pm]
R Stewart [6.25pm]
S Webb

[In attendance: G McIntyre, Clerk, A Sandiford, Members of Public]

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs V Lloyd, M Stevens,

2 To Suspend Proceedings

a) Mr Roger Hoggins, Head of Operations, Mon CC [6.00pm]

See Appendix A

b) Mr Rick Longford, Economic Development Manager, Mon CC [7.00pm]

See Appendix B

3 Declarations of Interest - To be identified under the relevant item/Forms to be completed

Cllrs D Evans and R Stewart declared an interest in Planning Matters

4 Planning Applications Received [Displayed]

i) Planning Applications Received

DC/2009/00955: Off-site drainage and engineering works to proposed residential development at Church Road, Caldicot – Land at Church Road, Caldicot **TC Refused***
***existing flooding issues in the town.**

DC/2009/01222: Renovation works including first floor extension, internal alterations and roof covering renewal – The Coach House, 43 Church Road, Caldicot **TC Approved**

DC/2010/00045: Construction of access drive for disabled parking within curtilage – 2 Longcroft Road, Caldicot **TC Refused***
***could have an affect on any future development of a bus shelter**

The Clerk was requested to read out response received from Mon CC advising Monmouthshire Housing Association had reconsidered Town Council request and refused permission to place a bus shelter on land at Green Lane.

Cllrs D Evans and R J Higginson declared an interest in this matter

6 Mon CC Planning Information [Displayed]

i) Planning Permissions

DC/2009/01101: Rear extension to form garden room – 1 Wentwood View, Caldicot

TC App 8.12.09

DC/2009/01146: Proposed alteration to warehouse unit (unit 22) to provide two new roller shutter doors and two new fire exits – Beacon Court, Norman Way, Severnbridge Industrial Estate, Caldicot

TC App 15.1.10

ii) Planning Committee Agenda – 2.2.10 – For Information

Town Council noted Planning Information (i) and (ii) above from Mon CC.

7 Mon CC - Re: Highway Adoption Records – Caldicot [Crown copyright - Available Town Council] [b/f Planning & Resources Cttee 12.1.10]

A discussion ensued regarding the copying of Crown Copyright plan received from Mon CC. It was advised that the plan was also in a small scale and coloured and that Mon CC maybe able to provide copies of the plan at a charge.

It was resolved to request if Mon CC could provide copies of the plan.

8 To Consider LGA 1972 Section 137 Applications for Grant [Circ]

a) Grant Policy – For Information - Noted

S137 Donations to Date – Estimate/Revised Estimate – For Information - Noted

i) Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

Town Council resolved to donate £50 to Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

ii) Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru

Town Council resolved to donate £50 to Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru

iii) Abergavenny Eisteddfod Y Fenni

Town Council resolved to donate £50 to Abergavenny Eisteddfod Y Fenni

iv) Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru

Town Council resolved to donate £50 to Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru

v) Urdd Gobaith Cymru

Town Council resolved to donate £50 to Urdd Gobaith Cymru

v) British Heart Foundation

Town Council resolved to donate £50 to British Heart Foundation

9 Committee – It was resolved to exclude the public and press from the meeting during consideration of the following item in accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information

i) To Consider Quotation for Asbestos Survey

Town Council resolved to accept quotation from Connaught [via MCC] for an Asbestos Survey to be carried out on its buildings at a cost of £1575.26 plus Cemetery Shelter/toilet

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

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Mayor/Deputy Mayor

APPENDIX A

Mr Roger Hoggins, Head of Operations, Mon CC
Mr Mark Youngman,, Transport Policy Officer, Mon CC

Mr Hoggins referred to the 'deplorable' state of Church Road and stated the issue was being addressed in conjunction with the Safe Routes in Communities [SRC] scheme. Essential drainage works were currently being undertaken prior to resurfacing the road. It is envisaged that works would be completed by the end of March 2010 [subject to extreme weather conditions].

