



CHEPSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of **Environment and Amenities Committee** of Chepstow Town Council held via Zoom on Wednesday, 10th November 2021 at 7.00pm

Present:

Chair: Cllr J Becker

Councillors: H Beach, A Braund, J Brews (7.05pm), A Redhead, C Duchet, Y Havard, T Kirton,
D Rooke

In Attendance: Mrs L Allen (Town Clerk)
Mrs A Sandiford (Deputy Town Clerk)

38. Declarations of Interest

None

39. To Suspend Standing Orders

Standing Orders were suspended for the following items:

a) Public Open Forum (15 minutes at the discretion of the Chair)

There were no members of the public in attendance.

b) Monmouthshire County Council (MCC) - Active Travel Officer

Nick Tulp introduced himself as the newly appointed Active Travel Officer at MCC who had only been in post for the past 5 weeks. Mr Tulp responded to Members' questions on Active Travel and Members in turn referred him to issues of concern in Chepstow.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

40. Minutes

The Minutes of Environment and Amenities Committee meeting held on 9th June 2021 were linked to the agenda in error, however hard copies of the Minutes of Environment and Amenities Committee meeting held on 15th September 2021 had been circulated.

RESOLVED:

To approve the Minutes of Environment and Amenities Committee meeting held on 8th September 2021 which will be signed at the earliest opportunity due to Covid regulations.

41. Matters Arising

Item 22 – Chepstow Railway Station: Members were unhappy with the lack of disabled access at the railway station. The Clerk was requested to write to Jane Pratt, MCC's Cabinet Member for

Infrastructure and Neighbourhood Services to request why Chepstow railway station is behind others locally in terms of disabled provision.

Item 22. Climate Emergency Projects Update - Website What's On: Members requested that consideration of a hard copy production be considered at the next meeting.

42. Climate Emergency Projects Update.

Members received an oral update on the outstanding Climate Emergency Projects from the Clerk:

Chepstow Railway Station: See Item 41. Matters Arising above.

Green Bin / Green Screen: Funding approved via MCC from the Transforming Towns Placemaking Grants scheme, awaiting meeting with MCC officers to discuss next steps.

Green Barrier A48 (Phase 1): Funding approved via MCC Transforming Towns Placemaking Grants scheme, awaiting contact from SWTRA to obtain final approval.

Dell Water Fountain: Following a review of the file Members noted that a formal tender process needed to be undertaken which is currently in process.

Water fountain Riverbank: Difficulties with finding a contractor who can undertake the work to replace the mechanism to existing pump fountain to make it work.

Bee Keeping: Community Projects Office is making contact and discussing suitable locations with Gwent Bee Keepers Association.

Local Places for Nature: Working on appropriate wording for the sign before it is manufactured.

St Mary's Walk lighting: Met with MCC on site – awaiting quotations. Christmas Lighting Contractor is looking at feasibility on installing festoon for the festive period.

Recycling Bins: In stock – awaiting installation.

Members requested that an report on the projects be uploaded to the website.

43. Town Council Energy Review

Members received and considered in depth Part 1 of the energy survey carried out on the Town Council owned / leased buildings to identify ways to decarbonise its energy usage to achieve Net Zero.

RESOLVED:

- a) To forward the report to Drill Hall Management Committee and Bulwark Community Centre for information.
- b) To obtain costs for upgrading to LED lighting; and insulation
- c) Refer the Historic England – Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings report to the Heritage & Planning Officer, MCC for advice on works to the Gatehouse.

44. One Voice Wales and Keep Wales Tidy

Members received and discussed the various projects contained in the presentation by One Voice Wales and Keep Wales Tidy held on 15th September 2021 outlining its biggest ever initiative to eradicate litter and waste.

RESOLVED:

To request further promotional information on Keep Wales Tidy projects to circulate to community groups.

45. Jubilee 2022

Members considered the responses received from Council's request to the community for ideas on how to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

The Clerk provided an update on the play areas at Burnt Barn Road (Western Avenue), Strongbow Road and Bulwark Road (Piggy's Hill) being put forward for consideration for refurbishment as part of the celebrations and noted costs had been requested from MCC to be input as part of the 2022/23 budget.

The following items were discussed:

- Projection of the Jubilee Concert live from Buckingham Palace
- 2 separate tea parties at Bulwark and in the town
- Market in the High Street
- Alternative areas to the High Street, e.g. Cormeilles Square and The Dell
- Intension of the Events Committee to organize Jubilee celebrations
- Individual community celebrations
- Inception of new Town Council in May 2022

RESOLVED:

- a) To set up a working party to organise the Jubilee celebrations in June 2022, should the Events Committee not wish to organise an event.
- b) To agree in principle to the projection of the Jubilee Concert live From Buckingham Palace on Saturday 4th June with the Town Market and 2 separate tea parties with music at Bulwark and in the town on Sunday 5th June.

46. Town Centre Outdoor Adaptation Grant - Market Kiosks

Members considered that the market kiosks applied for under the Town Centre Outdoor Adaptation Grant were no longer fit for the purpose originally planned, due to the timescale taken to obtain planning permission.

RESOLVED:

Not to proceed with kiosks in Cormeilles Square and to ask if the funding approved can be repurposed.

The Chair advised the Committee of a presentation he had attended by geography students at Chepstow School, who had undertaken their own survey of the High Street and who would be interested in the provision of play equipment to encourage families to the High Street. It was requested if the funding from the kiosks could be re-purposed for such equipment. Cllr Brews referred to information on street furniture for children.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Clerk invite the geography students from Chepstow School to present their findings from the survey of the High Street to Full Town Council.
- b) Investigate children's play provision for the High Street and the re-purpose of funding for the kiosks.

47. DJ's at the Bandstand

Members considered correspondence from the Specialist Environmental Health Officer, MCC advising of a complaint received in relation to organised activities at the Bandstand. The Chair advised he had spoken to the organiser and local residents in this matter.

RESOLVED:

To write to the organiser of DJs in the Bandstand to reiterate Council’s intention for family-friendly events and to ensure that no alcohol is on display during the organised activities.

48. Items for Next Meeting

- Paper version of What’s On Guide
- High Street Play Provision
- Cllr Braund to provide a report of his idea to improve / divert traffic at Hardwick Hill.

49. Date of Next Meeting

Confirmed that the next meeting of the Environment and Amenities Committee will be held either in the Council Chamber at the Gatehouse or via Zoom online meetings on 12th January 2022.

CLOSE: This completed the business of the meeting at 8.30pm

Signed:

CHAIR

Date.....