Traffic calming along Church Road and in areas throughout the town was discussed. It was advised that the existing rubber speed humps along Church Road were to be replaced with tarmac pads following resurfacing. Mr Hoggins outlined surveys undertaken countrywide to determine the most effective method of self managing speed, which concluded in speed humps. Mon CC is looking at other alternative methods to achieve the same result.

A member of the public requested if double yellow lines could be considered from Taff Road roundabout to The Cross. Mr Youngman responded to the member of public on this request.

Members considered the road infrastructure in the area to be unsuitable to accommodate the new housing development at the top of Church Road and as a result, traffic issues would substantially increase over time.

A Member referred to Section 106 and Section 278 monies becoming available as a result of the New Build.

It was requested if Church Road was legally wide enough to accommodate the current volume of traffic – **RH to respond to Cllr PW**

It was also requested how long the resurfacing works were anticipated to take – **MY to respond to Cllr PW**

MY to explore 'limited parking/signs' along Church Road

Mon CC considered alternative schemes for the additional crossing along Sandy Lane as previously requested by Town Council – preferred scheme was to install a 'puffin' crossing retaining the bus stop. It was requested that the 30 mins parking area be retained and reinstated for 3 vehicles as originally installed.

A discussion ensued regarding the suitability of the newly installed crossing along Sandy Lane for a blind resident to assist in acquiring a guide dog. Mr Youngman referred to correspondence from Guide Dogs for the Blind clarifying that any crossing would be better than the previous 'refuge' crossing. Members agreed that the member of public requesting a copy of the said correspondence contact the office.

It was stated that a 'puffin' crossing had been promised by Mon CC. Mr Hoggins referred to the previous meeting with Town Council when he advised of issues relating to a puffin crossing near to the mini roundabout and advising that a zebra crossing would be installed. Mr Hoggins also referred to Town Council requesting the crossing being installed as a priority within the SRC scheme.

Flashing speed signs on the by-pass were discussed and it was requested that signs indicating current speed be considered on a permanent basis.

A discussion ensued regarding the mini roundabout. It was requested that the mini roundabout be redeveloped into a 'T' junction. **RH to pursue redevelopment of mini roundabout in order to consider installation of traffic lights at the zebra crossing.**

RH/MY to arrange a meeting with the Blind Society and advise Ms L Wilson/Town Council.

MY to provide the Clerk with copies of final plans and costs re: Safe Routes in the Communities.

The Mayor thanked Messrs Hoggins and Youngman for meeting with Town Council

Cllr D Evans declared an interest in relation to Castle Park Primary School

Cllr R J Higginson declared an interest in relation to Durand Primary School

APPENDIX B

Mr Rick Longford, Economic Development Manager, Mon CC [6.30pm]

Following a recent visit to the town centre Mr Longford stated that, in physical terms, pedestrianisation works carried out in 1994/5 had stood up very well. It was recognised that street furnishings, signage and tree grills needed "sprucing up" but the town emitted an uninviting feel in terms of the facilities available.

During the visit it was noted that the Chepstow bound bus stop was busy, suggesting that Caldicot residents were going out of the town to shop.

Increased footfall is required in the town to boost trade and attract new retailers.

Reference was made to the "Means" report undertaken in the town in relation to the previously proposed supermarket.

It was requested if a policy existed in relation to the amount of similar units permitted within the town.

Rents/Rates in the town were discussed.

A discussion ensued re: Tuesday and Saturday markets. It was stated that markets increase footfall in towns.

Supermarkets are not restricted on the sale of their products.

There is a need to create interest in the town, ie events, French markets etc

It was recommended that a "Caldicot Partnership" group be set up with landlords, retailers, Mon CC, TC etc with a view to considering how to regenerate the town centre area – **RL to contact Town Council to nominate representatives to the proposed partnership group.**

Mr Longford stressed this matter would be a long, slow process, particularly in light of the current economic climate

The Mayor thanked Mr Longford for meeting with Town Council

Cllr D Evans declared an interest in relation to Caldicot School Fields